



**February 7, 2007**

On behalf of its Board of Directors and 17,000 members, the Alberta Barley Commission pledges support for the upcoming barley-marketing plebiscite. We are writing to thank you for your continued support of Alberta barley producers. We are pleased western Canadian, and especially Alberta, barley growers will be given the opportunity vote on how their product is sold in the future. We met in person with Minister Chuck Strahl on January 22<sup>nd</sup> in Red Deer when he announced the plebiscite question.

We are pleased that the new federal government has chosen to compile the eligibility lists from such a broad base of producers and we appreciate your collaboration in compiling those lists. We are confident that the vote in favour of marketing choice will win the day.

The Alberta Barley Commission is actively encouraging every eligible barley producer to exercise their right to vote. We know that with such a clear question, there will be no problems with misinterpretation on the part of producers.

We are producing a special edition of our quarterly newsletter, Barley Country, which reaches over 30,000 farms to coincide with the vote. We will include a special insert directing producers to the "barleyvote" website as well as the toll free telephone number.

We look forward to the outcome of the vote and to working with the both the provincial and federal governments to give Canadian farmers more choices and competitive advantages in the global marketplace. I hope that as you meet with producers in your constituency in the coming weeks, you will urge them to exercise their democratic right to vote in the plebiscite.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Leslie".

Mike Leslie  
General Manager  
Alberta Barley Commission