



## Agriculture

Deputy Minister's Office  
Room 159 – 450 Broadway  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

June 29, 2016

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Re: Your request for access to information under Part 2 of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* ("FIPPA" or "the Act"): [Our File Number 2016-05-06]**

On May 5, 2016 Manitoba Agriculture ("the department") received your request for access to the following records:

*2016-05-06:*

*FIPPA – May 5, 2016 – All materials provided to the current Minister of Agriculture, since the most recent provincial election, including but limited to: advisory and briefing notes, house books and house preparation materials related to the transition of government.*

We are pleased to inform you that your request for access to records has been granted in part. Records responsive to your request are enclosed with this letter, including:

*MAFRD Executive Briefing Note  
MAFRD Ministerial Briefing Binder  
MAFRD Next Generation Briefing Materials*

A portion of information from these records has been withheld under the 'Mandatory Exceptions to Disclosure' section of the Act (Part 2, Division 3). A list of subsections that were applied has been attached.

As required by subsection 7(2) of the Act, we have provided you with as much information as possible.

Subsection 59(1) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* provides that you may make a complaint about this decision to the Manitoba Ombudsman. You have 60 days from the receipt of this letter to make a complaint on the prescribed form to:

Manitoba Ombudsman  
750 - 500 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R3C 3X1  
982-9130  
1-800-665-0531

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Brent Harder, A/Access and Privacy Co-ordinator at 915-401 York Avenue, Winnipeg MB R3C 0P8 or at 204-945-0913.

In the interest of the Manitoba Government's commitment to openness and transparency, this response letter along with the responsive records will be made available on our proactive disclosure website. Any personal or other confidential information belonging to you or a third party will be removed prior to disclosure.

Sincerely,



Dori Gingera-Beauchemin  
Access and Privacy Officer  
*The Freedom of Information and  
Protection of Privacy Act*

Attachments (2 pages)  
Enclosures (106 pages)

## MANDATORY EXCEPTIONS TO DISCLOSURE

### PRIVACY OF A THIRD PARTY

#### **Disclosures deemed to be an unreasonable invasion of privacy**

17(2) A disclosure of personal information about a third party is deemed to be an unreasonable invasion of the third party's privacy if

- (e) the personal information relates to the third party's employment, occupational or educational history

#### **Disclosures harmful to a third party's business interests**

18(1) The head of a public body shall refuse to disclose to an applicant information that would reveal

- (b) commercial, financial, labour relations, scientific or technical information supplied to the public body by a third party, explicitly or implicitly, on a confidential basis and treated consistently as confidential information by the third party
- (c) commercial, financial, labour relations, scientific or technical information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to
  - (i) harm the competitive position of a third party
  - (ii) interfere with contractual or other negotiations of a third party
  - (iii) result in significant financial loss or gain to a third party
  - (iv) result in similar information no longer being supplied to the public body when it is in the public interest that similar information continue to be supplied

#### **Cabinet Confidences**

19(1) The head of a public body shall refuse to disclose to an applicant information that would reveal the substance of deliberations or decisions of Cabinet, including

- (a) an agenda, minute or other deliberations or decisions of Cabinet
- (b) discussion papers, policy analyses, proposals, advice or similar briefing material submitted or prepared for submission to Cabinet
- (d) a record that reflects communications among ministers relating directly to the making of a government decision or the formulation of government policy
- (e) a record prepared to brief a minister about a matter that is before, or is proposed to be brought before, Cabinet or that is the subject of communications among ministers relating directly to government decisions or the formulation of government policy

#### **Disclosure harmful to relations between Manitoba and other Governments**

21(1) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose information to an applicant if disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm relations between the Government of Manitoba or a government agency and any of the following of their agencies:

- (a) the Government of Canada

#### **Advice to a public body**

23(1) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose information to an applicant if disclosure could reasonably be expected to reveal

- (a) advice, opinions, proposals, recommendations, analyses or policy options developed by or for the public body or a minister

- (b) consultations or deliberations involving officers or employees of the public body or minister
- (d) plans relating to the management of personnel or the administration of the public body that have not yet been implemented
- (e) the content of draft legislation, regulations, and orders of ministers or the Lieutenant Governor in Council
- (f) information, including the proposed plans, policies or projects of a public body, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to result in disclosure of a pending policy or budgetary decision

**Executive Briefing Note**

**MANITOBA AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MAFRD)**

**Department Responsibilities:**

MAFRD employs a modern extension approach to deliver programs, services, and advice that accelerates economic development through competitive agriculture and agri-food industries. Focus areas include: food and agri-product development; primary agriculture industry development; rural economic development and protection of human, animal, and plant health. The Department supports 17 Boards, Commissions, Councils and Tribunals and has statutory responsibility for 38 pieces of legislation. Agriculture is an economic driver contributing (8%) to the provincial Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

**Items Requiring Immediate Decision / Action:**

1. **Passing of Food Safety Legislation** - The Food Safety Act and regulations received Royal Assent in June 2009 however has yet to be proclaimed.
2. **Issues Requiring Federal Action** – that have a critical impact on Manitoba's ag industry include: bio-security, the Temporary Foreign Worker program; *The Canada Transportation Act*; trade agreements; and funding for federal research stations.

✓ 3. [REDACTED] 19(1)(d)

**Pressures:**

1. **Public Trust** continues to challenge the industry and its profitability as heightened consumer values and transparent farming practices is required.
2. **Capitalizing on Manitoba's advantages** in areas such as hogs, crops and functional foods requires a modern regulatory framework, innovative research, marketing and investment attraction and predictable investment program models.
3. **Sustainability of Ag Business Risk Management Programs**, due to the high costs and variability, strains provincial budgets. The programs help producers compete and adapt by managing risk while limiting trade action. A federal/provincial review is underway to ensure the programs' effectiveness.
4. **Robust regulatory and enforcement frameworks** provide protection for human, animal and plant health and supports agriculture and agri- industry competitiveness. There is increasing resource demands in providing legislation and enforcement.
5. **Climate change** will significantly impact agricultural production as warmer temperatures may lengthen the growing season providing opportunities for expansion of warm season crops. Increased frequency of drought, flooding, extreme heat and extreme weather will be detrimental to crops and livestock.

This document is a Cabinet confidence as defined in subsection 19(1) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

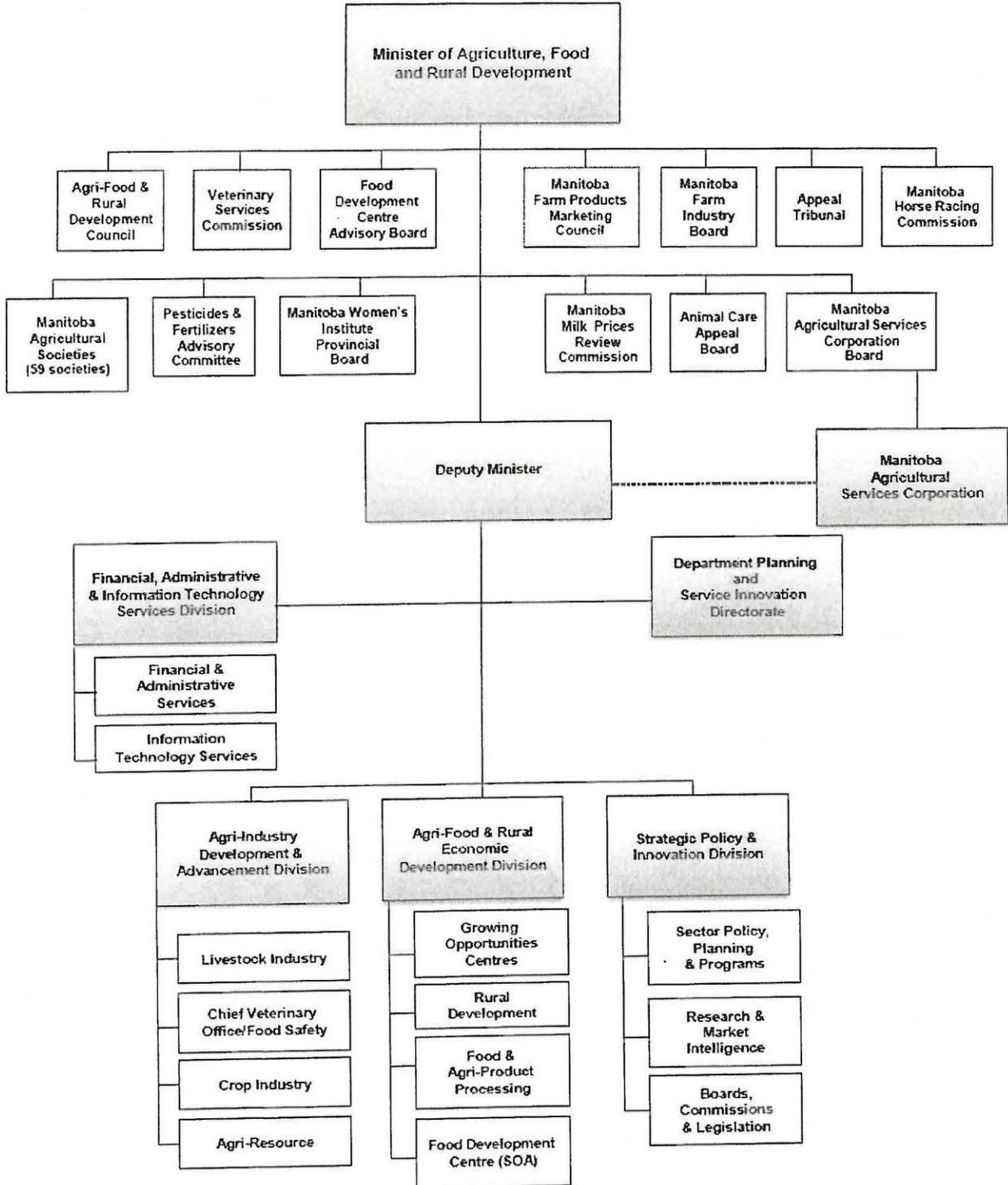
**Priority Issues:**

1. **Health/Agriculture Relationship** – The inter-departmental “One Health” Committee works to ensure that cross jurisdictional challenges are recognized and optimal outcomes are achieved. Research results show clear preventative and therapeutic activity of foods against chronic disease. The evolving challenge is to continue research while translating results into outcomes in the realms of health policy and commercial growth.
2. **Agri- Water Challenges and Opportunities** - Extremes of moisture events have resulted in significant losses to the agriculture sector. Unpredictability has led to a shortage in infrastructure to support water management on agricultural lands. The provision of risk management tools, both financial and non-financial, to manage weather related risk is an opportunity for the sector.
3. **Infrastructure/Environment to accelerate rural economic development and food commercialization** - Barriers for investment in rural Manitoba include limited municipal water and wastewater capacity, areas without or with limited access to broadband internet and cell service and access to risk capital. Manitoba has developed a number of assets supporting food and agri-product commercialization.
4. **Manitoba’s hog industry** – Volatile pig prices, fluctuating Canadian dollar, USA’s Country of Origin Labelling, and costly environmental regulations have contributed to the decrease in the number of producers and animals raised in the province. [REDACTED] 18(1)(c)(i)  
✓ [REDACTED] The government continues to work with industry to increase the supply of hogs; including hog barn construction in a manner that is both environmentally responsible and sustainable.
5. **Manitoba’s Ag Innovation and Research Capacity** - Investments by AAFC, universities and industry in scientists and facilities represent a continuum from discovery to commercialization to take advantage of opportunities in cereal grains, hemp, nutrient management and functional food. Opportunities for enhanced capacity and investment in research exist in potato, pork, pulse crops and water management.
6. **Service Innovation for MAFRD/MASC** – The department maintains thirty rural offices, providing significant government presence in rural communities. Clients are increasingly using technology to access information, tools and programming versus making in-person visits. [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)  
✓ [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

# Organizational Chart

## Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

(This organization chart depicts the structure of the department as of April 1, 2016)



*This document is a Cabinet confidence as defined in subsection 19(1) of The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.*

A4

## MANITOBA AGRICULTURE FOOD AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTERIAL BRIEFING

### Table of Contents

1. <i>Organization</i>	
a) Department responsibilities .....	2
b) Organizational structure .....	4
c) Organization chart.....	7
2. <i>Strategic Overview</i>	
a) Strategic priorities .....	8
b) Financial overview.....	10
c) Broad policy or financial pressures .....	13
d) List of community contacts .....	18
e) Statutory responsibilities of the Minister / Legal framework .....	20
f) Scheduled events - 30 days .....	22
g) Acronyms .....	23

**Proposed briefing schedule** - A series of one hour briefings between the Minister, the Deputy Minister and designated Executive Members.

Order	Briefing Topic
1	Overview of MAFRD Organization
2	First 100 Days – Urgent Issues
3	Strategic Priorities, Responsibilities and Relationships
4	Financial Overview
5	Primary Agriculture Industry Development - Policy, Financial Pressures and Opportunities
6	Food and Agri-Product Development – Policy, Financial Pressures and Opportunities
7	Rural Economic Development - Policy, Financial Pressures and Opportunities
8	Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation
9	Protection of Human, Animal and Plant Health - Policy, Financial Pressures and Opportunities
10	Building a High Performance Organization

## *Organization*

### **1. Department Responsibilities**

Since 1870, Manitoba Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development (MAFRD) has strived to address the challenges and opportunities of the agriculture and agri-food industry and rural communities.

Today, MAFRD is determined to create an environment that accelerates rural economic development; focusing on the agriculture, food and agri-product industries as key drivers of Manitoba's economy. This vision is only be achieved through partnerships with industry, communities, educational institutions and other levels of government.

Departmental areas of focus include:

- Primary Agriculture Industry Development
- Food and Agri-Product Development
- Rural Economic Development
- Protection of Human, Animal and Plant Health

MAFRD has four divisions; one directorate; one special operating agency; and one affiliated Crown Corporation.

MAFRD delivers its front line programs and services through Growing Opportunities (GO) offices in 30 rural locations and one Winnipeg location.

