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media release

for immediate release ...

Alberta Barley Commission changes leadership

Calgary, AB (July 21, 2011) – The Board of Directors of the Alberta Barley Commission announced today the departure of Mr. Mike Leslie, CEO, effective Tuesday, July 19, 2011.

“Leadership changes are a reality in any organization,” said Commission Chair Matt Sawyer. “As a Board, we’ll continue to successfully deliver on our mandate and remain accountable to our members.”

The day-to-day operations of the Commission will continue. Over the coming weeks, the Board will appoint an interim CEO. In the meantime, the Commission’s professional staff will maintain business as usual.

“While change is inevitable, the Board has every confidence that our excellent staff will ensure that Alberta barley producers will see no interruption in services and programs,” said Sawyer. “The Board is confident in its strategic direction.”

The Commission will continue to meet the needs of barley growers and address the challenges of a changing industry.

“This is a time of opportunity and growth,” said Sawyer. “Our members and industry partners can be assured that the Commission’s Board of Directors is committed to ensuring the stability of all of its projects, programs and research.”

Sawyer is a graduate of Olds College and a barley producer from Acme, Alberta. He first joined the Commission as a delegate in 2003 and was elected to chair the Board of Directors in December of 2009.

Canada’s only barley commission, the Alberta Barley Commission is a not-for-profit organization directed, funded and controlled by the province’s 17,000 barley producers. The Commission coordinates and sponsors research, market development, technology transfer and policy development on behalf of its producers

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