



WESTERN BARLEY GROWERS ASSOCIATION

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

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For Immediate Release -- News Release

Western Barley Growers Association Elects New President

February 21, 2006 - Airdrie, AB.: At the Western Barley Growers Association's (WBGA) Annual Convention held in Calgary, AB. February 15 through 17 delegates elected Jeff Nielsen of Olds, AB. as their new President. Outgoing President, Doug McBain of Cremona, AB., welcomed Jeff to the position and expressed thanks to Jeff for his continued assistance as Vice President the past three years.

WBGA had a very successful convention bringing producers, industry and government representatives together. Resolutions passed included continued efforts to promote aggressive subsidies and tariff reductions at the WTO. Once again there was support for choice marketing and a call to end the monopoly of the Canadian Wheat Board. With this the members of WBGA fully support the new Minister of Agriculture and Minister Responsible for Canadian Wheat Board in his and the governments position to give choice to all producers of grains in Canada.

President Jeff Nielsen looks forward to working toward these goals and others. "I wish to thank the members and Doug McBain for the leadership he has provided the past three years and look forward to working with you all." "WBGA has an excellent relationship with both provincial and federal departments of agriculture", states Nielsen.

Mr. Nielsen runs a 1350-acre grain and oilseed farm east of Olds, AB. The farm, bought from his family, dates back to 1930. Jeff also is active as a delegate of the Alberta Barley Commission and a Director of AgricoreUnited. He is also part of the Cereal Grains Value Chain Roundtable - Barley Working Group.

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