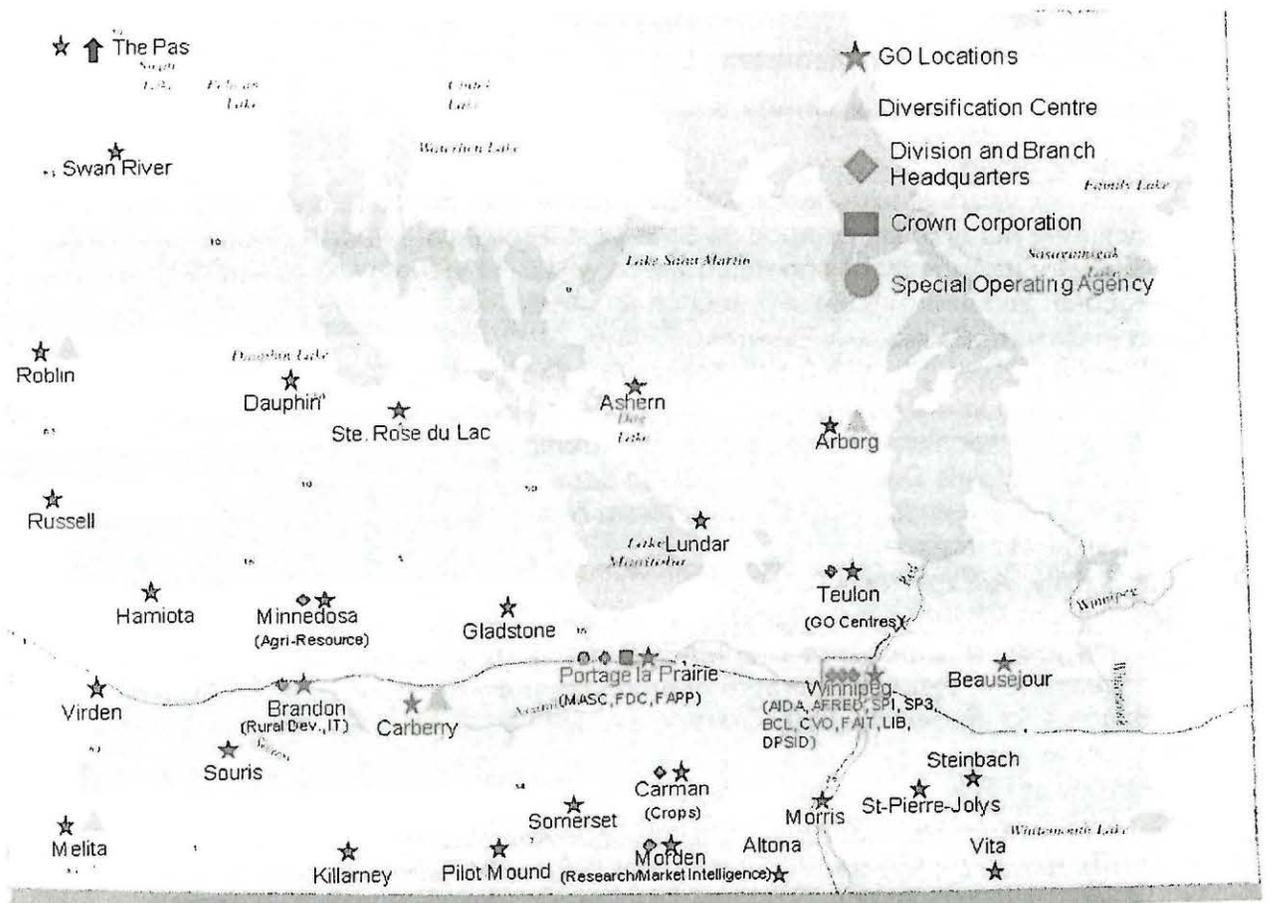
Branches support the analysis, development and delivery of programs, policies and services.

The Food Development Centre (a Special Operating Agency) and Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (a Crown Corporation) offer services to address targeted client needs.

MAFRD uses an effective, flexible model to deliver services focused on:

- a one-to-many delivery approach to extend best management practices and science based technical information
- strategic financial and non-financial risk management tools
- a policy environment that improves market access and competitiveness
- capitalizing on strategic strengths in agriculture, food and agri-product industry to build strategic sector plans through sustainable industry partnerships
- advantageous new technologies and building of an innovation infrastructure
- critical industry intelligence
- a modernized regulatory framework
- capacity building within industry and communities to drive economic development

MAFRD is striving for continuous improvement towards a high performance organization that contributes to efficient and effective government.



Updated: April 1, 2016

B3

## 2. Organizational Structure

### Department Executive Members

<b>Dori Gingera-Beauchemin</b> <i>Deputy Minister</i>	
✓	[Redacted] 17(2)(e)
<b>Ann Leibfried, Executive Financial Officer</b> <i>Financial, Administrative and Information Technology Services Division</i>	
✓	[Redacted] 17(2)(e)
<b>Kim Beilby, A/Executive Director</b> <i>Department Planning and Service Innovation Directorate</i>	
✓	[Redacted] 17(2)(e)
<b>Leloni (Loni) Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister</b> <i>Agri-Industry Development and Advancement Division</i>	
✓	[Redacted] 17(2)(e)
<b>Maurice Bouvier, Assistant Deputy Minister</b> <i>Agri-Food and Rural Economic Development Division</i>	
✓	[Redacted] 17(2)(e)
<b>David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister</b> <i>Strategic Policy and Innovation Division</i>	
✓	[Redacted] 17(2)(e)

B4

**Division and Branch Mandates**

<b>Agri-Industry Development and Advancement Division (AIDA)</b>
Provides leading edge, science-based technical support, specialized services, and information to enhance the development of Manitoba's agri-food industry and rural economy
<b>Livestock Industry Branch (LIB)</b>
<i>Advances Manitoba's livestock industry by utilizing leadership capacity and technical expertise to develop and deliver innovative extension and industry development programs and to advance livestock and forage provincial strategies.</i>
<b>Chief Veterinary Office/Food Safety Branch (CVO/FS)</b>
<i>Provides leadership and advice on animal health, animal welfare and food safety issues. Provides the regulatory and enforcement framework to protect human and animal health.</i>
<b>Crop Industry Branch (CI)</b>
<i>Provides intelligence and recommendations on a range of issues pertaining to efficient production, processing and marketing of crops suited for production in Manitoba and to advance crop and apiculture provincial strategies.</i>
<b>Agri-Resource Branch (AR)</b>
<i>Provides leadership and advice on agri-environmental issues. Develops programs, policies and extension to facilitate the sustainable use and protection of Manitoba's agro-ecosystem including agri-water management, private and public land use planning, soil survey, and weather/climate information.</i>
<b>Agri-Food and Rural Economic Development Division (AFRED)</b>
Provides front line delivery and support of programs to enhance the profitability of family farms and agri-businesses and build sustainable rural communities
<b>Growing Opportunities Centres Branch (GO)</b>
<i>Provides agrology advice; farm enterprise management; agriculture and consumer awareness; farm production research and extension through diversification centres; information and path finding support for government programs; and front line delivery of department programming.</i>
<b>Food and Agri-Product Processing (FAP)</b>
<i>Provides services to entrepreneurs, businesses and organizations to strengthen the competitive position of Manitoba's food and agri-products processing industries in the domestic and global marketplace and to advance the growth of the Manitoba food processing industry.</i>
<b>Food Development Centre (FDC) - Special Operating Agency</b>
<i>Assists the agri-food industry grow their business through the development and commercialization of conventional food products and functional food ingredients.</i>

**Strategic Policy and Innovation Division (SPI)**

Provides leadership, co-ordination and development of policies, programs, legislation and research initiatives that enhances Manitoba's agri-food industry and rural economy.

**Sector Policy, Planning and Programs Branch (SP3)**

*Provides knowledge and analysis to facilitate effective policy development and industry strategic planning that foster an environment for competitiveness, adaptability and sustainability of Manitoba's agriculture and food industry.*

**Research and Market Intelligence Branch (RMI)**

*Provides expertise and industry-leading knowledge to inform government policies and deliver programs related to research and market information in the agri-food sector. Ensures Manitoba's capacity for industry sector research is commensurate with sector needs and achieves industry and provincial goals.*

**Boards, Commissions and Legislation Branch (BCL)**

*Provides support to 17 boards, councils, commissions and tribunals that deliver on important government priorities. Coordinates the legislative and regulatory matters administered by the department to ensure acts, regulations and orders are consistent with government direction and department policy.*

**Financial, Administrative and Information Technology Services Division (FAITS)**

Leads the comptrollership function and provides assurances that financial and information technology management practices, systems, delegated authorities and processes support department programming and an efficient and effective government.

**Financial and Administrative Services Branch (FAS)**

*Provides leadership in financial, accounting, management and administration functions.*

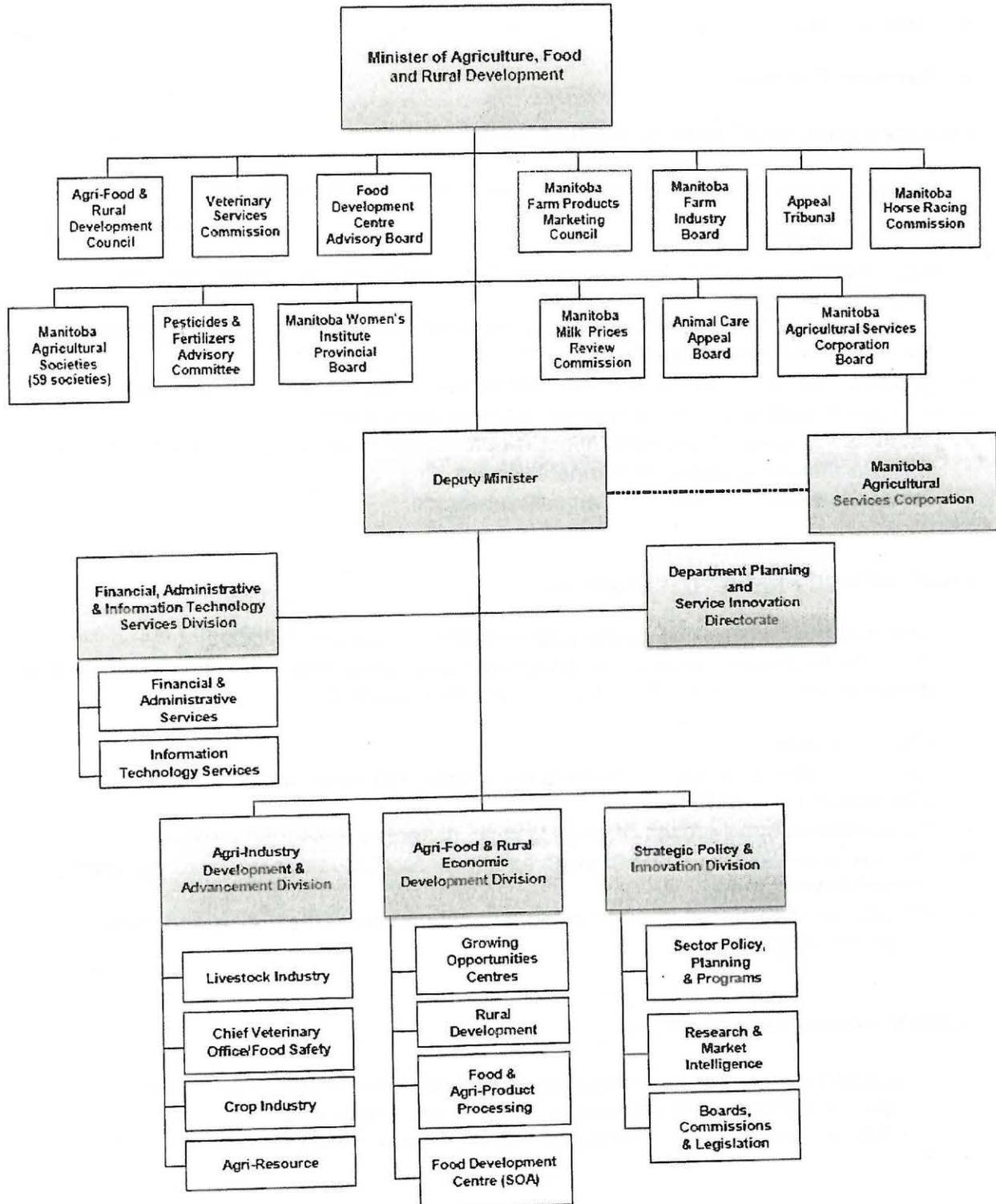
**Information Technology Services Branch (ITS)**

*Collaborates, develops and maintains modern information technology (IT) solutions that enable performance management and operational needs.*

**Department Planning and Service Innovation Directorate (DPSID)**

Leads in the development, support and reporting of the department's vision and strategic plan. Provides leadership to the department in the implementation of the elements of efficient and effective government including advancing service innovation, employee engagement, leadership development, lean and performance management.

**Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development**  
 (This organization chart depicts the structure of the department as of April 1, 2016)



B7

## *Strategic Overview*

### **1. Strategic Priorities**

#### **Primary Agriculture Industry Development**

Increase competitiveness, sustainability and adaptability of the agriculture industry.

##### *Key Opportunities*

- Extend technical information to support farmers and industry in making informed business decisions.
- Provide financial and non financial business risk management tools to manage market and weather related risk.
- Support new value, increased competitiveness and sustainable development
- Support sustainable management of the agro-ecosystem
- Increase the ability of crop and livestock production to adapt to a changing climate
- Improve market access and competitiveness
- Provide financing tools for the agricultural sector

#### **Food and Agri-Product Development**

Grow the food processing sector in Manitoba to \$5.5 billion by 2022.

Grow the processing of agricultural commodities in Manitoba; including the growth of the bio-products sector in Manitoba to \$2 billion by 2018.

##### *Key Opportunities*

- Grow small/medium-sized Manitoba companies/increase market penetration in Canada and internationally
- Retain and support growth of large food processors
- Drive new processing value through functional food development and ingredients market development
- Attract new investment through a coordinated provincial marketing and investment attraction program

#### **Rural Economic Development**

Develop/implement a stakeholder-led rural economic development strategy.

Support development of strategic regional projects to drive growth.

Coordinate rural development policy within the provincial government.

*Key Opportunities*

- Implement the rural economic development strategy that moves Manitoba significantly forward in foundational pieces supporting rural economic development.
- Adopt a Rural Secretariat approach to have greater influence on rural development policy coordination
- Increase capacity of economic development officers and municipal/community leaders through formal training

**Protection of Human, Animal and Plant Health**

Provide a regulatory and enforcement framework to protect human, animal and plant health.

Provide a regulatory and enforcement framework to support agriculture and agri-food/product industry competitiveness.

*Key Opportunities*

- Collaboration on the One Health Framework to optimize efforts between provincial departments on issues that cross-jurisdictional in nature such as rabies, tuberculosis, anthrax, chronic wasting disease, and salmonella. 23(1)(a)
- ✓ [Redacted]
- [Redacted] 23(1)(a)
- ✓ [Redacted]
- Develop and implement a strategy to deal with new and emerging animal disease issues, and provide veterinary diagnostic services to allow for early intervention in animal health events and support animal health, animal welfare, and food safety programs. The strategy is in conjunction with the One Health strategy under veterinary public health.

**Building a High Performance Organization**

Initiate continuous improvement in building an engaged and highly skilled organization that is responsive, proactive and relevant to Manitobans

*Key Opportunities*

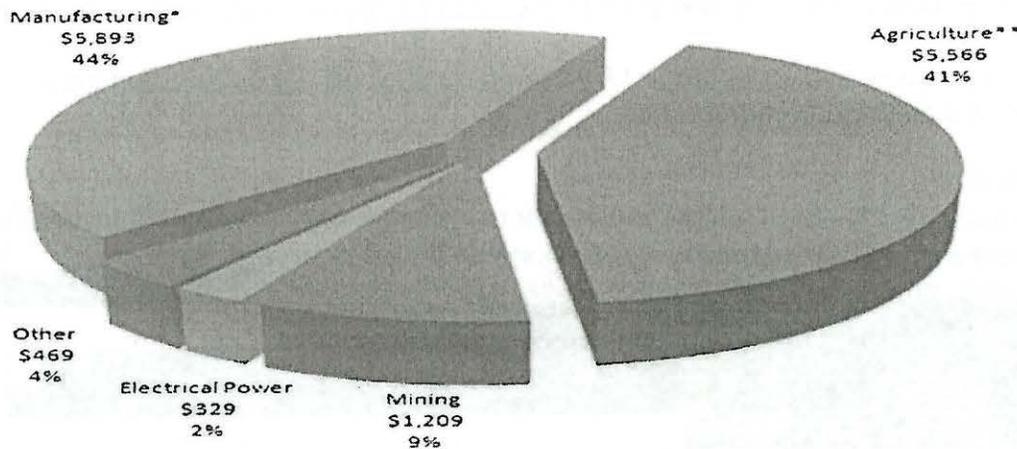
- Advance the recently developed departmental strategy to enhance engagement in the department led by the employee elected Employee Engagement Team
- Implement a Leadership Development Initiative for department management to ensure that they are well positioned to support the department
- Continual improvement in areas such as grant management, position descriptions, delegated authorities, budgeting, and treasury board submissions
- Advance service innovation initiatives in the areas of lean management, information technology prioritization, and knowledge management systems.

