

## **Board Meeting – March 1st, 2006**

**Canadian Grain Commission** – Meyers Norris Penny is conducting an economic study of the CGC's mandatory inward inspection and weighing at terminal and transfer elevators. MPGA will encourage the CGC to reduce expenditures in this area, increase efficiencies to reduce delays in the transportation system and maintain a process for conflict resolution if required.

**Pulse Canada Update** – The Canadian Special Crops Association (CSCA) has proposed to have closer ties with Pulse Canada. Each organization would remain as a separate entity but Pulse Canada would be contracted to perform activities related to transportation and market development. MPGA board members indicated support of this concept provided that producer activities remain a priority for Pulse Canada and that there is a process for developing consensus on contentious issues.

**Brandon University Scholarship** – A motion was passed that MPGA donate \$2,000 to the Joe Tsukamoto Memorial Fund at the Brandon University in recognition of his contributions to the Pulse Industry in Manitoba. The goal of this fund is to raise a minimum endowment balance of \$5,000, which would provide a scholarship or bursary in perpetuity for students at the Brandon University.

**North Dakota Dry Pea and Lentil Association (NDDPL)** – Directors, F. Greig and F. Labelle, attended the NDDPL annual convention in Fargo, North Dakota. NDDPL has discussed restructuring to amalgamate with other state grower organizations including Minnesota and South Dakota in the next year or so. There is research being conducted related to feeding livestock and MPGA is interested in identifying opportunities to collaborate with NDDPL. North Dakota's spring planting intentions include growing large amounts of peas and lentils this year, regardless of the U.S. Farm Bill.

**KAP – Annual Meeting** – Directors, N. Friesen and K. Rothenburger, attended the KAP annual meeting. MPGA submitted the following resolution for a Provincial Water Management Strategy that was approved; "That KAP pursue the development of a comprehensive provincial water management strategy involving federal, provincial and municipal governments." In total, delegates approved thirty-four resolutions, which have now become official KAP policy, on issues ranging from water management to alternative energy to value-added initiatives. This year's resolution emphasized the need to present the agriculture industry in a positive way, to gain support from consumers and to work together to recover from this current slump in farm incomes. KAP President David Rolfe was re-elected to his third one-year term as President by acclamation. Vice President, Ian Wishart,

was also re-elected and Robert McLean of Manitou was also elected as KAP Vice President.

**PRRCG** – Director, K. Rothenburger, attended the Prairie Registration Recommending Committee for Grain meeting to provide producer representation for the Prairie Recommending Committee Pulse & Special Crops (PRCPSC) meeting. K. Rothenburger also participated in a plenary session on "How to Build a Canadian Agricultural Research Strategy to remain Competitive in a Global Environment." The panel discussion focussed on research funding and the current APF pillars.

**Variety Release Discussion** – Directors, D. Sissons and S. McCutcheon, met with representatives from the Saskatchewan Pulse Growers to discuss the complicated and expensive process to obtain distribution rights to varieties. MPGA will continue to pursue this opportunity to ensure that producers are provided with access to new varieties with minimal costs.

**Pulse Beat** – MPGA has received several requests regarding subscriptions to the Pulse Beat, and the board has recommended continuing the policy of not charging for subscriptions to researchers and other industry partners. As well, MPGA will continue to solicit articles from a variety of sources, but has declined to provide payment for articles submitted.

## **Board Meeting – April 24th, 2006**

**CROP** – The Crop Research Organization of Portage has requested MPGA partnership to conduct a large-scale demonstration regarding fertility response in beans. Two demos have been proposed for the study. MPGA has approved collaborating and funding a portion of this project.

**Canadian Grain Commission (CGC)** – A. Saramaga attended a Soybean Industry Working Group meeting held by the CGC to review the current soybean grading system in Canada. Representatives from all aspects of the Canadian soybean industry were in attendance. The discussion included grade determinants and structure due to the significant differences between US and Canadian standards. Other topics were seed size, degree of soundness, downy mildew, insect damage and foreign material.

