

## Board Meeting – October 30, 2008

**2009 Draft Budget Review** – MPGA board discussed the possibility of having separate Base Research Line in budget for 2009. This would enable MPGA to keep a base level of research dollars on hand should a poor crop year occur. In years where revenues are higher, extra funds can then be directed to research.

**Jeanette Gaultier – Minor Use Coordinator** – J. Gaultier updated board on where each product is at and what to expect for 2009 with dates being difficult to determine.

**Pulse Canada Update** – T. Stewart and C. Sumner provided updates on the Science Cluster Program – for Basic Agronomic Research. In process of getting all pulse organizations working together to create one application. Also discussed was category soybeans fit into.

**Canadian Pulse Research Workshop** – MPGA staff is providing administration support for workshop. Event to take place November 5–7, 2008 and on schedule. Banquet tickets are available to board of directors.

**MB Special Crops Symposium** – Board to provide further topics by November 15, 2008 for Symposium. T. Stewart inquired about Grower Panel (has seen at other events). This typically occurs depending on who is speaking and from what areas of world attendees are coming from.

**CFIA Seed Program Modernization Meeting** – A new three-tier variety system was proposed having a significant

impact for MPGA. CFIA indicated to MPGA that industry will have to explain with rationale where each crop should be placed (what tier). CFIA is also looking for implementation tools for electronic applications.

## Board Meeting – December 5, 2008

**2009 Draft Budget Review** – D.F. George attended meeting to provide options where reserves are concerned in order to properly allocate funds. History of MPGA is basis for importance of building reserve. Board reviewed income and expenses for 2008 and 2009. Any grower questions or concerns will be addressed at February's AGM.

**Canadian Soybean Council** – C. Sumner to submit list of suggestions to CSC to have by-laws amended before getting final approval from MPGA board of directors. CSC is on path to incorporate by early 2009.

**MASC – Consultations/Enhancing Programs** – C. Sumner scheduled meeting with board and MASC for February 19, 2009. Five topics open for discussion are: Losses brought on by Hail Damage, Discussion on Soybean Coverage Expansion, Methods of Setting Unit Values, Pedigree Insurance Option and Grade Guarantee for Peas.

**Pulse Canada Update** – T. Stewart attended November 20th Pulse Canada board of directors meeting. Budget discussions have been delayed due to unknown funding

*continued on page 13*



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from the Government of Canada. Health, Wellness and Environment issues were outlined. New staff member Tracey Thompson – Director of Marketing and Communications was introduced. Dr. Peter Zharadka was recipient of Pulse Innovation Project Peripheral Arterial Disease project funding. G. Cherwyk provided report on transportation. New Executive for 2009 was elected. A pulse director meeting is set to take place in Calgary December 18–19, 2008.

**Pulse Canada Mexico Initiatives – Jackie Tenuta** – J. Tenuta provided detailed work presentation with main goal to reduce some of the risk with marketing access issues and continue to strengthen the relationship between Mexico/Canada. MPGA was asked for direction on whether or not it would be interested in supporting a training program where a Mexican rep would work on a Canadian farm to gain knowledge on farming. IICA is willing to provide financial support for the program. Board has some concerns and would like further clarification on Mexican rep as well as optics of program; need to take a proactive approach.

**MB Special Crops Symposium Update** – C. Sumner provided updates with regards to new website, speaker session timelines, sponsorship provided. Aiming for 75 booths (54 booked to date). Draft agenda has been circulated. L. Wolfe assured board hearing very positive feedback for holding this year's event at the Convention Centre in Winnipeg.

**MCVET Meeting – October 17, 2008** – K. Rothenburger provided details of meeting. Many Seed Growers and Trade Associations were in attendance. It was noted that Southwest corner, Melita area was too dry, lots of issues with all crops at one of the sites. *Seed Manitoba* publication is to be released Wednesday, December 10, 2008 with a copy of corrected version of 2008 variety trials on MPGA's website.