B9

## 2. Financial Overview

The department's budget supports its mandate which is to "create the environment that accelerates rural economic development with a focus on the agriculture and agri-food industries". This mandate is integral to the success of the overall provincial economy as **agriculture is an economic driver and is the second largest contributor (8%) to the provincial GDP**. The contribution to exports can be illustrated as follows:

**Manitoba's Exports by Industry 2014 (Total \$13.4 Billion)**



\*\* Manufacturing totals \$8,049 billion, or 60%, with food and beverage making up \$2,156, or 26.8%, of the manufacturing sector.  
 \*\* Agriculture totals \$3,410 billion, or 25%, and with food and beverage from Manufacturing totals \$5,566 billion, or 41%, of exports.

Highlights respecting the above chart include:

- Agriculture and Food and Beverage Manufacturing contribute over \$5.5 Billion or 41% to Manitoba's total annual exports.
- Food manufacturing is the largest manufacturing industry providing a range of consumer products such as grain and oilseed milling, processed meat, potato products, dairy products and industrial agricultural feed products.
- Manitoba produces diverse commodities that are key to further processing, including:
  - Over 95% of Canada's sunflower seeds
  - Over 25% of Canada's sows
  - About 25% of Canada's beef cows
  - About 20% of Canada's soybeans

**The 2015/16 Budget for MAFRD is \$204.0M** and a considerable portion of this budget (approximately 66% or **\$135.1M**) is dedicated towards **risk management, credit and income support programs**. This includes the provincial share of business risk management programming for AgriStability, AgriInvest, AgriInsurance, and Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation's lending activities.

Approximately 10%, or **\$21.4M**, of the budget is for **Rural Economic Development Initiatives (REDI)**. All departments can access the fund which is intended to encourage economic development and diversification in rural and northern Manitoba.

The remaining portion of approximately 24%, **\$47.5M** or includes funding to meet **government's regulatory requirements** especially in the area of human, animal and plant health as well as for **technology transfer and programming** targeted to producers, agri-food processors and rural Manitobans.

There are currently almost **800 staff positions (FTEs)** in 2015/16 within Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (MAFRD) and its Crown Corporation, the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) and Special Operating Agency, the Food Development Centre (FDC). These are illustrated as follows:

Organization	Permanent	Term/Casual	Total
MAFRD	420.00	-	420.00
MASC	149.60	154.00	303.60
FDC	25.00	25.00	50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>594.60</b>	<b>179.00</b>	<b>773.60</b>

In addition to its regular programming, MAFRD and its partner Crown Corporation also provide ad hoc programming to address weather conditions and other perils. Programs have included AgriRecovery and 2011 Flood programming for agricultural and rural Manitobans. Funding for these purposes is traditionally provided from Emergency Expenditures. Where possible, cost sharing with the federal government is negotiated under various programs including AgriRecovery which provides for 60/40 cost sharing.

MAFRD is also currently participating in a five-year **Growing Forward 2** Agreement with the federal government which provides cost sharing for strategic initiatives to help the agriculture and agri-food sectors become more profitable, competitive and innovative. The Agreement provides for **\$176M over five years**, with the **federal 60% share** being administered by the department and is over and above the department's 2015/16 budget amount of \$204.0M.



**History of Estimates of Expenditure**

19(1)(e)

MAFRD's Budget [redacted] from 2011/12 to 2015/16:

[Large redacted block]

Highlights Include:

[redacted]  
[redacted]

19(1)(e)

Closure of 8 GO Offices:

- Starbuck
- Treherne
- Boissevain
- Dugald
- Stonewall
- Shoal Lake
- Neepawa
- Fisher Branch

New program requirements for:

- Grain Innovation Hub - \$3M
- Meat Inspection - \$1.8M
- MB Biomass Energy Support Program - \$1M

Continued funding support for:

- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]

19(1)(e)

**3. Broad Policy or Financial Pressures**

**Federal- Provincial Agricultural Policy Framework**

23(1)(f)

[Redacted block]

*Sustainability of Ag Business Risk Management*

Business Risk Management program expenditures are large, highly variable, and strain provincial budgets. The provincial and the federal governments are reviewing all BRM programs to ensure they remain effective in managing risks that are beyond a producer's control.

## Health/Agriculture Relationship

### *One Health Approach*

The inter-departmental One Health Committee, co-chaired by MAFRD and Health, works to address cross jurisdictional challenges related to health and food safety.

### *Functionality of Foods*

The research related to the functionality of food shows preventative and therapeutic activity of foods against chronic disease. The challenge is to translate results into outcomes in the realms of health policy and commercial growth.

## Robust Regulatory and Enforcement Framework

### *The Food Safety Act*

*The Food Safety Act* and regulations which received Royal Assent in June 2009 is yet to be proclaimed.

### *The Public Health Act*

MAFRD delivers meat hygiene inspection and food safety inspection under *The Public Health Act*.

23(1)(a)

23(1)(a)

### *Kennel Licensing*

Kennel licensing is currently a regulatory requirement under *The Animal Care Act*.

23(1)(a)

### *Animal Welfare Caseload*

Animal welfare caseload increases by 25% per year. The severity of issues and associated workload is also escalating further straining operational resources.

### *Bee Health and Issues*

Higher than average honey bee mortalities has drawn the concern of industry and consumers alike. Regulators in Ontario have limited the use of neonicotinoid insecticides in soybean and corn production in an effort to reduce bee mortality. Banning these insecticides in Manitoba could result in corn yield loss due to soil borne insects.

### *Antimicrobial Usage and Resistance*

There is a national movement to address the development of antimicrobial resistance and this applies both to the human and animal health areas. There is currently no regulation in Manitoba addressing this issue.

## **Agri- Resource Challenges and Opportunities**

### *Impact of climate change on the agriculture and food industry*

Climate change will significantly impact agricultural production. Warmer temperatures may lengthen the growing season and bring the potential for expansion of warm season crops. Increased frequency of drought, flooding, extreme heat and extreme weather will be detrimental to crops and livestock.

### *Agri- Water Challenges and Opportunities*

Recent severe flooding events have resulted in significant losses to the agriculture sector, compromised soil quality and deteriorated rural infrastructure with the most significant areas extending along the Assiniboine River basin, the Southwest region, land adjacent to Portage Diversion and Lake Manitoba and the Interlake regions. The *Agriculture Risk Management* Task Force released its report in January 2016, with recommendations covering research, mitigation, and programs and services that position the industry for success in adapting to the changing climate.

### *Crop Biosecurity*

Industry has raised concerns regarding the movement of crop pests (e.g. clubroot) due to the inadequate cleaning of equipment (e.g. MB Hydro, oil companies).

## **Agriculture Industry Competitiveness**

### *Trade Agreement Impacts*

Canada's recent signing of agreements including Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) has enhanced export opportunities for Manitoba commodities including beef, pork, wheat, and canola. The previous federal government promise of \$4.3 billion in compensation to Canadian dairy, egg and poultry farmers to cover concessions made in supply management under CETA and TPP is under review.

### *Grain Transportation*

The federal government is evaluating recommendations from a review of *The Canada Transportation Act* (CTA). [REDACTED]

23(1)(a)

### *Public Trust vs. Industry Profitability*

Failure of industry to be transparent with consumers on farming practices and connect with consumer values will have a negative impact on future ag industry profitability and increase pressure on government to increase regulation.

## Manitoba's Hog Industry

### *Hog Supply to the Food Processing Industry*

Volatile pig prices for the last six years, high feed prices, mandatory country of origin labeling in the United States, and costly environmental regulations have contributed to the decrease in the number of producers, barns and animals raised in the province. [REDACTED] 18(1)(c)(i)

[REDACTED] Manitoba is working with the industry to implement a pilot project under *The Environment Act* in order to ensure adequate supply of hogs to Manitoba slaughter facilities and protect Lake Winnipeg from additional nutrients.

### *Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Transfer Trailer Policy*

Under federal regulation, Canadian transporters returning from U.S. slaughter facilities are not required to clean and disinfect their trailers while Canadian transporters returning from U.S. farms are required to fully clean and disinfect their trailers prior to entry. Industry is extremely concerned this will present a biosecurity risk to Manitoba hog operations when this regulation is enforced on May 2, 2016.

## Manitoba's Ag Innovation and Research Capacity

### *Competitive advantage of research capacity*

Manitoba's research and development capacity is a product of investments in personnel and facilities by AAFC, universities and industry representing a continuum from discovery to commercialization. Manitoba has capacity in cereal grains, nutrient management and functional food, but opportunities for greater investment exists in potato, pork, pulse crops and water management.

[REDACTED] 23(1)(a)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] The province would benefit from greater industry investment in academic research; as well as increases to private sector research and development activity.

## **Infrastructure/Environment to Accelerate Rural Economic Development and Food Commercialization**

### *Labour Issues Facing Manitoba Food and Agri-Product Processing Industry*

Changes to the *Federal Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP)* have created labour challenges in the meat industry and for producers (such as beekeepers).

### *Rural Infrastructure to Support Rural Economic Development*

There are gaps in cell and broadband coverage. Expertise and funding is required to analyze costs and infrastructure and to assess impact of the 2016 Federal Budget announcement that longer term investments will help Canada become a low carbon economy and create more vibrant cities, digitally connected rural areas, and safe, healthy, thriving communities.

### *Capitalizing on MB's agriculture and food competitive advantages*

Manitoba offers many advantages to those interested in investing in food commercialization. To enhance Manitoba's ability to compete nationally and internationally for investment dollars requires predictable and timely programs/incentives, access to capital, a robust investment attraction approach and accompanying market development program.

### *Keystone Centre – Governance and Funding*

Keystone Centre is a non-profit corporation, whose shareholders are the Province of Manitoba, the City of Brandon and the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba. Maintenance costs and capital improvements are high on this aging facility. A five year, \$10 million capital plan was submitted by the Keystone Centre. [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## **Service Innovation for MAFRD/MASC**

### *Service delivery model*

The department maintains thirty rural offices; providing a significant government presence in rural communities. Clients are increasingly using technology to access information, tools and programming versus making in-person visits. [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### *Surveillance needs*

National surveillance approaches are under development with the engagement of MAFRD. However, significant time, technology and funds will be required to develop.

**4. List of Community Contacts**

Organization	Contact Name	Title
Agriculture in the Classroom	Johanne Ross	Executive Director
Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative Program Council	Andrea Coulling	Chair
Association of Manitoba Municipalities	Joe Masi	Executive Director
Canada Grains Council	Patti Miller	President
Canadian Association of Agri-Retailers	Delaney Ross Burtnack	President
Canadian Special Crops Association	Gordan Bacon	CEO
Canola Council of Canada	Patti Miller	President
Cereals Canada	Cam Dahl	President
Composites Innovation Centre MB Inc.	Sean McKay	Officer
Dairy Farmers of Manitoba	David Wiens	Chair
Flax Council of Canada	Don Kerr	President
Food Matters Manitoba	Kreesta Doucette	Executive Director
Genome Prairie	Simon Potter	Director of Operations
Grain Growers of Canada	Bryan Rogers	Executive Director
International Institute of Sustainable Development	Hank Venema	Director
Keystone Agricultural Producers	Dan Mazier	President
Keystone Agricultural Producers	James Battershill	General Manager
Keystone Centre Board of Directors	Shawn Berry	Chair
Keystone Potato Producers Association	Chad Berry	President
Manitoba Aerial Applicators Association	Mike Alarie	President
Manitoba Beef Producers	Heinz Reimer	President
Manitoba Beekeepers Association	Allan Campbell	President
Manitoba Bison Association	Len Epp	President
Manitoba Buckwheat Growers Association	Marc Durand	President
Manitoba Canola Growers Association	Chuck Fossey	President
Manitoba Chicken Producers	Jake Wiebe	Chair
Manitoba Conservation Districts Association	Shane Robins	Executive Director
Manitoba Corn Growers Association	Myron Krahn	President
Manitoba Egg Farmers	Ed Kleinsasser	Chair
Manitoba Elk Growers Association	Ian Thorleifson	President
Manitoba Equine Ranching Association	Kirk Bridgeman	Chair
Manitoba Flax Growers Association	Eric Fridfinnson	Chair
Manitoba Food Processors Association	Dave Shambrock	Executive Director
Manitoba Food Processors Association	Jason Wortzman	Chair
Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association	Jim Lintott	Chair
Manitoba Forage Seed Association Inc.	Kyle Willis	President
Manitoba Goat Association	William (Bill) Paulishyn	President
Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation	Tim Sopuck	CEO

This document is a Cabinet confidence as defined in subsection 19(1) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*

Manitoba Nursery Association	Sharra Hinton	Executive Director
Manitoba Organic Alliance	Kate Storey	President
Manitoba Pork Council	Andrew Dickson	General Manager
Manitoba Pork Council	George Matheson	Chair
Manitoba Pulse and Soybean Growers Association	Jason Voth	Chair
Manitoba Seed Growers Association	Jennifer Seward	Manager
Manitoba Seed Growers Association	Eric McLean	President
Manitoba Sheep Association	Herman Bouw	Director
Manitoba Turkey Producers	Bill Uruski	Chairman
Manitoba Weed Supervisors Association	Vince Hiebert	President
Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers Association	Fred Greig	Chair
National Farmers Union	Ian Robson	Regional Coordinator
National Sunflower Association of Canada	Gregg Fotheringham	President
Parkland Industrial Hemp Growers Association	Chris Dzisiak	Chairman
Peak of the Market	Keith Kuhl	Chair
Prairie Agriculture Machinery Institute (PAMI)	Bill Zettler	Vice-Chair
Prairie Fruit Growers Association	Kim Ritz	President
Prairie Oat Growers Association	Art Enns	President
Pulse Canada	Greg Cherewyk	COO
Richardson Center for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals	Dr. Rebecca Mollard	Clinical Research & Development Officer
Rural Development Institute	Bill Ashton	Director
The Manitoba Chambers of Commerce	Cory Kolt	Director
University of Manitoba – Agricultural and Food Sciences	Dr. Karin Wittenberg	Dean
Vegetable Growers Association of Manitoba	Todd Giffin	President
Western Canadian Wheat Growers	Levi Wood	President
Western Grains Research Foundation	Garth Patterson	Executive Director
Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc.	Doug Martin	Chairman

## **5. Statutory Responsibilities of the Minister**

### **A. Overriding Legislation**

- i. The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development Act
- ii. The Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation Act

### **B. Funding of Commodity Organizations**

- i. The Agricultural Producers' Organization Funding Act
- ii. The Cattle Producers Association Act

### **C. Owner Rights and Protection**

- i. The Crown Lands Act - [section 1, subsection 7.2(2), clause 7.3(2)(c), sections 7.4 to 7.6 and 35; section 4, clauses 5(1)(f), (k) and (l), subsections 5(4), sections 6 and 6.1, clause 7(1)(d), subsections 7(2) to (6), section 7.1, subsections 7.3(1) and (3) to (5), section 10, subsection 13.1(1), sections 14, 16 to 18, 21, 22, subsection 23(3), section 24, subsections 25(1) and (2), and sections 26 to 34.1 insofar as they relate to the administration of Crown lands designated by the Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship as agricultural Crown lands, including setting fees and rents and issuing work permits but excluding other dispositions]
- ii. The Family Farm Protection Act
- iii. The Farm Income Assurance Plans Act
- iv. The Farm Lands Ownership Act
- v. The Farm Machinery and Equipment Act
- vi. The Farm Practices Protection Act
- vii. The Land Rehabilitation Act
- viii. The Wildlife Act - the portion of clause 89(e) that relates to compensation for damage to crops caused by wildlife as it pertains to big game and migratory waterfowl]

### **D. Supply Management**

- i. The Dairy Act
- ii. The Farm Products Marketing Act
- iii. The Fruit and Vegetable Sales Act
- iv. The Milk Prices Review Act

### **E. Industry Protection**

- i. The Animal Care Act
- ii. The Animal Diseases Act
- iii. The Animal Liability Act
- iv. The Farm and Food Awareness Act
- v. The Noxious Weed Act
- vi. The Plant Pests and Diseases Act

### **F. Tax Incentives and Relief**

- i. The Community Development Bonds Act
- ii. The Income Tax Act - [sections 11.8 to 11.12]

- iii. The Property Tax and Insulation Assistance Act - [Part III.1, and section 1 and Part VI as they relate to subjects covered under Part III.1]

**G. Registering and Defining Segments**

- i. The Bee Act
- ii. The Livestock and Livestock Products Act
- iii. The Livestock Industry Diversification Act
- iv. The Organic Agricultural Products Act

**H. Governance and Direction of Organizations**

- i. The Agricultural Societies Act
- ii. The Agri-Food and Rural Development Council Act
- iii. The Horse Racing Commission Act
- iv. The Women's Institute Act

**I. Right of Practise**

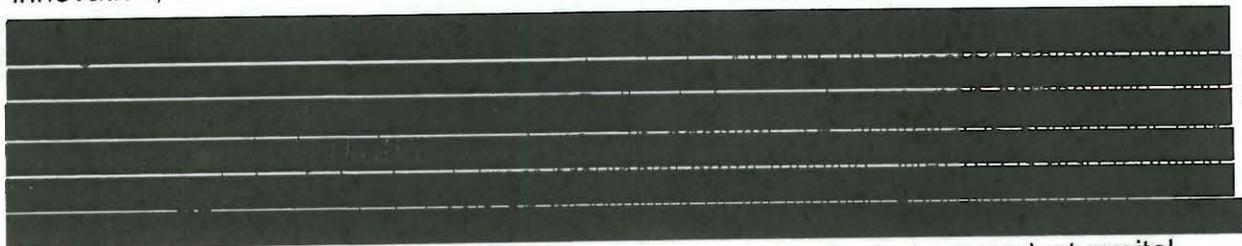
- i. The Agrologists Act
- ii. The Pesticides and Fertilizers Control Act
- iii. The Veterinary Medical Act
- iv. The Veterinary Science Scholarship Fund Act
- v. The Veterinary Services Act

**J. Unproclaimed**

- i. The Food Safety Act
- ii. Amendments to the Noxious Weeds Act

**Legal Framework: Growing Forward 2 – Federal/ Provincial Contribution Agreement under the Agricultural Policy Framework**

Growing Forward 2 is a five-year federal provincial territorial agreement (2013-18) which provides policy coherence to advance the agriculture industry. Under the framework, Canada and Manitoba will invest an average of \$35.3 million per year on non-business risk management programming on a 60/40 cost-shared basis in the areas of: organizational capacity and market development; assurance systems and environment; innovation; and business development.



