

# MWF supports the big game hunt for licensed hunters

By Carly Deacon, MWF Managing Director

The Manitoba Wildlife Federation (MWF) applauds the government's decision to proceed with the big game hunt for licensed hunters in the north this year.

We are responding to Grand Chief Garrison Settee's recent correspondence from Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO), aiming to clarify the proposal they advanced to the government to withdraw all licensed big game hunting tag allocations in Northern Manitoba.

Firstly, the MWF acknowledges the shared objectives between our organization and MKO, particularly in safeguarding the moose populations of Northern Manitoba. We recognize and respect MKO's persistent advocacy for government engagement in habitat and population management, crucial actions to avoid what has resulted in closures in the south, and the potential extirpation of moose populations in Manitoba if trends continue. Like MKO, MWF holds conservation, protection of natural resources, and the promotion of game and fish species and their habitats in the highest regard. However, MWF highlights a critical gap: there is a lack of data in the North on population estimates, and rights-based harvesters are not required to report their harvest. How can we expect the province to manage big game populations while only obtaining harvest records from licensed hunters? This information is an essential prerequisite to determine sustainable harvest rates, by First Nation harvesters and tag allocations for licensed hunters.

MWF recognizes and respects the constitutional rights of First Nation harvesters to hunt for sustenance, but these rights must be reconciled with the rights of all Manitobans to access and enjoy our outdoor public spaces. MWF will always take any steps necessary to defend our outdoor heritage and legally enshrined right to hunt in this province.

The Manitoban hunters we represent are deeply invested in conservation, management, and outdoor traditions, and have always been at the table in discussions on big game management. It is deeply concerning to MWF that details on these proposed changes have not been shared or discussed with licensed hunters in the province.

Recognizing alignment in our shared objectives, MWF sees substantial value in fostering meaningful conversations and collaboration to achieve these goals. We firmly believe that collaborative management based on sound science represents the last opportunity to ensure the survival of moose in Manitoba, extending to all shared resources involving multiple stakeholders. Whether concerning rights, traditions, cultures, lifestyles, or livelihoods, all parties are deeply invested. MWF will continue to actively advocate for comprehensive government con-

sultation with all stakeholders, informed decision-making grounded in science and conservation, and the development of a sustainable, inclusive management plan for all harvesters in the North.

Let's change the narrative going forward and bridge diverse stakeholder interests, foster sus-

tainable practices, and pool collective expertise and knowledge. This approach would unite rather than divide Manitobans, ensuring the preservation of wildlife resources while nurturing our shared hunting and angling traditions.

## BUYERS WANTED



**Grand Champion 2023 Steer – Brayden Stepler**  
Buyer : Bullseye Feeds – More than Just Feed

**Reserve Champion 2023 Steer – Nick Seward**  
Buyer : Roland Air Spray

### FOR ANNUAL 4-H SHOW & SALE

**SHOW is Thursday, July 11 • 9 AM**

**SALE is Friday, July 12 • 1 PM**

**at the DAS fairgrounds.**



**This year there is a buyer BBQ sponsored by Hilltop Meats.**

**Buyers are asked to register for a bidding number prior to the start of the sale. Members will be in the barn from noon on Friday.**

This year 48 steers and 6 market lambs will be auctioned off by Richard Bramley - Jack Auction Group & Heartland Livestock Services - Virden. Club members will be representing the Miami 4-H Beef Club, Graysville 4-H Beef Club and Elm Creek 4-H Beef Club.

**Thank you to our 2023 Buyers!**

**STEERS**

Agassiz Seed Farm (x2), AgWest, Archway Dairy, Bo-Russ, \*Bullseye Feeds - More Than Just Feed, Kevin Butler, Call Insurance, C2 Charolais, Corduroy Plains, Encoma, Grand Valley Fortifiers, Geoff Katz (x2), Greenland Equipment, Kehler Farms, Krahn Agri Farms, Kroeker Farms, Lepp Enterprises, Daniel & Janelle Lepp, Ian & Michelle Lepp, LMS Ag Equipment (x4), MMJS, Newman Hand Insurance, Aaron Pfrimmer, Prairie Roots Co-op (x2), \*Roland Air Spray, Tri-Star Ag Services, TR\_S Truck Shop, True North Foods (x3), Vanderveen Commodities, Victorious Financial, R&D Winkler Trucking, Wingham Colony

**MARKET LAMBS**

\*Justin Carvey Abbey DeRocquigny, Josh Fehr Nancy Knox

\*Irene Stevenson Wayne Williment,

\*Designates Champion and Reserve Champion purchasers

## > PRSD, FROM PG. 2

meet the learning needs of all students.

When asked what he and PRSD staff can do to ensure that students continue to succeed within their PRSD schools, Clace says, "To nurture dynamic learning environments where students thrive, I believe it is essential to foster collaborative partnerships among school administrators, teachers, parents, students, the school board, community members and external educational stakeholders. As Superintendent/CEO, I am dedicated to pioneering and supporting innovative educational programs through collaborative and creative approaches."