**Industry Meeting – November 25, 2008** – Took place in Carman. No huge concerns. Main issue on Edible Bean side was better communication for diseases (maintain confidentiality but get word out to be proactive). Soybean meeting was also well attended. Companies provided chemical updates. Timing of trial data was discussed as seed retailers would prefer to have it out sooner to use as sales tool (October instead of December).

### **Board Meeting – January 8, 2009**

**2009 Research Proposals** – C. Sumner provided a list of research proposals received for 2009 as well as a summary of each proposal. Board discussed possibility of having Strategic Planning Session (over a two-day period). Committee conference call dates were set to further finalize 2009 research funding.

**Canadian Soybean Council Update** – By-laws have been approved by all three provinces (MPGA included). Official

*continued on page 14*

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website has been launched as *www.soybeancouncil.ca*. CSC has an outgoing mission planned in February 2009 to conduct generic market development in Japan and Malaysia.

**MB Special Crops Symposium Update** – Minister Rosann Wowchuk will be attending this year's event, and speaking at the Wine and Cheese scheduled for 5:00 p.m. February 11th, 2009. All board requested topics are in place.

**MCVET Meeting – December 17, 2008** – Meeting took place at Cereal Research Centre in Winnipeg. Financials were presented followed by round table discussion. Beausejour area requested to have a site. New website to be released in January 2009. K. Rothenburger noted that CFIA would like to present a list each year in *Seed Manitoba* reflecting what crop varieties are becoming de-registered.

**Pulse Directors Forum/Pulse Canada Report** – All reps from provincial stakeholder groups in Pulse Canada were in attendance for forum. Question raised was how federal funding from Ottawa will be disbursed. No final dollar amounts have yet been decided. It is a considerable amount allocated for research over a period of four years. Will need to decide how funds get divided and what projects will be funded. Discussed importance of issues to Canadian Pulse Industry (Agronomy, Health, Nutrition, and Environment). Overall meeting intent was to find focus.

**Food Manitoba Update** – C. Sumner made board aware the organization is at a very crucial point as its events coordinator has passed away and a new events coordinator has yet to be determined. Meeting is set to take place with Minister Wowchuk to discuss open position with the Urban Go Centre in Winnipeg to potentially be placement location for candidate. Are currently nine commodity groups involved in Food Manitoba.

### **Board Meeting – February 2, 2009**

**2009 Research Proposals** – B. Brolley provided insight on both Edible Bean projects submitted by Chris Gillard with University of Guelph. All proposals were discussed with final decisions to be made in the near future. Conference calls for each committee will take place in order to finalize.

**2009 AGM** – Scheduled to take place February 11th, 2009 at 11:45 a.m. at the Winnipeg Convention Centre in Room 1. All directors are to let office know if unable to attend. All emcee spots were filled by directors, and hotel accommodations were finalized.

**Pulse Canada Update** – G. Bacon provided some direction for Science Cluster program to move forward. Idea of forming a Pulse Council was floated to those in attendance. Work continues on vision document for industry. Document will be used to access funding under Government of Canada's new agricultural policy framework Growing Forward. C. Sumner provided first colour draft of new *Take our Pulses Please* cookbook to be finalized and printed by March 2009. All five provincial organizations and Pulse Canada were involved in development.

**Johanne Ross – Ag in Classroom Presentation** – Focus is to develop and distribute curriculum-based tools and resources to illustrate the importance of Ag in our everyday lives. With Manitoba being largely focused on agriculture, it's very important to pass on information to students. Ag in the Classroom offers a program twice a year called Amazing Agriculture Adventure that includes 18 different stations for students to take part in. Also present at MB Ag Days offering Amazing Agriculture Race.

**OOPSCC Meeting** – M. Pedersen noted 276 new varieties were submitted in 2008. 23 varieties got supported in Manitoba. B. Brolley added the variety registration office made solid presentation. Committee is currently being formed for variety office, to take effect in June 2009. Very smooth meeting took place this year.

**25th MPGA Anniversary Discussion** – Discussions were held over possible 25th anniversary events.

**Potential Soybean Industry Meeting** – Possible dates were discussed for a follow-up Soybean Industry Meeting to be held in March 2009. Topics to be discussed include how a check is established for trials, variety trial data release timelines, etc. 🌱



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