19(1)(a)

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) approval is required where project capital expenditures are greater than \$100,000.

**6. Scheduled Events**

Event Name	Date & Time	Location	Brief Description	Expectation of attending Minister
University of Manitoba Diploma Grad	May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Investors Group Athletic Centre	Convocation for grads of the Agriculture Diploma Program	Attend Convocation
Manitoba Women's Institute (MWI) Convention Banquet	May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Clear Lake, Manitoba	Annual convention banquet for MWI	Bring greetings to May 6 <sup>th</sup> evening banquet
MAFRD Long Service Awards	May 13 <sup>th</sup> 2:00 – 4:00 PM	Room 200 Legislative Building	Recognizes MAFRD employees service for a minimum of 25 years, followed by recognition at 5 year intervals.	Bring greetings and present Certificate
Standing Committee on Agriculture and Forstry of the Senate of Canada	May 19 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 – 10:30 AM	Calgary	Committee is requesting input regarding provincial initiatives that promote international market access	Deliver presentation to committee followed by Q/A period.
Farm Family of the Year (Red River Ex)	June 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup>	TBD	Celebrates people in agriculture and rural	Attend June 19 <sup>th</sup> reception and host Family at Legislative Building on June 20 <sup>th</sup>
Minister's Industry Consultation	Last week of June	Legislative Building	Consult with industry prior to FPT meeting	Bring greeting and participate in discussion.
Soy Canada Annual Meeting	June 29 <sup>th</sup>	Carman (tour), Winnipeg ( mtg)	Annual meeting and tour	Bring greetings
Annual Conference of Federal/ Provincial/ Territorial Ministers	July 20 <sup>th</sup> – PM July 21 <sup>st</sup> –All Day July 22 <sup>nd</sup> - 2:00PM	Calgary	To discuss agriculture issues [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 19(1)(d)	Represent Manitoba and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 19(1)(d)
Ag Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony	July 14, 2016	Portage la Prairie	Recognize individuals who have made contribution to agriculture	Bring greetings

## 7. Acronyms

ACL	Agricultural Crown Lands
AFRDC	Agri-Food and Rural Development Council
AFRED	Agri-Food and Rural Economic Development Division
AGMET	Agro-Meteorology Information System
AICC	Aboriginal Issues Committee of Cabinet
AIDA	Agri-Industry Development and Advancement Division
AITC	Agriculture in the Classroom
ALUS	Alternative Land Use Services
AMCP	Association Manitoba Community Pastures
ARDI	Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative
CAFA	Canadian Association of Farm Advisors
CAMA	Canadian Agri-Marketing Association
CAPI	Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute
CASA	Canadian Agricultural Safety Association
CCA	Canadian Cattlemen's Association
CCC	Canola Council of Canada
CCGD	Canadian Council of Grocery Distributors
CCIA	Canadian Cattle Identification Agency
CD	Conservation District
CDC	Community Development Corporation
CEDTCP	Community Enterprise Development (CED) Tax Credit Program
CEMA	Canadian Egg Marketing Agency
CFA	Canadian Federation of Agriculture
CFIA	Canadian Food Inspection Agency
CFP-MB	Community Futures Partners of Manitoba
CFSA	Canadian Forage Seed Association
CGC	Canada Grains Council
CHC	Canadian Horticultural Council
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency Inc.
CIFST	Canadian Institute of Food Science and Technology
CMA	Canadian Manufacturers Association
CMBTC	Canadian Malting Barley Technical Centre
CMC	Canadian Meat Council
CMCDC	Canada Manitoba Crop Diversification Centre
CMFSTAI	Canada-Manitoba Forage Shortfall & Transportation Assistance Initiative
CNMA	Canadian National Millers Association
CPC	Canadian Pork Council
CPI	Canada Pork International
CPMA	Canadian Produce Marketing Association
CSB	Commercialization Support for Business
DPSID	Department Planning and Service Innovation Directorate
EITC	Economic Innovation and Technology Council
FAITS	Financial, Administrative and Information Technology Services Division

FAPD	Food and Agri-Product Development
FDC	Food Development Centre
FDRB	Farm Debt Review Board
FSTR	Farmland School Tax Rebate program
GF2	Growing Forward 2
GF3	Growing Forward 3
GIH	Grain Innovation Hub
KAP	Keystone Agricultural Producers
LSAM	Life Sciences Association of Manitoba Inc.
LSI	Livestock Sustainability Initiative
MAFRD	Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
MASC	Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation
MBESP	Manitoba Biomass Energy Support Program
MBGA	Manitoba Buckwheat Growers Association
MCVET	Manitoba Crop Variety Evaluation Team
MFGA	Manitoba Flax Growers Association
MFPA	Manitoba Food Processors Association
MFPMC	Manitoba Farm Products Marketing Council
MFSA	Manitoba Forage Seed Association
MHHC	Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation
MLMMI	Manitoba Livestock Manure Management Initiative
MMFAP	Manure Management Financial Assistance Program
MOMA	Manitoba Organic Meat Association
MPC	Manitoba Pork Council
MSA	Manitoba Sheep Association
MVMA	Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association
NAFDMA	North American Farmers Direct Marketing Association
NFAHW	National Farmed Animals Health and Welfare Council
P4G	Partner 4 Growth
PESAI	Prairies East Sustainable Agriculture Initiative, Inc.
PFGA	Prairie Fruit Growers Association
PIHG	Parkland Industrial Hemp Growers
PMRA	Pest Management Regulatory Agency
POGA	Prairie Oat Growers Association
REA	Rural Entrepreneur Assistance
REAP	Regional Economic Analysis Process
REDI	Rural Economic Development Initiatives
RMEA	Riding Mountain Eradication Area
SPI	Strategic Policy and Innovation Division
VCMi	Value Chain Manitoba Initiative
VSC	Veterinary Services Commission
VSD	Veterinary Services Districts
WADO	Westman Agricultural Diversification Organization
WCPIP	Western Cattle Price Insurance Program
WGRF	Western Grains Research Foundation

## Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Development URGENT ISSUES

Issue: Hog Supply and Processing

Timeline for action: Ongoing

Page 16

### Issue:

- Construction of pig barns has been paused since 2008 in Manitoba. There has been a 65% drop in the number of registered swine producers in Manitoba - 771 producers in 2007 vs. 267 producers in 2013; a 33% decline in the number of active pig producing sites in the province - 870 sites in 2007 vs. 580 sites in 2013; and 10 million pigs were produced in Manitoba in 2007 vs. 7.6 million in 2013.
- Currently the average age of existing barn infrastructure is greater than 20 years.
- The oldest category of barn is those of farrow to finish operations at 25+ years, the youngest category of barn is nursery barns at 15 years.

• [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] 18(1)(c)(i)

### Current status:

- Volatile pig prices for the last six years, high feed prices, mandatory country of origin labeling in the United States, and costly environmental regulations have worked to decrease the number of producers, barns and animals raised in the province. Currently financing the construction of new barns has become challenging.

• [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] 18(1)(c)(i)

### Options:

- Government met with Manitoba Pork Council (MPC) on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 and reviewed several of MPC's initiatives aimed at improving the industries economic sustainability. MAFRD will continue to work with MPC.
- MAFRD worked with Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, Manitoba Municipal Government and MPC to develop a Sustainable Hog Expansion Pilot Project in order to ensure adequate supply of hogs to Manitoba's slaughter facilities. Protection of Manitoba's water quality including Lake Winnipeg is a critical requirement of the pilot project. In addition to existing regulatory requirements, new and expanding pig operations under the pilot must meet additional requirements.

### Contact:

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister, Agri-Industry Development and Advancement  
204-945-3735

**Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Development URGENT ISSUES**

Issue: Sector Issues Requiring Federal Action  
Timeline for action: Immediate & Ongoing

Pages 15-17

**Issue: Trailer Policy**

CFIA has granted Manitoba transporters returning to Canada after delivering Canadian pigs to American farms an allowance to wash their trucks in Canada, contrary to regulatory requirements due to limited US capacity/ biosecurity in American wash bays.

**Current Status:** CFIA is working with MAFRD on a pilot alternative to the current process and regulations to effectively address biosecurity and economic.

**Options:** [Redacted]

[Redacted]

23(1)(a)

**Issue: Labour**

Changes to the Federal Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP) in June 2014 has created unintended labour challenges in the meat cutting industry (such as HyLife and Maple Leaf Foods) and for some producers (such as beekeepers).

**Current Status:** The House of Commons Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills, and Social Development has agreed to study Canada's TFWP, likely in May.

**Option(s):** Encourage affected Manitoba industry to comment under the federal review process. MAFRD may also submit a formal response under the federal review process.

**Issue: Trade Agreement Impacts**

Canada's recent signing of free trade agreements with the European Union (CETA) and as a member of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) has created enhanced export opportunities for Manitoba commodities including beef, pork, wheat, and canola.

**Current Status:** A previous federal government promise of \$4.3 billion in compensation to Canadian dairy, egg and poultry farmers to cover concessions made in supply management under CETA and TPP is under review.

**Option(s):** [Redacted]

23(1)(a)

**Issue: Grain Transportation**

The federal government is evaluating recommendations from a review of the Canada Transportation Act (CTA). [Redacted]

23(1)(a)

**Current Status:** The federal government will review the recommendations and is expected to consider feedback from stakeholders prior to making legislative changes.

**Option(s):** Manitoba could offer feedback on the recommendations as a stakeholder.

**Issue: Funding for MB Research Stations**

In 2014/15 – 2015/16 AAFC invested \$15.0 million in the renewal of stations at Brandon and Morden creating centers' of national and international research on cereal grains.

**Current Status:** With the upgrades in Manitoba complete, federal budget 2016 invested in stations in other provinces.

**Options:** [Redacted]

23(1)(a)

**Contact:** David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy and Innovation, 204-945-3910

## Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Development URGENT ISSUES

Issue: Infrastructure/environment to accelerate rural economic development and food and agri-product commercialization

Timeline for action: 2016-17 budget process

Page 16

### Current status:

- Manitoba has many assets supporting food and agri-product commercialization including: Food Development Centre; Food and Agri-Product Processing Branch; Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals; Canadian Centre for Agri-food Research in Health and Medicine; Composites Innovation Centre; and Commercialization Support for Business program.
- Larger companies drive the vast majority of value in food processing in Manitoba. Reinvestment in Manitoba operations is occurring and is key to future retention.
- Smaller companies are challenged to commercialize products and grow market penetration in Canada and beyond.
- Factors creating barriers for rural economic development include municipal water and wastewater capacity, broadband internet and cell service gaps, access to risk capital, local economic development capacity, labour availability, information availability and analysis, and a lack of competitiveness to attract investment.
- Current efforts to address those barriers include (but are not limited to):
  - Investment of Growing Forward 2 resources to support food business development (Growing Value Program, which is now fully subscribed);
  - An examination of current broadband and cell service in rural Manitoba;
  - A pilot training program to increase local economic development skills and extend rural economic development efforts well beyond provincial efforts;
  - A stakeholder-driven rural economic development strategy with priorities and objectives consistent with addressing many of the barriers identified above;
  - Regional Economic Analysis Process (REAP) to assist with regional information analysis to support economic development.

### Options:

1. [REDACTED]
2. [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)
3. [REDACTED]
4. [REDACTED]

**Contact:** Maurice Bouvier, Assistant Deputy Minister 204-945-3736

**Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Development URGENT ISSUES**

Issue: Next FPT Agricultural Policy Framework (GF3)

Page 13/20

Timeline for action: July 2016

**Issue:**

- The Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Agricultural Policy Frameworks are agreements that enable Manitoba to take action towards activities achieving common FPT goals.
- The current Agricultural Policy Framework Growing Forward 2 (GF2) agreement expires on March 31, 2018 and a successor framework must be ready for implementation on April 1, 2018.

**Current Status:**

- Development work for the Next Agricultural Policy Framework (GF3) has already begun. [Redacted]
  - [Redacted]
- } 19(1)(e)
- } 23(1)(a)

**Options:**

1. [Redacted]
  2. [Redacted]
- } 23(1)(a)

**Contacts:**

David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy and Innovation, 204-945-3910  
 Katia Arrus, Policy Analyst, Sector Policy, Planning & Programs, 204- 918-9926

B28

## Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Development URGENT ISSUES

Issue: Invitation to present to Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry  
Timeline for action: by early May 2016 Page 22

### Issue:

- The Minister has been invited to speak to the Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry on May 19, 2016 in Calgary, AB.
- The focus is on international market access priorities for the Canadian agricultural and agri-food sector.
- A decision is required as to whether the Minister wishes to accept, redirect or decline the invitation.

### Current Status:

- The Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry is examining international market access priorities for the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector. The Minister has been invited to present to the committee on:
  - (a) the expectations and concerns of stakeholders from the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector;
  - (b) sustainable improvements to the production capabilities of the supply chain;
  - (c) diversity, food security and traceability; and
  - (d) the competitiveness and profitability of Canada's agriculture and agri-food sector (including producers and processors).
- New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador appeared before the Senate committee on March 14, 2016. Ontario and Quebec followed on March 24, 2016.

