



## Manitoba Beef Producers and the Environment

Manitoba's Producers are natural stewards of the land. It is the natural state for beef producers to be environmentally conscious.

Manitoba Beef Producers strongly hold that the most effective stewardship programs are those that are developed in cooperation with the producers who manage the land and water. Programs designed to be voluntary are most cost effective for Manitoba taxpayers, will be most successful in delivering long term environmental results and will encourage the growth and development of Manitoba's economy.

### Ecological Goods and Services

- Manitoba has been a leader in the development of an EG&S Program. However, the province has yet to implement any of these initiatives, thus falling behind other provinces such as PEI, Alberta, and Ontario. The Province of Manitoba must commit to working with other stakeholders to implement these important initiatives.
- Manitoba Beef Producers support the initiation of Ecological Goods and Services Programs in Manitoba under key conditions.
  1. MBP is a full participant in the determination of targets and/or assets for an Environmental Goods and Services Program;
  2. Any program must ensure equitable access to funding across the province;
  3. An EG&S Program should differentiate between long-term water management (ie. Wetlands, water storage, etc) and short-term flood mitigation efforts. This would require analysis of the Canadian Wetland Classification System;
  4. An EG & S program should include support for: natural water filtration and nutrient cycling, carbon sinks that mitigate climate change, essential wetland & grassland habitat for plant & animal biodiversity, biosecurity and soil conservation; and
  5. No projects under an EG&S Program should be held in perpetuity. That is, all projects should have a contractually defined termination date.

### Beneficial Management Practices

- MBP promotes beneficial management practices to mitigate potentially negative environmental impacts and to effectively manage any nutrient flows into the environment.
- It is imperative that producers control the delivery programs in order to ensure unified delivery and administration and to ensure that programs remain practical and cost effective.

*my farm, your family, our future*

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