**Funding for Research** – MPGA approved \$4,000 for a project to study the inheritance of resistance to Fusarium and Rhizoctonia, the number of genes controlling resistance and their mode of inheritance. The study will also determine if resistance to Fusarium root rot and Rhizoctonia root rot is controlled by the same genes.

**Industry Meeting Review** – MPGA facilitated a meeting of the pulse industry to address the main issues of anthracnose, water management, seed

*continued on page 11*

regulation and food safety. There was a commitment from the group to develop an identification protocol for anthracnose. Industry recommended MPGA develop a checklist of equipment clean-out areas to decrease the risk areas for ad-mixtures that could result in a rejected load.

**MPGA Strategic Planning Session** – T. Jones summarized MPGA’s strategic planning session held at Elkhorn Resort in March. Directors identified the top five areas of focus and a workplan is currently being developed to address these areas.

**Summer Tour** – has been set for Wednesday, August 2nd, 2006 with a board meeting on Tuesday, August 1st, 2006. A letter of invitation will be extended to Mexican counterparts that participated in the 2005 Bean Congress as well as Minister Wowchuk and her staff.

**Folicur** – A motion was made that MPGA continue to support the application for emergency use registration of *Folicur* in the event that soybean rust is detected in Canada. This is a change from the 2005 application, in that *Headline*, *Quadris* and *Tilt* are expected to have obtained full registration in time for the 2006 growing season.

**Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation** – MPGA met with the Crop Insurance division to discuss the current crop insurance program. MASC has begun to finalize overwinter claims for edible beans prior to spring based on weather conditions and snow cover. MPGA encouraged further research on requests for expansion of the soybean insurable area, changes in seeding date deadlines, seed production coverage, and the potential development of a variable price option program.

**National Grains and Oilseeds Meeting** – T. Jones attended a meeting aimed at identifying common goals and priorities within the grains and oilseed sector to resolve the current income crisis. The group of national organizations agreed to pursue a short-term and long-term solution individually, but through promotion of a common message emphasizing the need to return profitability to farming and to ensure sustainable production of food for the citizens of Canada.

**Pulse Canada** – J. Froese announced that Pulse Canada will administer Canadian Special Crops Association activities over the next two years. Both organizations will maintain separate board of directors, but will merge the administrative duties. 🌱



### Spring Credit Advance Program

Administered by

**Manitoba Corn Growers Association, Inc.**  
on behalf of Manitoba Pulse Growers Association

38 – 4th Avenue N.E., Carman, MB R0G 0J0  
Phone: 745-6661 or Toll-free – 1-877-598-5685  
E-mail: mbcorn@mts.net



#### April, 2006

CARMAN – The Manitoba Corn Growers Association (MCGA) is pleased to announce that they are again able to offer Spring Credit Advance Loans, under the federal Spring Credit Advance Program (SCAP). The Advance rates for 2006 are as follows:

Lentils	\$0.057/lb
White Pea Beans	\$0.105/lb
Kidney/Cranberry Beans	\$0.122/lb
Other Coloured Beans	\$0.100/lb
Pinto Beans	\$0.095/lb
Fababeans	\$0.040/lb
Soybeans	\$2.72/bu

Desi Chickpeas	\$0.053/lb
Kabuli Chickpeas	\$0.100/lb
Peas	\$1.73/bu
Confectionary Sunflowers	\$0.087/lb
Oilseed Sunflowers	\$0.065/lb
Corn	\$1.60/bu
Alfalfa Seed	\$0.40/lb

The Spring Credit Advance is available to all producers of the above crops who have Crop Insurance coverage of their crops.

Producers may get up to \$50,000.00 interest free for all crops, (this would include any spring loans received from CWB, CCGA etc.) and totals must include amounts attributable to them from Advances issued to related producers.

The **deadline** to apply for the Spring Credit Advance is **July 31, 2006**.

Application packages are available by phoning or stopping by the office.