



## Crown Land Management

Many Manitoba Beef Producers lease Crown Land to grazing and forage. The use of this land by beef producers often improves the ecosystem of the land, improving the habitat for wildlife as well as returning funds to the Provincial Treasury and improving the livelihoods of beef producers. Improvements need to be made to the management of Crown Land to protect the environment, the health of Manitoba's beef herds and help ensure the ongoing viability of the producers who manage this resource.

### Informed Access

- Members of the public are not required to gain the expressed consent of the producer managing Crown Land prior to access as is required before entering any privately owned land. This presents a number of environmental, herd health and public safety issues:
  - The spread of disease can be limited of disease through active biosecurity measures on farms in Manitoba. These efforts are negated on Crown Lands if the public is not required to request permission before access. A breach of biosecurity measures increases the possibility of disease spread.
  - Wildlife health is also put at risk if access to Crown Lands continues to occur without the consent of the producer managing the land
  - Both wildlife and domestic animals can present risk to the public if they are approached in an inappropriate manner. These risks can be reduced if the public contacts the producer managing the land prior to access.
- MBP recommends changes to Crown Lands Policy:
  1. **Members of the public wishing to access agricultural Crown land be required to provide notice to the lessee of their intention to access;**
  2. **The public wishing to access the land be required to obtain permission from the lessee prior to entering during periods where the land is in direct agricultural use; and**
  3. **Lessees of Crown land be granted the ability to discourage members of the public from entering pastures where there is high risk to public safety.**

### Facilitation of the Purchase of Crown Land by the Lessee

- Both the Province and the Beef Producer can benefit if the leased Crown land is purchased by the Lessee. However, there are significant bureaucratic barriers in place that often prevent this transaction from occurring – the process can take years before final approval is obtained.
- Manitoba Beef Producers is requesting that the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives be given the sole responsibility of approving the sale of Crowne Lands to the lessee, when the land is being rented for agricultural production.

*my farm, your family, our future*

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