

LETTER TO AGCAT MEMBERS

This past year has proven to be challenging and exciting for the AGCAT Family. We started AGCAT with grain prices below cost of production and Grain and Oilseed Producers in crisis mode. Your AGCAT Board worked hard to increase awareness of the plight of the Grain and Oilseed Producers and recommended changes. Many of those recommendations were accepted and implemented by both levels of government. We asked AGCAT members to help us and they did. They saw the difference made and that our achievements had more than paid back their membership fees.

We put on breakfasts for our provincial and federal politicians which exposed them to the plight of the Grains and Oilseed Producers. We invited Oil and Grain Seed Producers from the region to the breakfasts and we had up to 500 people at the breakfasts. With our well thought through recommendations to them and the show of support from the producers we achieved success on many issues.

We are grateful for the favorable weather conditions this year, which provided a bountiful harvest in all most every area of Alberta. The perception is that this harvest has solved all the issues of the producer. However, we all know that grain prices have fallen, inputs are high and operating expenses have once again pushed us to the limit. As a result AGCAT is determined to provide our leaders with information and advice to increase awareness and responses from them on the issues we face.

We continue to approach issues in a non-confrontational format. This approach has proven to allow us to have significant influence on issues and keep the doors of communication open for us. Your Board operates on a volunteer basis and provides countless hours of effort and miles of travel at their own expense in order to serve you and keep information flowing.

We know there are many issues that need AGCAT's attention. We cannot take on a whole basket of issues. We feel we can be effective on taking on 2 or 3 and doing a good job with them.

Write us with your thoughts we appreciate you and thank you for your support.