



Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan Inc.

**Immediate Release**

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## **TALES FROM THE FACS FARM**

A new teaching tool is available from the Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan (FACS) designed to educate children about farming and ranching in Saskatchewan.

The 'Tales from the FACS Farm' Activity Book contains coloring exercises, word games, puzzles and other educational and fun activities focusing on the many responsibilities of producers in caring for livestock and poultry. Geared toward children from Kindergarten to Grade Three, the Activity Book includes lesson connections for teachers in specific subject areas; including math, health, research, technology, social studies, language arts and science.

"This is an ideal publication for teachers, parents or anyone involved in educating children; and complements the many other efforts by FACS to enhance awareness about farm animal care," Executive Director Adele Buettner said.

The Activity Book, which was developed in collaboration with educators, is part of a larger project launched in 2008 that introduced FACS puppet characters to live theatre audiences at the Saskatoon Fringe Theatre Festival, Prairieland Park Saskatoon EX and during Education Week at school and libraries across the province.

Faith, the Animal Care Specialist, visits the FACS Farm in Friendly, Saskatchewan. Through conversations with Happy the Horse, Precious the Pig, Cuddles the Chicken, Hilda the Beefy Heifer and Moona the Milk Cow, Faith gleans information about the farm operations, the family that owns the farm, the 'work hard' ethic of farming, as well as the rules and precautions that make the farm safe and the animals comfortable and healthy. Much of this information, along with many other facts about Saskatchewan agriculture, are incorporated in the Activity Book.

"The Activity Book is available on the FACS website, and we are now developing a website specifically for children – [www.farmanimalfun.ca](http://www.farmanimalfun.ca) - that features more interactive games and activities with the FACS Farm characters," Buettner added.

The project is supported with funding from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and the Agriculture Council of Saskatchewan through the Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food Saskatchewan (ACAAFS) program. Funding for the ACAAFS program is provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

For further information, contact:

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*The Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan Inc. (FACS) is a membership-based, non-profit organization that represents the livestock industry in advancing responsible animal welfare, care and handling practices in agriculture. FACS endeavors to raise producer awareness of the economic and ethical benefits of animal welfare and help consumers achieve a greater understanding of animal care issues.*