



WESTERN BARLEY GROWERS ASSOCIATION

A strong voice for a vibrant, market responsive barley industry in western Canada

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For Immediate Release

WBGA calls for the resignation of CWB Director Rod Flaman due to conflict of interest

September 25, 2007 ~ Airdrie, AB: Canadian Wheat Board Director Rod Flaman, an Edenwold area farmer, has been acclaimed as the federal Liberal candidate for Regina-Qu'Appelle.

"This clearly is a conflict of interest with respect to his fiduciary duties as a director of the CWB" states Jeff Nielsen, President of the Western Barley Growers Association (WBGA). "The duties and responsibilities of all CWB directors as outlined in the CWB's own code of ethics shows this conflict, therefore Mr. Flaman is required to resign his position."

Being selected as the Liberal candidate, and the efforts required to fill this role, will not allow Mr. Flaman time to focus on his duties as CWB director. Mr. Flaman is seeking outside employment and the Code clearly states "Directors must not allow prospects of outside employment to create a real or potential conflict of interest during their employment or appointment with the CWB" continues Nielsen. "It also brings into play his ability to vote responsibly at the CWB board level and not have political views on business items. The current board, including Mr. Flaman has been highly critical of the conservative government. Mr. Flaman's Liberal candidacy will do nothing to harmonize the need for choice and growth within the CWB as to respecting producers wishes, in fact it will serve to further producers loss of faith with the CWB".

WBGA are concerned that the views and concerns of western Canadian wheat and barley farmers will not be brought forward to the entire Board. Instead, possibly an eager candidate will bring the Liberal Party's views (who have no current political standing in rural western Canada) forward.

"The CWB claims to be accelerating options for barley, yet none have come to fruition" says Tom Hewson, WBGA Vice President. "Being that barley farmers clearly voted for choice it should be a priority of each member of the CWB board of directors. And they must be focusing on developing marketing plans, and selling all wheat and barley offered to it as mandated in the CWB Act.

The backgrounder below shows selected clauses from the CWB's own code of conduct and ethics pointing out the conflict of interest.

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BACKGROUNDER

(excerpts from the CWB Code of Ethics) - <http://www.cwb.ca/public/en/about/people/#code>

" (i) A director must act in the best interests of the CWB and not in his or her self-interest. Acting in the best interests of the CWB includes ensuring that the views and concerns of western Canadian wheat and barley farmers are brought forward to the entire Board. "

IV. ETHICAL AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST STANDARDS

" An apparent conflict of interest exists when there is a reasonable perception, which a reasonably well informed person could have, that a director's ability to exercise an official power or perform an official duty or function was or will be affected by the director's private interest. "

(vi) Outside Activities

" Directors must refrain from conduct which compromises or may be perceived to compromise their ability to carry out their duties in an impartial manner and must be mindful that the public may not distinguish between their role in the corporation and their role in outside activities. "

H. Political Activities

" A director's political activities, however, must be clearly separated from activities related to his or her appointment. "

If engaging in political activities, directors must remain impartial and retain the perception of impartiality in relation to their duties and responsibilities. Directors must not use corporate facilities, equipment, or resources in support of these activities. Partisan politics must not be introduced into the workplace in any way which creates undue or inappropriate influence on employees within the CWB, or persons or business enterprises with whom the CWB does business.