### Options:

3. The Minister of Agriculture accepts the invitation and presents to the Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.
4. The Minister of Agriculture accepts the invitation; but redirects the presentation to be made by the Deputy Minister and/or their designate.
5. The Minister of Agriculture declines the invitation and chooses that the Province will not present to the Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

### Contacts:

David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy and Innovation, 204-945-3910



**Next Stage of Departmental Preparedness  
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development  
Index**

**Federal- Provincial Agricultural Policy Framework**

GF2 Program Status and Delivery .....	3
GF3 – Development on Next Framework Agreement.....	5
Business Risk Management (BRM) – Agristability and AgrilInvest.....	7

**Health/Agriculture Relationship**

One Health Steering Committee .....	9
-------------------------------------	---

**Robust Regulatory and Enforcement Framework**

Legislative and Regulatory Updates.....	11
Animal Health Issues and Activities .....	13
Food Processor and Meat Inspection Program.....	15
Kennel Licensing.....	17
Animal Welfare.....	19
Honey Bee Health.....	21
Pesticide Use and Agriculture .....	23

**Agri- Resource Challenges and Opportunities**

Climate Change and Agriculture: Green Economy Opportunities and Challenges.....	25
Ag Risk Management Task Force .....	27
Biosecurity and Bipole.....	29
Ag Crown Lands.....	31
Shellmouth Dam Compensation Program.....	33
Manitoba Community Pasture Program .....	35

**Agriculture Industry Competitiveness**

Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).....	37
Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP).....	39
Grain Transportation .....	41

**Manitoba's Hog Industry**

Hog Supply Capacity in Manitoba .....	43
Building of Hog Barns .....	45
Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Transfer Trailer Policy .....	47

C1

**Manitoba's Ag Innovation and Research Capacity**

Diversification Centres ..... 49  
Summary of MAFRD Investment in Research ..... 51  
Grain Innovation Hub ..... 55

**Infrastructure/Environment to Accelerate Rural Economic Development and Food Commercialization**

Labour Issues in Agriculture ..... 57  
Rural Economic Development Strategy ..... 59  
Rural Economic Development Initiatives (REDI) ..... 61  
Rural Broadband/ Wireless ..... 63  
Food Development Centre ..... 65  
Keystone Centre ..... 67  
Harness Racing Industry ..... 69

**Service Innovation for MAFRD/MASC**

MAFRD State of the Organization ..... 71

## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

---

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

### **SUBJECT: Growing Forward 2 – Program Status and Delivery**

#### **ISSUE:**

- Growing Forward 2 (GF2) programs are the federal and provincial governments' main policy instruments to help industry innovate and adopt best practices to be competitive in the global marketplace.
- Producer payment funding was reduced in BRM programming and re-directed toward GF2 non BRM programming.

#### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- As of 11 January 2016, 1493 Growing Forward 2 applications have been approved; totalling \$ 85.4 Million.
- Industry is regularly consulted. During 2015, meetings were held in June and November.
- Operational program protocols are continually being adjusted to improve delivery, efficiency and service.
- 2015/16 preliminary provincial expenditures totaled \$12.3 million and meets the minimum provincial spending threshold of the funding agreement.
- 2015/16 final federal expenditures of \$23.4 million met the minimum federal spending threshold of the funding agreement.
- An external consultant has evaluated GF2 administrative and delivery processes to identify possible means for improvement. The final report was delivered January 25, 2016.
- A separate program business review, that addresses the effectiveness of existing programs in meeting stated outcomes, is currently in progress.

#### **Contact:**

David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister – 204-945-3910

**Date:** April 22, 2016

CH





**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Business Risk Management (BRM) – AgriStability and AgrilInvest**

**ISSUE:**

- The BRM programs (AgriStability, AgrilInvest, AgrilInsurance and AgriRecovery) help producers compete and adapt by helping them manage risk while limiting the risk of trade action. The programs have provided over \$2.3 billion in government contributions to Manitoba producers since 2007.
- Under GF2, AgriStability and AgrilInvest support was reduced with some of the savings directed to strategic initiatives (non-BRM programs). The impact of the reductions on producers has been muted due to strong commodity prices, but many producers have decided to withdraw from AgriStability. AgrilInvest participation remains high because there is an annual benefit at negligible cost.
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)
- GF2 also offered funds to develop new insurance-based program options, but it has had limited success. Other than the Western Livestock Price Insurance Program (WLPPI), only a weather-based risk assessment insurance product has been developed in Quebec.

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- The suite of Business Risk Management programs provide risk protection for market and production related disasters, while producers take an active role in managing smaller normal risks.
- Provinces and the federal government are reviewing all BRM programs to make sure they effectively manage risks beyond a producer's control.
- Manitoba supported the shift in GF2 from income support to strategic initiatives and insurance-based programs, to encourage producers to adapt and to help the whole industry innovate thereby facilitating greater profitability in the long term.
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)
- Subsequent to the 2014 excess moisture event, Manitoba created the 2015 Agricultural Risk Management Task Force to improve farmers' capacity to manage production and market risks and the government's ability to manage the financial risk associated with a changing climate. The Task Force's 25 recommendations have been shared with FPT governments.
- Although BRM programs help offset most financial losses, some problems like lost productivity or multi-year losses are not covered.

C7

- [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Shifting program spending from BRM to non-BRM has been generally supported by all governments. There is considerable support for moving to more insurance-based programming where feasible.
- Reductions in AgriStability and AgriInvest were opposed by industry as they reduce payments and support to help recover from financial setbacks. The Canadian Federation of Agriculture and provincial organizations are supportive of restoring BRM to pre-GF2 levels for GF3.

**Contact:**

David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3910

**Date:** April 22, 2016

## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: One Health Steering Committee (Food, Animal Welfare, Animal Health)**

### **ISSUE:**

- The Manitoba One Health Steering Committee (OHSC) works across departments to ensure that cross jurisdictional challenges are recognized and optimal outcomes are achieved. The departments of MB Health and MAFRD co-chair this initiative.

### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- In 2012, Manitoba endorsed a permanent OH Steering Committee to promote cross-disciplinary and inter-departmental cooperation.
- The OHSC has been successful in enabling collaborative approaches to complex inter-jurisdictional issues such as:
  - Rabies: The Manitoba (MB) OH Rabies Program has developed one of the most efficient provincial rabies programs across the country.
  - Joint disease control initiatives are now being collaborated on for diseases such as anaplasmosis, anthrax and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD).
  - Hosting of the inaugural International One Health One Welfare (OHOW) Conference: The OHSC is planning this conference for September 2016 in Winnipeg. This event is garnering support and recognition provincially, nationally and internationally for the leadership and initiative taken by this province in this important topic.
  - Food Safety Programs: From the 2012 release of the OAG audit on Manitoba's food safety program to the expected completion of addressing the audit's recommendations in 2016, MAFRD and MHLS have worked together to address the discrepancies between the two departments' operating and enforcement procedures.
- Manitoba's formal OH Framework put Manitoba in an ideal position to react quickly to the announcement that CFIA was devolving from managing specific animal diseases, including rabies, effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014.
- A OH Working group has been assigned to review current disease control initiatives and programs for anthrax, anaplasmosis and CWD and is in the process of ensuring that programs are cohesive, complementary, and that programs gaps are eliminated.
- As food safety is a shared responsibility between MAFRD and MHLS, an interdepartmental working group was established to facilitate consistency in inspection and enforcement approaches.
- Animal welfare and human health is a complex challenge and must be managed in an OH approach to achieve an optimal outcome. Psychological impacts on first responders to significant animal health or welfare events have been shown to be very costly; the OHOW conference will include a workshop aimed at protecting responders from these impacts and minimizing cost to personnel and to government.

### **Contact:**

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016



**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Legislative and Regulatory Amendment Updates:** *Food Safety Act* and Regulations, *Dairy Act* Dairy Farms Regulations, Dairy Regulations Amendment under the *Dairy Act*, Amendments to the *Animal Disease Act* Regulations

**ISSUE:**

- MAFRD is developing food safety legislation specific to the food processing industry. Current food safety legislation, under *The Public Health Act* is specific to retail and food service.
- On June 2012, the Standing Committee of Public Accounts inquired about the delay in MAFRD's proclamation of *The Food Safety Act*.
- Bill 71 includes amendments to the *Animal Diseases Act* that allow MAFRD to better address risks, to take more preventive actions, respond to emerging diseases and clarify surveillance activities in animal health and zoonotic disease.
- *The Dairy Farms Regulation* and *Dairy Regulation*, amendments were registered August 25, 2015 & published on Manitoba Justice's website on August 26, 2015.
- Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (MAFRD) is finalizing three comprehensive regulations to support the proclamation of *The Food Safety Act*.
- *The Animal Diseases Amendment Act* (Bill 71) received Royal Assent on June 30, 2015 and regulations are being drafted to support this legislation.

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- [REDACTED] 23(1)(f)
- The Dairy Farms Regulation has been placed under *The Dairy Act* until all *The Food Safety Act* is proclaimed.
- Amendments to *The Animal Disease Act* allows MAFRD to address risks, to take more preventive actions, respond to emerging diseases and clarify surveillance activities in the areas of animal health and zoonotic disease.
- MAFRD engaged key stakeholders to review and comment on Bill 71 and it is intended that this same process will occur for any regulations developed. 23(1)(g)
- [REDACTED]

• [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

19(1)(e)

**Contact:**  
Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016

## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

### **SUBJECT: Animal Health Issues and Activities**

#### **ISSUE:**

- Reportable and emerging animal diseases, such as Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED), Avian Influenza (AI) and Salmonella, continue to be constant threats to human health, animal health, animal welfare and food safety in Manitoba.
- Disease outbreaks have significant impacts on animal health, welfare and trade. Early detection and rapid response with key stakeholders is critical in limiting these impacts.
- While the threat appears to have stabilized, Manitoba's swine herds continue to be at risk for PED. Manitoba serves as a hub for the movement of pigs from western Canada to the US, leading to constant exposure to PED at US farms, processing plants and wash stations.

[REDACTED] 23(1)(g)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

- The 2015 US AI outbreak was the largest animal disease outbreak in North American history, with over 48 million birds affected on 219 farms in 15 states. The Midwest states immediately south of Manitoba were all impacted by the outbreak.
- Wild water fowl were believed to be a source of infection in outbreak. The threat to the Manitoba poultry sectors remains high as the spring migration begins.
- A large scale Western Canadian *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE) outbreak affected over 1000 small farm flocks and caused illness in 61 people. The outbreak was linked to contact with chicks from an Alberta hatchery with the great majority of the affected flocks and humans cases in Alberta and British Columbia. Three flocks and one human case occurred in Manitoba.
- Provincial animal health laboratories are part of an animal health system that provide diagnostic testing that help veterinarians, livestock and poultry producers, and pet owners identify diseases quickly in their animals. Rapid and reliable diagnostic testing helps limit the impact diseases have on the health, welfare and value of Manitoba animal populations. This also supports surveillance programs and disease outbreak responses to further reduce animal disease impacts.

#### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- In 2015, the Manitoba government responded to seventeen incidents of reportable or emerging animal diseases in the province. The Office of the Chief Veterinarian (CVO) works closely with producers, veterinarians, livestock and poultry groups, other provincial departments and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to prevent the spread of disease and to protect animal health.
- The Manitoba government provided broad based animal disease testing to Manitoba animal owners and their veterinarians through the provincial animal

health laboratory, Veterinary Diagnostic Services (VDS). The laboratory processed 15,720 cases in 2015. The laboratory information also provides important support for disease surveillance and outbreak response.

- The Manitoba government and the Manitoba pork sector worked together to prevent PED from severely impacting Manitoba swine herds. All five farms that were positive for PED have eliminated the disease from the pigs on their farms.
- The 2015 Avian Influenza outbreaks in North America have ended and so far only a single US flock has been found positive in 2016. However, the threat remains high and the Manitoba government will continue to work with all stakeholders to be prepared should an outbreak of AI occur in Manitoba.
- MAFRD has established an effective, collaborative disease investigation program that works collaboratively with livestock sectors, diagnostic laboratories and Manitoba veterinarians. The program relies heavily on Manitoba's well established Premises Identification program.
- MAFRD has continued to support VDS as a regional source of animal disease expertise in Manitoba. VDS is part of a national network of animal health laboratories that supports the development, implementation and validation of animal disease diagnostics.
- VDS is, also, part of a western Canadian animal health surveillance node. This node includes the CVOs and animal health laboratories in the four western provinces.
- MAFRD continues to develop, review and revise targeted disease response plans such as those for PED and AI. This includes conducting ongoing consultations with multiple stakeholders, departments and agencies.

**Contact:**

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016

**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Food Processor and Meat Inspection Program**

**ISSUE:**

23(1)(a)

- [REDACTED]
- MAFRD and MHLS are working to enhance food safety expertise to monitor and regulate the evolving and varied food processing industry.
- MAFRD inspectors are meeting inspection frequencies as determined for food establishments under the MAFRD risk based inspection process. This ensures that facilities producing products that are a high food safety risk, receive more frequent inspection than those that produce products of low food safety risk.
- MAFRD and MHLS are looking more closely at operations that are processing unapproved potentially hazardous products for retail and taking enforcement actions where it is warranted.

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Development (MAFRD) is responsible for providing food safety inspections to 476 food processing and distribution establishments and meat inspection to 25 provincially permitted abattoirs.
- MAFRD is committed to working with industry to ensure the safety of food produced and processed in the province through the application of a science and risk-based approach to the inspection and enforcement of food safety legislation.
- MAFRD and MHLS are working collaboratively [REDACTED] 23(1)(f)
- MAFRD conducted public consultations on the proposed Food Safety Regulation in spring 2014, [REDACTED] 23(1)(f)
- The Office of the Auditor General released the Food Safety audit of MAFRD and MHLS in 2012.
- As of September 2015, MAFRD has implemented or responded to all of the Auditor General Recommendations from their Food Safety Audit with the exception of one that will be complete when *The Food Safety Act* is proclaimed.
- MAFRD successfully transitioned into the delivery of provincial meat inspection responsibilities for provincial abattoirs from CFIA in January 2014.
- In 2015, the program provided over 2500 days of meat inspection services to provincial abattoirs. This program also provided 15 emergency slaughters to producers whose animals were too injured to transport to an abattoir.
- The meat inspection program ensures all animals at provincially permitted abattoirs are fit for human consumption.

- MAFRD assists the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to monitor activities stipulated under federal regulation including specified risk material removal, animal traceability, and humane transportation. MAFRD also works with CFIA on disease surveillance by collecting samples for BSE, scrapie, CWD and TB at abattoirs.

**Contact:**

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016

**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Kennel Licensing**

**ISSUE:**

- The Animal Welfare program is currently fully occupied with animal welfare complaint investigations and prosecutions as the number of investigations have escalated from 250 cases in 2010 to 798 cases in 2015. [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)
- The public has expressed concern over the failure to administer the kennel licensing program.
- The Office of the CVO is currently aware of approximately 60 kennels, 65 companion animal breeding premises and 40 companion animal retail stores in Manitoba. [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)
- [REDACTED]

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- In 2010, *The Animal Care Act* was amended to indicate that no person shall operate a kennel, companion animal breeding premises or companion animal retail store except when a license has been issued by the Director.
- In 2013, kennel, companion animal breeding premises and companion animal retail store licensing was suspended [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

**Contact:**  
Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016

This document is a Cabinet confidence as defined in subsection 19(1) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* Page 17 of 72

C17



**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Animal Welfare**

**ISSUE:**

- Enhanced public awareness of animal welfare issues have resulted in increased and more varied case loads including hoarding, domestic violence, elder squalor, criminal activity, and significant human mental/physical health issues.
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)
- *The Animal Care Act* contains a program to license companion animal breeding premises, boarding kennels, rescues/shelters, municipal pounds, and companion animal retail stores; this program is currently suspended due to the need to determine appropriate system to respond to caseload.
- The 2010 amendments to *The Animal Care Act* created new offences related to the transport and marketing of livestock unfit to transport through public auction. These amendments required sales yard and auction market staff to report to MAFRD when a consigned animal is refused on welfare grounds. [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- The Minister of Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (MAFRD) oversees the Government's primary responsibilities under *The Animal Care Act*.
- The enforcement of the responsible use and treatment of livestock and companion animals in Manitoba has been delegated to the Office of the Chief Veterinarian (CVO).
- MAFRD is committed to protecting animal welfare through enforcement of *The Animal Care Act* and will take action when animals are not being provided with appropriate care.
- MAFRD is cognizant of the public interest in ensuring animal care standards are maintained in the best interest of all domestic animals, while also respecting human dignity and the economic importance of commercial animals in providing a livelihood for Manitobans.
- MAFRD has increased collaboration with MB Health experts and other government/enforcement agencies including Public/Mental Health, Child and Family Services, The Canadian Food Inspection Agency and police to effectively address animal welfare concerns.
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)

C19

• [Redacted]

23(1)(a)

**Contact:**

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016

**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Honey Bee Health**

**ISSUE:**

- In recent years, higher than average bee mortalities across the country, including Manitoba, have resulted in widespread attention on bee health.
- Bee health is comprised of many factors, including weather; pests and diseases; and the effects of management tools and practices across agricultural sectors.
- Efforts to support bee health require a science-based approach and a coordinated effort with multiple stakeholders.

