

# Knowledge Impact in Society



Who we are	What we do	Why it matters
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## Adapting to New Environments: Agriculture and Rural Economies in the 21st Century

- Home
- Events
- Publications
- Affiliates
- Links
- Contact Us

Site Search



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### The Impact of Removing Single-Desk Selling Powers

Over this past summer and early autumn, the Government of Canada has indicated its desire to remove the single-desk selling powers of the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB). The purpose of this paper is to explore the impact of this proposal.

The main conclusion of the paper is that it will be very difficult, if not impossible, for the CWB to survive as an organization. Thus, contrary to what the recent task force report indicates, the most likely impact of removing the single-desk selling powers is that the CWB will cease to exist.

The elimination of the CWB would transform the Canadian grains industry, with the impact of this change felt in virtually every part of the system. The changes that would accompany the loss of the CWB's single-desk selling power would make the Canadian system more and more like that in the United States.

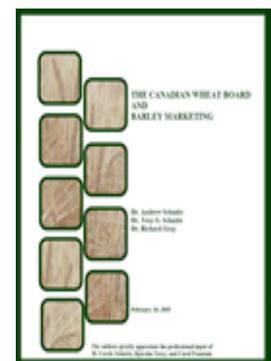
It is expected, for instance, that grain company and railroad competition would fall, that producer co-ops and short-line railways would

#### UPCOMING EVENT IN THE LOOP

A seminar on civic engagement  
Friday, Jan 26 10:00 a.m.  
Rm 124 Archaeology  
[For more details \(Click here\)](#)



[CWB Literature](#)



**[The Canadian Wheat Board and Barley Marketing Full Report](#)**  
**[Exec Summary](#)**  
**[U of S Press Release](#)**  
**by Andrew Schmitz, Troy Schmitz and Richard Gray**

producer cars and short line railways would suffer, that the current freight revenue cap would disappear, and that less value would be returned to farmers.

Once these changes are made they are irreversible – it would be virtually impossible to go back and restore the system to what is currently in place. Thus, farmers have a real decision to make in a plebiscite. In making this decision, farmers will have to ask themselves, “What is my vision of the grains sector in Canada?”

The above themes, and others, are explored by Murray Fulton in *The Canadian Wheat Board in an Open Market: The Impact of Removing the Single-Desk Selling Powers*. (click [here](#) to read *CWB in an Open Market* )



## CWB Literature

The Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) is currently a topic of intense discussion and debate. The Government of Canada looks to make major changes to this marketing institution.

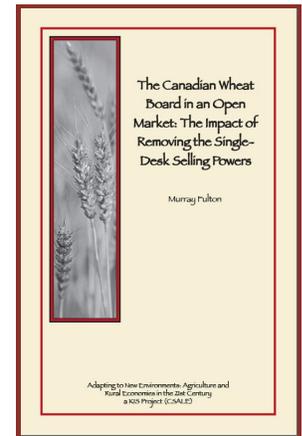
In keeping with its mandate, the Knowledge Impact in Society (KIS) project has taken this opportunity to highlight existing literature on single desk selling and the CWB.

KIS has compiled a series of reports, journal articles, and papers that discuss issues relating to all outlooks of the CWB debate. A short summary of each item is provided, along with either a link to the full document or a reference to its location (i.e., volume and issue of journal).

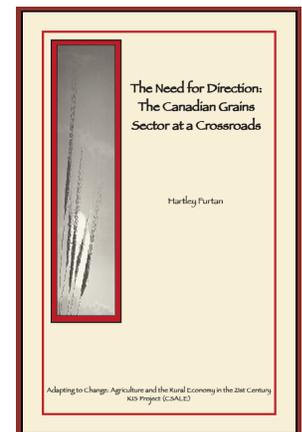
(click [here](#) for CWB literature)



## Grains and Oilseeds



[The Canadian Wheat Board in an Open Market: The Impact of Removing the Single-Desk Selling Powers](#)  
by Murray Fulton



[The Need for Direction: The Canadian Grains Sector at a Crossroads](#)  
by Hartley Furtan

What is society's vision for the future of the grain and oilseeds sector and the other areas with which it is linked? Can this vision be reflected and achieved through the broad set of policies that have been put in place around agriculture, or do a new set of policies need to be introduced? KIS collaborator Hartley Furtan, examines the future of the grain and oilseeds sector in Canada and asks the question whether the family farm will continue to exist or whether it will be supplanted by a corporate structure.

[\(click here to read more\)](#)



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