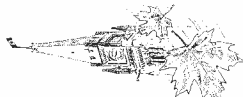




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Ed Komarnicki, MP House of Commons Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Farmers have faced frosts, low commodity prices, poor grades on their crops and a liberal government that doesn't care. Farmers and ranchers are facing a difficult time while the Government crows about its CAIS Program. Many farmers that were approved for payment have not received payment or even a promise of payment before Christmas or year's end, even though applications were made many months ago, in a crisis situation. The government continues to discuss the elimination of income support subsidies and trade distorting tariffs at the World Trade Organization (WTO) without offering any protection for our producers. Some obvious questions need to be answered and discussed.

- Our farmers are the most efficient and productive in the world and could compete on the world market but will any formula assure 148 countries are complying with WTO agreements?
- Should there be a mechanism in place to take this into account and compensate producers for trade injury caused by subsidies in other countries?
- Can we continue to ignore costs of production in the design of farm programs?
- Can we expect survival on the part of farmers if they cannot meet the cost of production year over year?

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