



NEWS RELEASE

Preparations Continue for Amalgamation Vote in February 2020 with Name Chosen for Proposed Organization

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Carman, MB – November 25, 2019 – Manitoba Corn Growers Association (MCGA), Manitoba Flax Growers Association (MFGA), National Sunflower Association of Canada (NSAC), Winter Cereals Manitoba, Inc. (WCMI) and Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers Association (MWBGA) continues to prepare for the upcoming vote on amalgamation. Members of the five organizations will vote in-person at the annual general meetings as part of the CropConnect Conference on February 12 and 13, 2020.

As part of the amalgamation process, an incorporated entity needed to be formed for each of the five commodity groups to vote on the amalgamation. Over the past several months, online surveys were conducted where farmer members were asked to submit names for the proposed organization. Based on feedback from the surveys and lengthy discussion, the steering committee selected the name Manitoba Crop Alliance, Inc. for the new organization.

“Our legal counsel indicated the incorporated entity needed a name in order to initiate the incorporation process,” says Myron Krahn, MCGA director. “When we looked at the definition of the word alliance, which is an association formed for mutual benefit, we felt that summarized the intent of the amalgamation. We are stronger, together” added Krahn.

As part of the incorporation process, an interim board of directors for Manitoba Crop Alliance were appointed from the five commodity organizations. The interim directors include from MWBGA Fred Greig, Robert Misko and Drew Baker, from NSAC Mark McDonald and Gregg Fotheringham, from WCMI Doug Martin, from MFGA Nick Matheson and Eric Fridfinsson, and from MCGA Patrick Friesen, Myron Krahn and Reginald Johnson. Manitoba Crop Alliance’s executive committee was also elected by the interim directors. Fred Greig will serve as chair, Robert Misko as vice-chair and Doug Martin as secretary on an interim basis.

“Incorporation, which included naming of the entity and appointing interim directors, was part of the legalities of amalgamation,” states Fred Greig, chair of MWBGA. “It still remains the decision of the five Manitoba commodity organizations’ members on the proposed amalgamation, as we always maintained members would have their say through a vote.”

Online webinar meetings will be held on Tuesday, November 26 and Thursday, December 12 for members to learn more about the process and procedures leading up to the annual general meetings. “We encourage members to participate in the webinar,” says Gregg Fotheringham, NSAC president. Rob Hannam, the consultant who has been working with the steering committee, will be presenting important information on the voting process. “As fellow farmers we realize our members are busy with a challenging harvest so the webinar will be recorded and made available for viewing later if members are unable to participate on those days,” added Fotheringham.



The amalgamation proposal, bylaws, amalgamation agreement and other related documents to the amalgamation are available at the temporary website www.mbcrops.ca. Feedback from farmer members can be made directly to Rob Hannam at rob@mbcrops.ca or to any of the directors and staff of the five organizations.

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For more information, please contact:

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Background Information:

The annual general meeting dates of the five organizations, as part of the CropConnect Conference, are:

- National Sunflower Association of Canada – February 12, 2020 at 10:50 a.m.
- Manitoba Corn Growers Association – February 12, 2020 at 12:10 p.m.
- Winter Cereals Manitoba, Inc. – February 12, 2020 at 2:40 p.m.
- Manitoba Flax Growers Association – February 13, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.
- Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers Association – February 13, 2020 at 12:30 p.m.

Registration for the CropConnect Conference is not required to attend the annual general meetings.