



RUN BY FARMERS, FOR FARMERS....

## WORKING FOR YOUR RIGHT TO FARM

### WSA UPDATE

SaskFSA hosted a WSA Town Hall Meeting APRIL 12 to provide our membership an opportunity to hear first-hand the progress of the NEW drainage regulation policy. Doug Johnson of the Water Security Agency (WSA) delivered the update. The meeting was designed to provide a discussion platform to enable SaskFSA members to ask questions and to discuss concerns in their specific area. Thank-you to all that attended and provided feedback!

SaskFSA submitted a proposal to WSA on Recommendations for Phase II of the Agriculture Water Management Strategy. Post-election WSA is reviewing the recommendations, continuing to work with producers on the pilot projects and compiling cabinet documents.

SaskFSA will continue to work with WSA, to request updates and offer assistance. SaskFSA will also continue to develop relationships within the industry and to identify resources to assist producers with the permit process. Any important updates will be passed along to membership ASAP.

### MINISTRY OF AG

SaskFSA met with Rick Burton, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) April 19 to

discuss SaskFSA's role in working with WSA on the new drainage policy. The intent of the meeting was to provide information on the direction of the new regulations from the producer level, to determine the role of the MOA in development of the policy and to briefly discuss the ALUS platform. As a result of the meeting, SaskFSA will be compiling a strategic research outline for the MOA on "What Drainage Means to Saskatchewan". This research will include both surface and tile drainage, will be conducted by a third party research consultant and upon acceptance, be cost shared by the MOA.

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Effective July 1, Rick Burton will assume the role of Deputy Minister of Agriculture. Burton takes over for Alanna Koch, who was recently named Deputy Minister to the Premier. Congratulations to both Rick and Alana on their new endeavors!

### TILE DRAINAGE

SaskFSA board director Franck Groeneweg is the resident expert when it comes to tile drainage. Franck has decades of experience installing tile across North America. The benefits of tile drainage were very evident during a board member field tour this April. SaskFSA will be scheduling a membership tiling tour for SPRING 2017.



### WORKING HARD FOR SK FARMERS

APRIL 2016 – Ministry of AG meeting in Regina with Assistant Deputy Minister Rick Burton



TILE DRAINAGE 101 - Green Atlantic Farms  
APRIL 2016



## THE 1 ACRE WETLAND

The effects of the 1 acre wetland were very evident this spring. Based on field data from 2015, the temporary 1 acre wetland can result in a loss of revenue up to

**\$1487 per acre annually!**

SaskFSA will continue to substantiate this information. If you have photos and data that from your area to support a loss of revenue due to temporary wetlands, please submit to [saskfsa@gmail.com](mailto:saskfsa@gmail.com), or tweet and tag @saskfsa.



SaskFSA is now a member of the CRSC. This organization is a national, multi-stakeholder initiative dedicated to advancing sustainable production practices and outcomes across Canada's grains sector. The CRSC serves as a forum for collaboration on sustainable agriculture challenges. Demonstrating performance and building consumer confidence requires an industry wide effort. SaskFSA will be representing the SK farmer's voice within this national organization. Important initiatives include the development of an "Assurance Protocol" for the Canadian grains sector to verify and define sustainable production and the "AgroEcosystem Project" that pertains to science based recommendations related to agriculture and the environment.

The next CRSC Roundtable Meeting will occur October 5<sup>th</sup> in Toronto.



You can still get stuck... even with tile drainage!

## HAVE A CONVERSATION



YOU ARE THE BEST ADVOCATE OF YOUR RIGHT TO FARM.

- SHARE information,
- CORRECT misconceptions,
- TALK to your local MLA to ensure that challenges in agriculture / your area are understood and discussed at the political table.

*Have a conversation!*



The ALUS program, founded by Delta Waterfowl is now under a new umbrella - ALUS Canada!

SaskFSA board members met with ALUS Canada Executive Director, Bryan Gilvesy on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Our local ALUS-ASAP program is recognized as a leading project in Saskatchewan.

As for changes to the ALUS program, there is a new logo, Paige Englot is the Prairie Hub Manager that will be working with the ALUS-ASAP Project Advisory Committee (PAC) and there is a national team consisting of research, policy and market development. The producer program will remain the same, however there is potential for increased diversity in the portfolio of "ecosystem services" that producers may receive compensation for and the overall funding for projects is anticipated to increase.

If you have a project that would be eligible for the ALUS program, visit [www.saskfsa.ca/asap/](http://www.saskfsa.ca/asap/) for more information!

## CONTACT US:

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HERE'S TO WATCHING THE CROPS GROW! ENJOY THE SUMMER!