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- MAFRD is working with Manitoba's beekeeping industry to implement strategies that improve bee biosecurity at the farm level, replace bees due to winter mortality and grow the beekeeping industry.
- Manitoba is a member of the national Bee Health Roundtable (BHRT).
- Growing Forward 2 approved \$46.3 toward honey bee biosecurity items and Good Agriculture Practises (GAPs). An additional \$10.3 supported activities such as speaker expenses and a Lyme disease study.
- Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation has an insurance program to support producers dealing with losses that are due to factors beyond their control. In 2014-15, 53 beekeepers were enrolled with coverage totaling \$4.2 M.
- Bee mortality in Manitoba during the last two winters has stabilized and would be considered within the range of normal losses
- A group of insecticides that are widely used in crop production (neonicotinoids) have been singled out for their impact on honey bee health.
- If neonicotinoid seed treatment was banned in Manitoba it could result in corn yield loss of 3 to 5 bu/acre on 200,000 acres of corn production and 1 to 3 bu/acre loss for soybeans on 1.04 million acres.
- [REDACTED] } 23(1)(a)
- [REDACTED] } 18(1)(c)(iv)
- [REDACTED]
- PMRA has released the preliminary pollinator assessment as part of the re-evaluation of imidacloprid. Imidacloprid was found to pose no potential risk to bees when used as a seed treatment.
- The final review on the neonicotinoid imidacloprid will be available from PMRA in December 2016. Final reviews on clothianidin and thiamethoxam will be available from PMRA in December 2017.

**Contact:**

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

Date: April 22, 2016



**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Pesticide Use and Agriculture**

**ISSUE:**

- Scientific research suggests that exposure to neonicotinoids may have an impact on pollinator health. While numerous studies have been conducted under laboratory conditions or in the field with exposure to doses higher than would normally be encountered in the environment, additional information is required on the effect of pesticides under typical field conditions. Pollinator health is important, and is likely influenced by a number of factors including pests, pathogens and viruses, exposure to pesticides, and bee management practices.
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(q)
- *The Noxious Weeds Act (NWA)* protects agricultural land and natural areas in Manitoba from the establishment and spread of noxious and invasive weeds. The NWA does not prescribe specific methods of weed control; however, synthetic herbicides are often the most efficient and cost effective means of managing severe weed infestations or hard to control weeds.

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) are conducting pollinator risk assessments for the neonicotinoids imidacloprid, clothianidin, and thiamethoxam. PMRA has released the preliminary pollinator assessment as part of the re-evaluation of imidacloprid. Imidacloprid was found to pose no potential risk to bees when used as a seed treatment, while foliar and soil applications pose a potential risk to bees.
- Effective January 2015, the Non-Essential Pesticide Use Regulation prohibits the use of synthetic ('prescribed') herbicides on lawns and public greenspaces that are regularly mowed (schools, parks). Use of prescribed pesticides for agriculture operation or for the control of noxious weeds, as per is exempt from the Regulation.
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(b)  
[REDACTED] MCWS worked with MAFRD and the Manitoba Weed Supervisors Association (MWSA) on a protocol and an exemption form for situations that may require the use of a prescribed pesticide to control noxious weeds in regulated areas.

- Bill 32, *The Noxious Weeds Amendment Act*, proposes a tiered approach to noxious weed classification that clarifies expectations with respect to noxious weed management. It is also compatible with the Regulation.

**Contact:**

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016

## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

---

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

### **SUBJECT: Climate Change and Agriculture: Green Economy Opportunities and Challenges**

#### **ISSUE:**

- According to Environment Canada, in 2013, about 30% of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Manitoba were derived from agriculture. Therefore, there are many opportunities for reducing emissions, improving efficiency and sequestering carbon.
- Proposed interventions, such as cap and trade and carbon stewardship, in the new action plan could represent opportunities and also an important financial impact on the agriculture sector.
- The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on a GHG cap-and-trade system with Ontario and Quebec and the commitment in the action plan to achieve a carbon neutral government with "local and transparent" offsets could present opportunities for farmers to market carbon offsets.

#### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- Manitoba has set a new GHG reduction goal as part of the Climate Change and Green Economy Action Plan.
- Agriculture is expected to perform a key role in Manitoba's GHG reduction objectives and transition to a green economy.
- Manitoba has experienced a 28% reduction in the agricultural GHG emissions intensity over the last two decades.
- Manitoba will continue to lead initiatives that provide climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits, including Environmental Farm Plans (EFP), Beneficial Management Practices incentive programming and support of research.
- The EFP program to assist farmers in identifying agri-environmental risks and assets on farms includes a climate change chapter.
- The Growing Assurance Ecological Goods and Services (EG&S) and Environment programs build upon earlier programming to fund practices that have climate change co-benefits.
- The 4R Nutrient Stewardship Agreement supports sound fertilizer use.
- Demonstrated leadership in beef and forage sustainability research will be realized through the Manitoba Beef and Forage Initiative Inc. (MBFII).
- The provincial Bioproducts Strategy looks to replace non-renewable resource use with local bioproducts.
- The Crop Residue Burning Program reduces the amount of stubble burned by restricting when and where farmers can burn crop residue.

- Collaboration is ongoing with KAP and NFU to investigate on-farm measures and policy options that will support mitigation of GHG emissions and enhance the adaptive capacity of the agricultural sector.

**Contact:**

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016

**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Agricultural Risk Management Review Task Force**

**ISSUE:**

- In recent years, Manitoba's agricultural producers have been challenged by the changing climate and its effects on production. In particular, there have been more frequent periods of excess moisture and flooding disasters, with an increased magnitude of impact on production and new challenges for recovery.
- Industry stakeholders noted to the Task Force the actual economic impacts on producers and gaps in core programming that are limiting the ability of farmers to recover, with resulting negative consequences to the Manitoba economy.

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- The Government of Manitoba established the Agricultural Risk Management Task Force in January 2015 to review and provide recommendations on options for addressing the impacts to agriculture from more frequent climate related disaster events in Manitoba.
- The Task Force released its final report on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 with twenty-five recommendations based on consultations with individual producers, the agriculture sector, other government departments and professional experts.
- The recommendations include a breadth of actions covering research, mitigation and programs and services that position the industry for success in adapting to the changing climate on the Manitoba landscape.
- Overall comments on the report heard to date at meetings and reported in the media have been positive.

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

23(1)(b)

**Contact:**

David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3910

**Date:** April 22, 2016

C27



## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

### **SUBJECT: Biosecurity and Bipole**

#### **ISSUE:**

- Proper biosecurity measures are a critical component of disease risk mitigation.
- Producers are becoming more aware of the importance of biosecurity. It is important that both government and non-government agencies, their employees and their equipment respect the owners' rights and practice good biosecurity.
- Diseases that are not typically found on a farm can be financially devastating to not only individual producers but to an entire industry. Foreign animal and plant diseases; and new and emerging diseases represent a constant threat.
- Biosecurity protocols supported by MAFRD programming have helped limit the impact of significant diseases such as Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea and will be important for reducing the impact of clubroot or verticillium wilt in canola.
- [REDACTED]

23(1)(g)

#### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Development (MAFRD) is working with other departments, crown corporations, industry and outside agencies to ensure that realistic and effective biosecurity protocols are developed.
- Through GF2, MAFRD has helped Manitoba producers develop and adopt targeted biosecurity protocols.
- MAFRD has developed tools and revised biosecurity protocols. MAFRD has also provided technical input into biosecurity protocols for Keystone Agriculture Producers (KAP), other producer groups and MB Hydro.
- MAFRD has been involved in the development of voluntary national biosecurity standards in poultry, goat, dairy and beef through the Office of Animal Biosecurity and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.
- MAFRD will continue to emphasize the importance of biosecurity to crop and livestock producers and agencies that deal with producers.
- Developing good biosecurity protocols must be combined with vigilance, diligence and practice on behalf of the producer, the people and equipment that enters the restricted access zone or farm to be successful.

#### **Contact:**

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016



## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

### **SUBJECT: Agricultural Crown Lands**

#### **ISSUE:**

- The increased activity within the Agricultural Crown Lands (ACL) program, due to the volume of parcels being advertised and the health of the livestock industry continues to bring numerous inquiries from the public regarding the general processes and procedures of the ACL program.
- Inquiries still continue to arise on the status of the Shoal Lakes acquisitions. These lands have all been coded, and are available for rent under casual permits. [REDACTED] 23(1)(f)
- Many inquiries are a result of ACL sale applications that are long outstanding or from applicants that have not received timely communication as to where their application is within the process. [REDACTED] 23(1)(g)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] The vast majority of parcels in process are not provincial Crown but instead are vested lands owned by the municipality.

#### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- MAFRD has tackled the backlog of Agricultural Crown land (ACL) parcels available for lease and advertised a large volume of parcels in the fall of 2015 in order to allocate long vacant parcels.
  - 461 parcels of land were made available through the Ag Crown land advertising list which closed November 13, 2015.
  - 330 of the 461 Parcels of land (72%) were allocated either as single parcels or incorporated as multiples.
  - 133 of the 330 parcels allocated are potentially subject to appeal by the unsuccessful applicants.
- Lands acquired through the Shoal Lakes Voluntary Buyout Program have been incorporated into the ACL program wherever agriculturally feasible. These parcels are currently available for rent under casual permit and [REDACTED] 23(1)(f)
- ACL sales program is a responsibility of the department of Conservation and Water Stewardship (CWS); but given the nature of the land, inquiries are directed to MAFRD. The sales process is currently undergoing a lean review.
- MAFRD has used ACL regulation, policies and procedures to respond to internal and external inquiries.
- Staff continue working to provide as much access to ACL as possible to producers by increasing parcels available for advertising in support of the livestock industry.

#### **Contact:**

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016

This document is a Cabinet confidence as defined in subsection 19(1) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*

Page 31 of 72

c31





- [REDACTED] 23(1)(b)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] } 19(1)(a)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- In some years, operation of the dam can cause artificial flooding and slow the recession of floodwaters. However, in general it provides a significant flood reduction benefit to communities, producers and other interests downstream by reducing the severity of the flooding or preventing it completely.

**Contact:**

David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204- 945-3910

**Date:** April 22, 2016

## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

### **SUBJECT: Manitoba Community Pasture Program**

#### **ISSUE:**

- The legacy of responsible land management as provided by AAFC in the Community Pasture Program (CPP) is recognized by all stakeholders in this province. Although the province is committed to ensure these lands are used and managed in the same manner, accomplishing this objective will present a challenge and will require a strong commitment via partnership arrangements to ensure long term sustainable land management.

#### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- The Manitoba government has approved a three year Pilot Project to transfer Community Pasture (CP) management responsibilities to the Association of Manitoba Community Pastures (AMCP), a non-profit group representing pasture users. Under the accelerated schedule, all 24 pastures have been divested as of March 31, 2016. Of the 400,000 acres of CP, 80% are provincial Crown land; 18% are RM owned; and 2% are federally owned.
- MAFRD continues to finalize the negotiations with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) regarding the terms of divestiture for the CP in Manitoba (i.e. environment requirements, treatment of immoveable assets, conveyance of documents, etc).
- AMCP is now operational, and has managed/operated 8 pastures in 2014 and an additional 4 in 2015. The remaining pastures are under AMCP's control as of April 1, 2016. Note that under AMCP management, some of the pastures are now operated as one unit resulting in the number of pastures under AMCP management control now being 20.
- Four of the 24 community pastures being divested from Canada contain some parcels of federally-owned land. These include: Langford CP, McCreary CP, Ellice-Archie CP, and Woodlands CP. MAFRD continues to work with AAFC on the process of obtaining a long-term use agreement for these federal parcels within the CP.
- MAFRD and Conservation and Water Stewardship (CWS) continue to work with Civil Legal Services (CLS) on federal-provincial transfer documents.
- A land lease agreement has been signed with AMCP, as well as funding agreements under Growing Forward 2 (GF2) [REDACTED] for up to \$1.05 million over the 3 year pilot. 19(1)(a)
- MAFRD, CWS, AMCP, and other agencies are working cooperatively through the Range Implementation and Monitoring Group (RIMG) to develop an ecological land management governance model to oversee the management of CPP lands.

• [REDACTED] 23(1)(b)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Contact:**

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016

## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

---

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

### **SUBJECT: Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)**

#### **ISSUE:**

- A lack of resources in the EU and “spill-over” from EU negotiations with the United States (US), particularly in the area of Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) had delayed the legal review and translation process for the CETA. However, with the lack of progress in the EU/US negotiations and the signature of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP), there is renewed EU interest in moving forward with the CETA.
- Translation of the CETA text into the 22 EU languages is expected to be completed by May 2016. Canada and the EU are continuing the steps necessary to bring policies, regulations and legislation into conformity with the obligations under CETA and it is expected that the Agreement will proceed to ratification and implementation early in 2017.
- The new federal government is committed to the implementation of the CETA and is considering compensation to affected sectors. The specific form of compensation to industries and/or P/Ts will be determined through consultations. The federal government anticipates industry consultations on cheese Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) administration in May.

#### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- The Canada-EU free trade agreement (CETA) is likely to be ratified and implemented early in 2017.
- This agreement represents expanded export opportunities for Manitoba beef, pork, wheat and canola.
- The federal government is committed to implementing CETA and considering compensation to affected sectors.
- Challenges remain in accessing the European marketplace including producer readiness, understanding and communication of production and processing requirements (e.g. ractopamine free production protocols), certification requirements for manufacturers/processors, and infrastructure constraints including required improvements to ports, railways and roads to allow for expanded import and export volumes.
- Export focused agriculture producer groups such as those representing beef, pork, canola and wheat have indicated support for the CETA.
- Expanded access for EU cheese has created concern for Canada's dairy industry. This has been exacerbated by the potential for expanded access for dairy products should the recently concluded Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement be ratified. Under the previous federal government, officials had committed to compensation to dairy/cheese industry and extensive consultation with Canada industry on quota allocation.

- The Canadian market for EU beef has been resolved and work continues on meat inspection equivalency and approval of additional carcass washes as part of the development of a side letter for red meats.
- Manitoba is supportive of bilateral trade agreements as market access is critical for Manitoba's export dependent sectors to be competitive. The Canada/EU trade agreement has the potential to increase overall exports from Manitoba to the EU by 24% or \$200 million.
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)
- [REDACTED]
- Ongoing collaboration between governments (federal/provincial) and industry will ensure a common and coordinated position for addressing market access issues or market development approaches.

**Contact:** David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister – 204-945-3910

**Date:** April 22, 2016

**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Trans Pacific Partnership Negotiations and Supply Management**

**ISSUE:**

- The Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) is the most comprehensive trade agreement in the world. It comprises 12 countries representing a market of 800 million people and GDP of \$28.5 trillion. Negotiations on TPP concluded on October 5, 2015.
- The provisions of this agreement are of significant interest to all of Manitoba's sectors as exporters seek competitive access to TPP countries and supply managed sectors seek protection on TPP countries that are seeking access to the Canadian market.
- The new federal government is undergoing consultations with stakeholders on the TPP agreement prior to ratifying. No commitment has been made on compensation programs promised by the previous government.

