

## What we need:

The Ontario Grain & Oilseed Group is committed to working with government to meet our three needs for the short, medium and long-term success of Ontario's distressed grain & oilseed industry.

We need a \$300 million immediate cash infusion to make up the shortfall between anticipated revenues from all sources and mounting costs for the 2005 crop.

Ted Arnott  
John Baird  
Hon. Rick Bartolucci  
Jim Brownell  
Hon. Marie Bountrogianni  
Donna Cansfield  
Hon. David Caplan  
Ted Chudleigh  
Bruce Crozier  
Caroline DiCocco  
Hon. Leona Dombrosky

Brad Duguid  
Garfield Dunlop  
Howard Hampton  
Ernie Hardeman  
Pat Hoy  
Linda Jeffrey  
Jeff Leal  
Dave Levac  
Phillip McNeely  
Deb Mathews  
John Milloy  
Ted McMeekin

The Ontario government must implement an adequately funded, effective replacement program for Market Revenue Insurance (MRI).

Refinements must be made to CAIS to make it more effective.

## What we've done:

Representatives from the Ontario Grain & Oilseed Group have made an intensive effort to meet with MPPs to discuss our needs. Thank you to the following MPPs who have taken the time to meet with us already:

Carol Mitchell  
Bill Murdoch  
John O'Toole  
Hon. Sandra Pupatello  
Dr. Shafiq Qaadri  
Ontario Rural Caucus  
Ernie Parsons  
Hon. Steve Peters  
Sandra Pupatello  
Dr Shafiq Qaadri  
Kamil Ramal  
Lou Rinaldi

Laurie Scott  
Hon. Greg Sorbara  
Maria Van Bommel  
John Wilkinson  
Jim Wilson  
Kathleen Wynne  
Senior Advisors to  
Management Board  
Senior OMAF staff  
Senior Staff in the  
Premier's Office

## Summary:

To date, growers meeting with MPPs are reporting a sympathetic response to the grain & oilseed industry's current crisis situation. MPPs are acknowledging the farm income crisis, and are grateful to farmers for taking the initiative to meet with them personally to explain the situation and share their personal stories. They have noted that their awareness of the farm income crisis grows stronger with each producer who visits them. MPPs – in both rural and urban areas – have encouraged the Grain & Oilseed Group to put particular emphasis on seeking meetings with urban MPPs to carefully explain the situation to them.

## Next Steps:

The Ontario Grain & Oilseed Group has scheduled a 'lobby day' at Queen's Park in late March. Grain & oilseed representatives have scheduled numerous meetings with MPPs throughout the day, taking advantage of the opportunity to meet with these key decision-makers from across the province while they are at

Queen's Park to sit in legislative assembly. In the evening the grains & oilseed industry will host a reception for MPPs and invited guests as an opportunity to informally discuss the grain & oilseed industry in a comfortable, environment.

## What producers can do:

Our message has been heard by many MPPs, but it is vital that Ontario grain & oilseed producers keep the pressure on our government. We encourage growers to meet with MPPs, and visit the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA)'s website at [www.ofa.org](http://www.ofa.org) for templates to help planning these meetings. Growers can also visit the website for every grain & oilseed organization to obtain a copy of the grain & oilseed position paper.

Producers can also write letters to the editor of the publications you read, and phone in to the radio stations you listen to – particularly local and national urban media. Help correct misinformation and tell your own story about how this farm income crisis is affecting you.