



WESTERN BARLEY GROWERS ASSOCIATION

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

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For Immediate Release

CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITHIN THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THE CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD MUST END WITH A RESIGNATION

October 9, 2007 ~ Airdrie, AB: “Rod Flaman, Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) director for district 8 has yet to resign over the conflict of interest violation of the CWB's own code of ethics” notes Jeff Nielsen, President of the Western Barley Growers Association (WBGA). Mr. Flaman has gained the nomination to be the Liberal candidate for Regina-Qu'Appelle. With that, Mr. Flaman cannot fulfill his responsibilities to those farmers in district 8, and the CWB, while working as a candidate for a possible fall federal election.

In a sworn affidavit presented to the federal court of appeal in July of this year, CWB Chief Operating Officer (COO) Ward Weisensel states ***“like any member of a corporate board of directors, all directors (of the CWB) owe their statutory duties of care and loyalty to the CWB alone”***. This statement can also be found in the sworn affidavit of Robert Roehle, coordinator and member of the “Friends of the CWB”. Mr. Roehle is a former employee of the CWB and is fully versed in the CWB's code of ethics.

“Clearly COO Weisensel knows the CWB's code of ethics, yet the directors are failing to fulfill their fiduciary roles as corporate directors and follow them” states Nielsen. It is the role of all corporate directors to work in the best interest of the company, failing to do so and by not resigning, that director should then be asked by the full board to step down. By not focusing his statutory duties of care and loyalty to the CWB alone, Mr. Flaman is in breach of the CWB's code of ethics”.

“By honourably resigning from the CWB, Mr. Flaman will prove his commitment to the Liberal party, and be able to fully participate in the role he has chosen as a candidate” concludes Nielsen.

WBGA remains focused on bringing choice to barley farmers in western Canada for more information please visit our web site at www.wbga.org

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