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- The Manitoba agricultural economy will benefit under the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP). Some examples include:
  - Pork exports to Japan are expected to increase by \$75 million. New export market opportunities will exist in Vietnam and Malaysia.
  - Canola oil and meal exports could increase by up to \$165 million per year.
  - Industry estimates benefits of \$6-8 million for the Manitoba barley from the TPP.
  - Manitoba honey will see a reduction of \$600,000 in duties on exports to Japan
  - Duties on Manitoba French Fries will be reduced \$100,000 on exports to Japan, Australia, and New Zealand.
  - Cattle producers in the province may see an increase in demand from tariff reductions on Canadian beef imports to Japan and Vietnam.
- The TPP represents an opportunity to introduce rules of origin within the region, ensure regulations adhere to international science-based standards, and ensure enforceable and consistent customs procedures to facilitate trade.
- The TPP also creates strong and enforceable rules that will help Canadians perform business in TPP countries – with provisions that will reduce regulatory barriers, increase transparency and reinforce intellectual property rights.
- Manitoba also has sensitivities in the area of new access on supply managed products and Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) administration.
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Manitoba supports the TPP for valuable economic benefits to be gained with enhanced access to significant markets in the Asia-Pacific region.

C39

- [REDACTED] 23(1)(g)
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

**Contact:**  
David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3910

**Date:** April 22, 2016

## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Grain Transportation - Canadian Transportation Act (CTA) Review**

### **ISSUE:**

- Most of Manitoba's grain is moved to export positions in Vancouver and Thunder Bay, and to customers in the USA. A poorly functioning supply chain limits producers', processors' and grain handling companies' ability to effectively run their businesses. Transportation costs are one of the most significant costs facing producers.

### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- The overall Canadian grain transportation system is running in a normal manner for the 2015-16 crop year. 96.7% of ordered cars are being provided by the railways to the Manitoba shippers. 79% of car orders are being spotted in the week they were ordered. MAFRD continues to monitor system performance.
- The CTA Review Report (*the Report*) was tabled in Parliament on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The federal government will now review the recommendations and is expected to consider feedback from stakeholders prior to making legislative changes.
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(g)
- Manitoba has forwarded a submission on grain transportation to the CTA Review based on stakeholder perspectives.
- Through Growing Forward 2, Manitoba has provided \$85,000 per year, for three years, to the Ag-Transport Coalition to allow them to increase data collection to over 90% of grain related rail traffic including Manitoba specific data.

### **Contact:**

David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister – 204-945-3910

**Date:** April 18, 2016

C42

**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Hog Supply Capacity in Manitoba**

**ISSUE:**

- [REDACTED] 18(1)(c)(i)
- [REDACTED]
- Manitoba grain producers are losing out on approximately \$100 million in grain sales to hog producers each year.
- No barns are scheduled to come online for at least a year. No barns are currently in the construction phase and no barns are in the technical review process.
- Maple Leaf and Hylife continue to import hogs from Saskatchewan, Alberta, Ontario and U.S.
- Margins have been positive the last two years and are expected to remain that way into 2016.
- [REDACTED] 18(1)(c)(i)
- Feed prices have gone down significantly and mandatory Country of Origin Labelling in the United States has been resolved but neither of these has stimulated expansion.
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- Through Growing Forward 2 (GF2) funding initiatives, Manitoba provided \$792,000 to the pig industry to develop local strategies for loose sow housing and provided direct funding to producers (\$2.0 million) to address biosecurity, animal health and welfare needs.
- MAFRD worked with industry and other departments to develop a Sustainable Hog Production Pilot Project which would allow hog barn construction to proceed within the existing regulatory framework and ensure a sustainable supply of hogs to flow into slaughter facilities.
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(a)
- MAFRD has worked with the federal government and the three other western Canadian provinces to expand the Western Livestock Price Insurance Program to include hogs. The program allows producers to minimize their risk but participation has essentially been zero.

- [REDACTED] 23(1)(b)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- There are currently no applications for Conditional Use Permits or Technical Review Committee reports which are required to expand or build a new pig barn in Manitoba.
- MAFRD works on several committees addressing the labour shortages that are of particular concern to the hog industry.

**Contact:**  
Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016

## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

### **SUBJECT: Building of Hog Barns**

#### **ISSUE:**

- Construction of new, renovated and expanded pig operations is necessary to ensure adequate supply to Maple Leaf Foods & HyLife Foods slaughter facilities.
- Pig production numbers are down across western Canada. Supply issues are not isolated to Manitoba, but Manitoba's loss of breeding and finishing pig numbers drives the supply issue faced on the Prairies.
- Section 40.1 of *The Environment Act* pertains to a prohibition on confined livestock areas and manure storage facilities for pigs.
- *The Act* states that the director may only issue a permit for a manure storage facility if the manure is subjected to anaerobic digestion or another environmentally sound treatment that is equivalent to or better than anaerobic digestion.
- There have been no proposals for new or expanding barns since 2011.

#### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- MAFRD worked with Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, Manitoba Municipal Government and the Manitoba Pork Council (MPC) to develop a Sustainable Hog Expansion Pilot Project to ensure adequate supply of hogs to Manitoba's slaughter facilities. Protection of Manitoba's water quality including Lake Winnipeg is a critical requirement of the pilot project. In addition to existing regulatory requirements, new & expanding pig operations under the pilot must:
  - subject the manure to treatment using anaerobic digestion or mechanical or gravity separation including multi-celled manure storage structures and settling tanks.
  - have access to sufficient suitable land to accommodate the phosphorus generated.
  - maintain soils below 60 ppm Olsen P.
  - inject or immediately incorporate pig manure on tilled land. Perennial forages, in-season applications and no-till lands are excluded.
  - consider odour control practices.
- MAFRD staff participate in the review of municipal livestock operation policies through the development plan process, as follows:
  - Municipalities are required to adopt a development plan with a livestock operation policy under *The Planning Act*.
  - A livestock operation policy must set out areas in the municipality where new and expansion of existing livestock operations are: i) allowed, ii) limited to a specific size, or iii) not allowed.
- Municipalities establish separation distances between new or expanding livestock operations and residential and recreational development. These distances must be equal to or higher than the minimum distances set in the *Provincial Planning Regulation*. *The Planning Act* requires public consultation

during the development plan process and approval of the Minister of Municipal Government prior to adoption by the municipality.

- If a proposal does meets all requirements of the development plan and by-laws, TRC & *The Environment Act*, Municipal Councils have the final decision on the Conditional Use permit. They can deny Conditional Use Permit for any livestock proposal, they do not have to provide reasons and there is no appeal process.
- As of August 1, 2015 Manitoba Hydro has classified pig barns as wet and corrosive environments (Category 1 and 2). As such, all equipment must meet NEMA 4X standards; however not all equipment is readily available. This is expected to add significant costs.

**Contact:**

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016

**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Transfer Trailer Policy**

**ISSUE:**

- Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED) and other emerging diseases remain a significant risk to the Manitoba swine industry.
- Under federal regulation, Canadian transporters returning from United States (US) slaughter facilities are not required to clean and disinfect their trailers prior to returning to Canada, while Canadian transporters returning from U.S. farms are required to fully clean and disinfect their trailers prior to entry. [REDACTED] 23(1)(g)
- There is limited wash station capacity in the US, and those that are available are not inspected and are not required to meet specific biosecurity standards. This poses a significant risk of disease introduction into Manitoba.
- The time required to re-route to available wash facilities in the USA will result in delays associated with isowean export which is extremely time dependent. Failure to move isoweans in the required timelines will result in an increase in animal welfare issues and economic losses.

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- CFIA has delayed enforcing a regulatory requirement in Manitoba for all Canadian transport trailers returning from US swine operations after delivering Canadian swine to be washed prior to re-entry into Canada until May 1st, 2016.
- MAFRD has worked diligently with the CFIA to develop a pilot project agreement as an alternative solution to returning to enforcing the regulations. [REDACTED] 23(1)(f)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- Manitoba participated in discussions in February 2014 that led to the arrangement that trailers returning from US swine operations would be scraped out and sealed prior to re-entry in Canada and be required to undergo a wash and disinfection at an approved wash station within Manitoba.
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(b)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

C47

23(1)(b)

- [REDACTED]
- MAFRD, Canadian Pork Council (CPC), and MPC are exploring new options to demonstrate the risk associated with trailer washing in the US through surveillance sampling, or available data from US researchers

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

23(1)(a)

**Contact:**

Leloni Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-945-3735

**Date:** April 22, 2016

**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Diversification Centres**

**ISSUE:**

- Local Diversification Centres such as Parkland Crop Diversification Foundation (PCDF), Prairies East Sustainable Agriculture Initiatives (PESAI) and Westman Agricultural Diversification Organization (WADO) have expressed concern about the number and length of time some MAFRD positions that support diversification centres have been vacant.
- Industry organizations like the Flax Council of Canada have also expressed concerns about these MAFRD vacancies, and the effect leaving them vacant will have on applied agricultural research in rural Manitoba.

- [REDACTED] 23(1)(g)
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- MAFRD supports increasing the competitiveness, sustainability and adaptability of the Manitoba agricultural industry by supporting four Crop Diversification Centres. 23(1)(d)
- [REDACTED]
- The following positions are now filled:
  - Diversification Technicians in Melita and Roblin 23(1)(d)
  - [REDACTED]
  - Diversification Specialist position in Roblin has not been filled [REDACTED] 23(1)(g)
- MAFRD provided \$60.0 each to Parkland Crop Diversification Foundation (PCDF), Prairie's East Sustainable Agriculture Initiatives (PESAI) and Westman Agricultural Diversification Organization (WADO) to defray additional costs due to MAFRD vacancies.

**Contact:**

Maurice Bouvier, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-792-5406

**Date:** April 22, 2016



## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Research and Development Program Expenditure Summary (excludes food Development Centre) 1998-2016**

### **ISSUE**

- There are 3 general types of research and development program funding:
  - i) provincial grants to University of Manitoba (UM), Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute (PAMI) and Brandon University Rural Development Institute (BU)
  - ii) competitive applications reviewed by government appointed councils; and
  - iii) strategic investments directed by the department.
- The department strives to achieve at least 50% matching funds from outside sources for competitive applications.
- Research covers all aspects of agri-food production and processing as well as aspects of food consumption such as consumer science and nutrition. The types of research include upstream discovery, proof of concept, applied field studies and product development as well as socio-economic studies and clinical studies. Commercialization, technology transfer and extension work is also supported. Strategic investments are made in people and research equipment.
- The province accepts funding requests from commodity organizations, universities, businesses, producers, federal labs, industry associations and citizens. Among private businesses almost all recipients are small and medium size locally based businesses with limited funding to multi-national companies.

### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

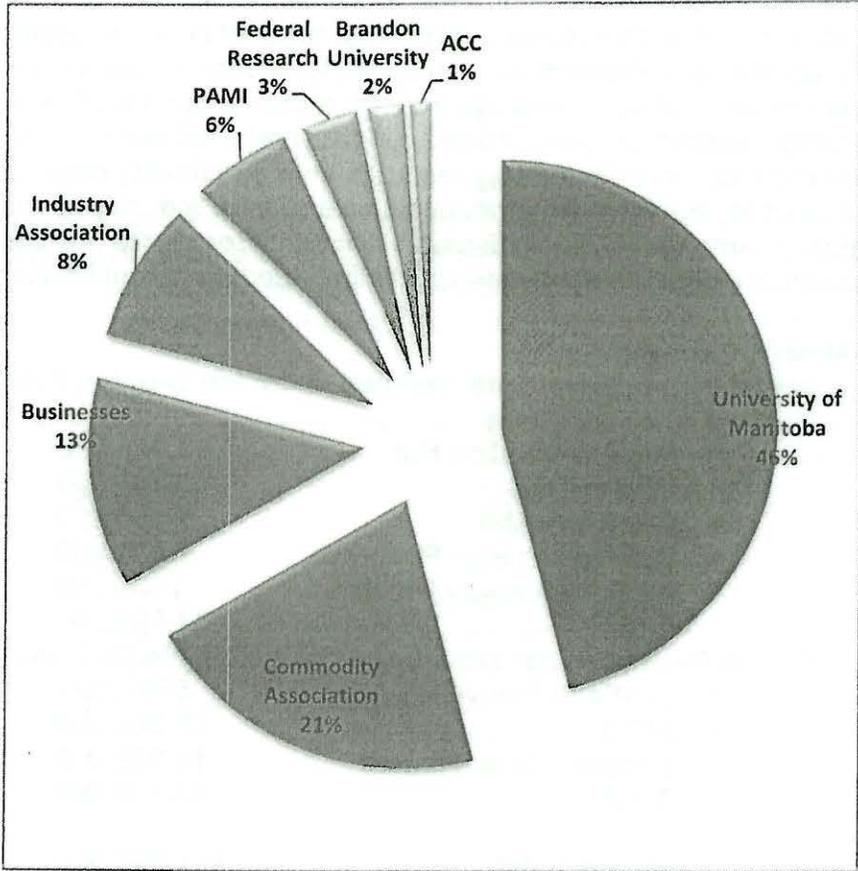
- Current funding programs are captured under the Growing Forward 2 include:
    - Annual Provincial Funds
      - Grain Innovation Hub \$3,000,000
      - Grant to UM \$765,000
      - Grant to PAMI \$333,000
      - Biomass Energy Research \$500,000
      - Ag Sustainability Initiative \$100,000
      - Total \$4,698,000
    - Annual Federal Funds (vary by year according to GF2 programs)
      - On-Farm Innovation \$600,000
      - ARDI \$2,300,000
      - Capacity Development \$4,200,000
      - Total \$7,100,000
- Grand Total \$11,798,000**

The following charts show expenditures from all programs (excluding Food Development Centre) for the period 1998-2016.

Funding by Recipient

University of Manitoba	\$55,273,473.00
Commodity Association	\$24,715,350.00
Businesses	\$15,221,446.00
Industry Association	\$10,135,455.00
PAMI	\$7,037,803.00
Federal Research <sup>1</sup>	\$3,973,879.00
Brandon University	\$2,502,247.00
Assiniboine College	\$1,442,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$120,301,653.00</b>

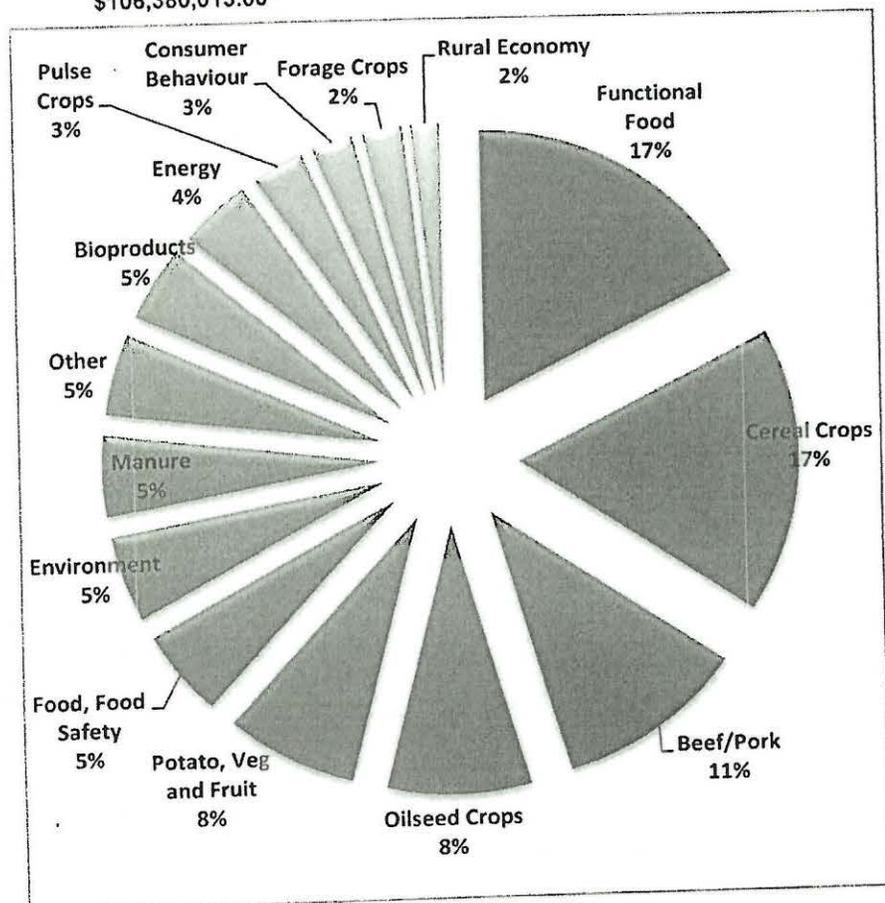
<sup>1</sup>Funding to federal labs is restricted by laws governing Parliamentary Vote 10 which forbid the use of this class of federal funds by federal agencies.



