



Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association

Media Release

For immediate Release

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Saskatchewan Stock Growers Celebrate Industry Upswing

Let the Good Times Roll was the theme for this year's Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA) convention which wrapped up in Swift Current on June 7th. Cattle producers from across the province examined the economic forces responsible for the recent upturn in industry fortunes and the prospects for sustaining higher prices into the future. The convention featured a line up of prominent industry analysts and observers, who assessed economic conditions and spoke to a broad range of policy, trade, production and environmental issues impacting the cattle industry.

The extensive list of speakers featured the Presidents of both major North American cattle producer organizations – Bill Donald, President of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and Travis Toews, President of the Canadian Cattlemen's Association. The convention agenda was designed to enhance producer awareness of the things their industry could be doing to enhance economic and environmental sustainability over the long term.

This marks the 98th Annual Convention for the SSGA, the oldest continuously operating producer-based agricultural organization in Saskatchewan. According to incoming SSGA President, Harold Martens, "The capacity crowd attending this year's event, and the enthusiasm and dedication of producers willing to letting their names stand for election to our volunteer Board, speaks to the ongoing relevance and vitality of our organization. There is no doubt we will be as strong and vital as ever heading into our 100th Anniversary Convention in Moose Jaw, which is just two years away."

At the SSGA's Annual General Meeting, held on the final day of the convention members passed resolutions dealing with issues including livestock traceability, changes to the Saskatchewan Surface Rights Arbitration Board and the development of a provincial livestock patron's assurance fund to assist producers in cases of non payment.

Harold Martens, a rancher from Swift Current, was elected as SSGA President. Rounding out the Executive are the following: Doug Gillespie of Neville, first Vice President, Shane Jahnke of Gouldtown, second Vice President, and Calvin Knoss of Rockglen, stays on the executive in the capacity of Past President. Newly elected Directors to the SSGA Board of Directors are Gerry Duckworth of Courval and Robin Wiggins of Fox Valley.

The event featured a full Trade Show and was supported by the following sponsors:

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