Funding by Area of Research

Functional Food	\$18,277,309.00
Cereal Crops	\$18,087,647.00
Beef/Pork	\$11,705,112.00
Oilseed Crops	\$8,794,312.00
Potato, Vegetable and Fruit	\$8,157,431.00
Food, Food Safety	\$5,549,041.00
Environment	\$5,370,722.00
Manure	\$5,152,301.00
Other <sup>1</sup>	\$5,122,878.00
Bioproducts	\$4,679,155.00
Energy	\$4,418,620.00
Pulse Crops	\$3,191,021.00
Consumer Behaviour	\$2,519,000.00
Forage Crops	\$2,443,224.00
Rural Economy	\$1,752,247.00
Pests	\$1,159,993.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$106,380,013.00<sup>2</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup> Other includes grain storage sheep, poultry, dairy, buckwh general biotech, barn technol  
<sup>2</sup> Recipient total exceeds the l for area of research because to UM and PAMI are not attrit to specific research areas.



C53

**Contact:**

David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister – 204-945-3910

**Date:** April 22, 2016

## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

### **SUBJECT: Grain Innovation Hub (GIH)**

#### **ISSUE:**

##### Key Messages

- The effort to establish a nationally recognized grain center in Manitoba has been underway in some form for almost 10 years. In May 2015, the provincial and federal agriculture Ministers announced a \$20M investment into the GIH initiative in Manitoba.
- There is a degree of awareness among industry stakeholders of GIH, but greater coordination is required.

#### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- The GIH was established to solidify Manitoba's status as a place where the best scientific and business minds thrive in an environment that supports development and commercialization of innovative grain products required to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century global demands.
- The general scope considered in the definition of grains includes cereals, oilseeds and pulses.
- On May 16, 2014, Canada and Manitoba announced the GIH initiative under Growing Forward 2. Public announcements included funding to a number of projects:
  - Manitoba Corn Development Initiative – corn breeding and agronomy (\$2.3m)
  - Functional Food and Feed project – healthy food and feed products (\$380.0)
  - Canadian Centre for Research in Health and Medicine – research equipment (\$1.0m)
  - Canadian International Grains Institute – grain processing equipment (\$1.9m)
- [REDACTED]

23(1)(f)

#### **Contact:**

David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister – 204-945-3910

**Date:** April 22, 2016



**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Labour Issues in Agriculture**

**ISSUE:**

- A shortage of skilled available labour is identified by the Manitoba agriculture sector as a barrier to its success and growth.
- The meat packing, honey and vegetable industry particularly have been impacted by changes to the Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) legislation.

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- Manitoba has been identified as being the most economically impacted province by labour shortages or lack of skilled labour in manufacturing and related services.
- Extensive changes to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP) in June 2014 have had significant impacts on the ability of Manitoba agri-food employers' to meet their labour market needs through the program.
- Manitoba meat processors, Manitoba Beekeepers' Association (MBA) and Manitoba vegetable growers have all expressed concern about the ongoing impact of changes to the TFWP negatively impacting their businesses.
- Manitoba meat processors are working with the Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program (MPNP) on strategic recruiting initiatives to meet their employment needs and work within the criteria to have workers become permanent Manitoba residents.
- [REDACTED] 21(1)(q)
- MAFRD has continued its efforts to address labour issues faced by the agriculture industry by:
  - Participating with the Canadian Agriculture Human Resource Council (CAHRC) to address industry labour issues on projects including the National Occupation Codes for on farm labour and the Labour Market Agriculture Supply and Demand forecasting.
  - Working with stakeholder groups to develop training within Manitoba to train more workers; example, Meat Stakeholders Group led by Assiniboine Community College.
  - Working with the food industry to develop further training opportunities.
  - Developing resources and training sessions for agricultural industry employers to recruit and retain their workforce.
- [REDACTED] 18(1)(c)(i)
- [REDACTED]

- Industry representatives met with Canada's Citizenship and Immigration Minister Chris Alexander in 2015 to provide a proposal that included an exemption or transition period for changes.
- The Canadian Agriculture Human Resource Council (CAHRC) leads the Agri Workforce Action Plan and is working directly with the Federal Government to resolve barriers created through changes to the TFW Program.

**Contact:**

Maurice Bouvier, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-792-5406

**Date:** April 22, 2016

## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

### **SUBJECT: Rural Economic Development Strategy**

#### **ISSUE:**

- The Minister appointed a stakeholder group in September 2015 to develop a rural economic development strategy.
- A discussion document was released by the key stakeholders including the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), Manitoba Chambers of Commerce (MCC) and the Economic Developers Association of Manitoba (EDAM). Stakeholders are currently going back to their communities, organizations and businesses for further feedback into the development of the strategy.
- The draft strategy was made public on January 18, 2016 [REDACTED]

23(1)(a)

#### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- Economic development is the responsibility of many stakeholders, including the Manitoba Government, who have come together to develop a draft rural economic development strategy for Manitoba.
- A steering committee has been leading the process and the strategy is owned by and will be implemented by the stakeholders.
- The Steering Committee was appointed by the Minister and the department is participating on the Committee as a stakeholder.
- The department funded the development of the strategy through Rural Opportunities for Growth and committed \$75.0 for this project.
- The department coordinated a multi-departmental meeting in November 2015 to provide an opportunity for departments to have input into the development of the strategy. Internal discussions are ongoing.
- The establishment of the Steering Committee and provincial funding for the project was a result of a proposal from AMM.

#### **Contact:**

Maurice Bouvier, Assistant Deputy Minister – 204-792-5406

**Date:** April 22, 2016



**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Rural Economic Development Initiatives (REDI)**

**ISSUE:**

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(f)

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- REDI provides funding of over \$21 Million annually for development projects and strategic initiatives to encourage economic growth, job creation and diversification in rural and northern Manitoba.
- MAFRD has maintained the \$21.4 M budgeted level since 2012/13.
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] 19(1)(a)

**Contact:**

Ann Leibfried, Executive Financial Officer - 204-945-3306

**Date:** April 22, 2016



## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

---

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

### **SUBJECT: Rural Broadband/Wireless**

#### **ISSUE:**

- Broadband and cell service is not consistently available across Manitoba which impacts the ability for communities to pursue economic development opportunities.
- Over the past 10 years stakeholders have voiced concerns about the negative impacts the lack of adequate broadband and cell service across Manitoba has on economic development. Most recently, this issue was consistently raised by stakeholders during consultations for the rural economic development strategy and the tourism strategy.
- In the 2015 Throne Speech, Manitoba committed to partner with local communities to expand cell service and broadband across Manitoba to better connect families and entrepreneurs.

#### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- Telecommunications infrastructure such as broadband and cell service is essential for thriving communities and businesses. Service varies in quality and availability across Manitoba.
- The Manitoba government committed to working with communities to expand cell service and broadband across the province (2015 Speech from the Throne).
- Manitoba is supporting the Rural Development Institute (RDI) at Brandon University to analyze the current state of rural information and communication technologies in Manitoba.
- The Rural Development Institute is analyzing the current state of rural information and communication technologies in Manitoba. The report is in the draft stage and will be available by early May 2016.
- The development of cell service in rural and northern Manitoba will be costly. Costs estimates to extend service to unserved or underserved northern/First Nation communities could easily exceed \$150 million.
- Existing cell service and broadband providers have been reluctant to discuss their market research and future plans due to the competitive nature of this sector

#### **Contact:**

Maurice Bouvier, Assistant Deputy Minister – 204-792-5406

**Date:** April 22, 2016

C64

**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Food Development Centre (FDC)**

**ISSUE:**

- [REDACTED] 19(1)(a)
- FDC's operating charter is also outdated and is in the process of being updated.

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- The Food Development Centre is an important resource for Manitoba food entrepreneurs to commercialize and scale up production of their food product ideas.
- Since 2011, FDC has helped entrepreneurs develop 152 and bring (commercialize) 37 products to market.
- [REDACTED] 18(1)(c)(iii)
- FDC has seen a 21% reduction in its maximum grant from the province since 2009-10. (The grant in 2009-10 was up to \$2.57 million. The current grant is up to \$2.02 million.)
- Combined FDC fee for service and lease revenues increased 103% from \$625.0 in 2011-12 to \$1,273.0 in 2015-16.
- Returns to the provincial economy from a food incubator like FDC are not immediate, but rather a long term investment. For example, the development of the hemp processing industry in Manitoba started with product consulting work at FDC and product development grants from MAFRD. These small investments were a catalyst to growing hemp processing in Manitoba. Manitoba is now the largest processor of hemp for food in North America.

**Contact:**

Maurice Bouvier, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-792-5406

**Date:** April 22, 2016

C66

**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Keystone Centre**

**ISSUE:**

- The Keystone Centre submitted a five year Capital Plan to the Province of Manitoba and the City of Brandon in August 2015, requesting \$10.07 million in capital improvements (about \$1 million per year for five years as Manitoba's share).

- [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] 23(1)(a)

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- The Keystone is an important facility for Manitoba and hosts events that generate over \$62 million annually to the provincial economy.

- [REDACTED] 19(1)(a)  
[REDACTED]

- Since 1999, Manitoba has provided over \$7.4 million to the Keystone Centre

- [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] 18(1)(b)

- The Province currently has a funding agreement with the Keystone Centre to provide \$2.975 million towards a roof repair project.
- The Province provides annual funding of \$375.0 towards operating and debt reduction under a 10 year funding agreement that is effective until July 2019.
- In January 2016, the City of Brandon passed their budget and identified \$500.0 in funding for the Keystone Centre's long-term capital plan, based on matching provincial dollars for 2016-17.

**Contact:**

Maurice Bouvier, Assistant Deputy Minister - 204-792-5406

**Date:** April 22, 2016

CG7

C68

**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

**SUBJECT: Harness Racing Industry**

**ISSUE:**

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] (19(1)(a))
- [REDACTED]
- Manitoba Horse Racing Commission (MHRC) receives 1% of wagering to cover its administration expenses [REDACTED] In 2015-16, MHRC received an operational grant of \$134.0. (23(1)(f))
- Manitoba Great Western Harness Racing Circuit (MGWHRC) receives 15% of levies, [REDACTED] (23(1)(f))  
MGWHRC's business plan requests 3 years of additional grant funding before the industry expects to be self-sufficient, VLT and simulcast revenues plus potential infrastructure funding for a new track.
- Manitoba Jockey Club's (MJC) annual \$5.4 million settlement payment starts to decrease in 2018/19. MJC has been reporting current operational losses and MHRC has raised infrastructure concerns at Assiniboia Downs (ASD).

**CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- The horse racing industry has been in decline across North America for many years due to competition from other gaming venues. With reduced wagering revenue, the Manitoba horse racing industry is dependent on provincial grants to cover operating expenses.
- In 2012, Manitoba entered into a 10 year settlement agreement and a new Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) Siteholder agreement with MJC.
- [REDACTED] (18(1)(c)(ii))
- Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) provided an additional \$60.0 one-time assistance to MGWHRC for the 2015 racing season.
- Under Growing Forward 2, \$100.0 was allocated in 2015/16 to assist MGWHRC develop a long term business plan to be sustainable within the 15% levies. A business plan has been submitted to the department for review.
- In 1996 unlike other jurisdictions, MHRC was moved from a grant to a deduction from levies funding structure. REDI has recently been providing MHRC an additional \$134.0 operational grant.

- MHRC indicates it has increased license fees and reduced services below that necessary to fulfil its mandate to protect the industry's integrity. Further reductions would lead to a total inability to provide even minimum protection of the betting public, the horses and race track personnel employed in the industry.
- Wagering and Levy revenues are projected to continue to decline in the future.

**Contact:**

David Hunt, Assistant Deputy Minister – 204-945-3910

**Date:** April 22, 2016

## **BRIEFING MATERIALS**

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

---

### **SUBJECT: MAFRD – State of the Organization**

#### **ISSUE:**

- In the 2015/16 budget, the department realigned organization resources to be proactive and responsive in supporting the development of the agriculture, food and agri-product industry as an economic driver in rural Manitoba and in the province as a whole. Specifically to:
  - Strengthen departmental capacity to advance industry development through enhanced industry intelligence and targeted sector strategies.
  - Enhance the department's responsiveness to emerging and changing industry needs.
  - Realign resources to the priority areas of food and agri-product development, primary agriculture industry development, rural economic development, and protection of human, animal and plant health.
  - Position the department for current and future government priorities – including use of MAFRD's province wide presence to support one-stop shop for business services with Entrepreneurship Manitoba.
  - Facilitate focused execution through applying lean management consideration to the department's organization structure including improved functional line reporting
  - Offer front line government extension services relevant to today's industry needs.
- The Department has a high vacancy rate (90.30 FTEs or 21.50% in March 2016).
- The current complement of MAFRD Growing Opportunities (GO) Centres is a network of 31 offices (30 rural and 1 urban).

#### **CRITICAL BACKGROUND:**

- The 2015/16 structural changes position the department to achieve their future objectives (as outlined in their Strategic Direction 2015-18).
- The Department is providing specialized one-on-one direct program delivery with single producers and has shifted its focus to association leadership and group/community workshops and meetings to deliver general information.
- Implementing an effective one to many approach has enabled the department to sustain service delivery to a wide range of clients, even with its existing vacancy.
- The Department reduced its focus on those activities that have existing private support (for example, ration balancing or crop scouting and more emphasis on farm business management, value added, food safety program curriculum development, new and emerging markets.)
- The departmental budget has continued to meet Manitoba's commitments to Business Risk Management (BRM) programming which provides the first line of defense to producers to manage and recover from significant financial risks to their operations.

- Approximately 60% of department staff positions remain based in rural Manitoba. No rural offices were closed and no staff were asked to relocate as a result of the 15/16 realignment.
- With 60% of MAFRD's positions in rural Manitoba, it follows that a large percentage of any vacancies are located in rural Manitoba. However, MAFRD continues to strive to provide a high level of client services with little disruption in providing exemplary rural front line services to clients for agronomic, business development or appropriate government services.
- The department is managing a high vacancy rate [REDACTED] 23(1)(d)
- The Department's March 2016 vacancy rate is 90.30 FTEs or 21.50%, which is an improvement from the previous month's vacancy rate of 93.30 FTEs or 22.21%.
- [REDACTED] 23(1)(d)
- In order to reduce the number of FTEs vacant, the department has advertised 19 recruitment postings since October 2015 as follows:

Month	# of Postings
January 2016	13
December 2015	3
November 2015	3

*Note: Several of the bulletins were either for multiple positions and/or an eligibility list was created for a 12 month period to place the organization in a better position to fill future openings.*

**Contact:**

Ann Leibfried, Executive Financial Officer – 204-945-3306  
 Kim Beilby, A/Executive Director – 204-761-2840

**Date:** April 22, 2016