





# The Western Canadian GHTS 2013-14 Update

In A. M. M. Sugar Street

March 2014

# Overview

GHTS Background

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The Playing FieldPerformance History

#### GHTS This Year

- o Production
- Performance
- Challenges
- Other Issues
  - o Revenue Cap



# Who is Quorum?

- Transportation and Logistics consulting firm with a focus on North American surface modes – rail, truck, container, bulk commodity and grain
  - o Established 1999
  - Have developed a specialization in transportation data management with a strong IT back shop

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- Three Subs Quorum Corp, QGI and QTMS
- Grain Monitor for the Federal Gov't since 2001
- QGI Consulting selected to provide services in the preparation of stats and information for the Rail Freight Service Review



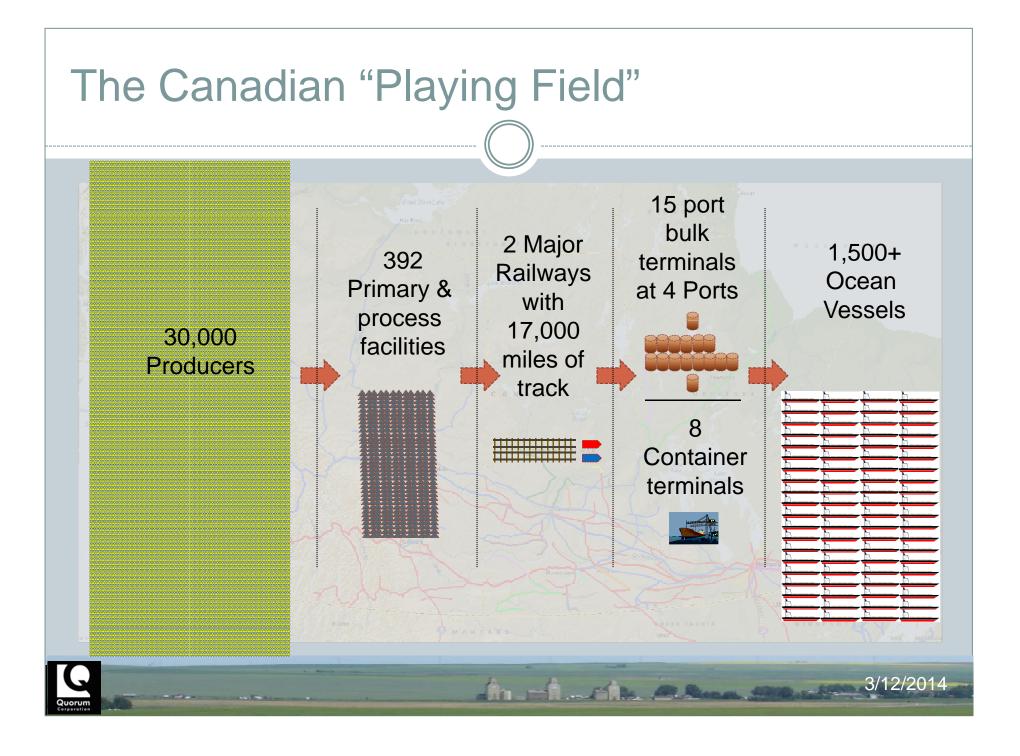
# **Grain Monitoring Program**

- Activity and Performance Measures
  - Industry volumes, activity and performance metrics
  - Farm gate to ocean vessel departure
  - Sets the industry benchmark
  - Used by broad cross section of the industries stakeholders
- Comprehensive, ongoing assessment and analysis of the measures and industry events
- The Grain Monitor strives to retain a neutral and balanced position on issues ... but we call it like we see it

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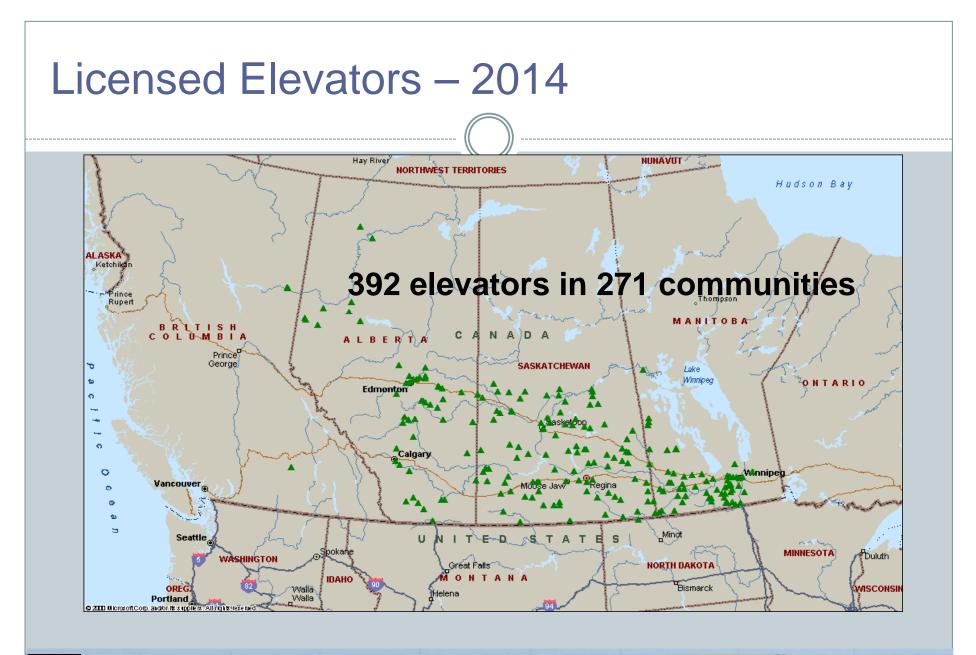






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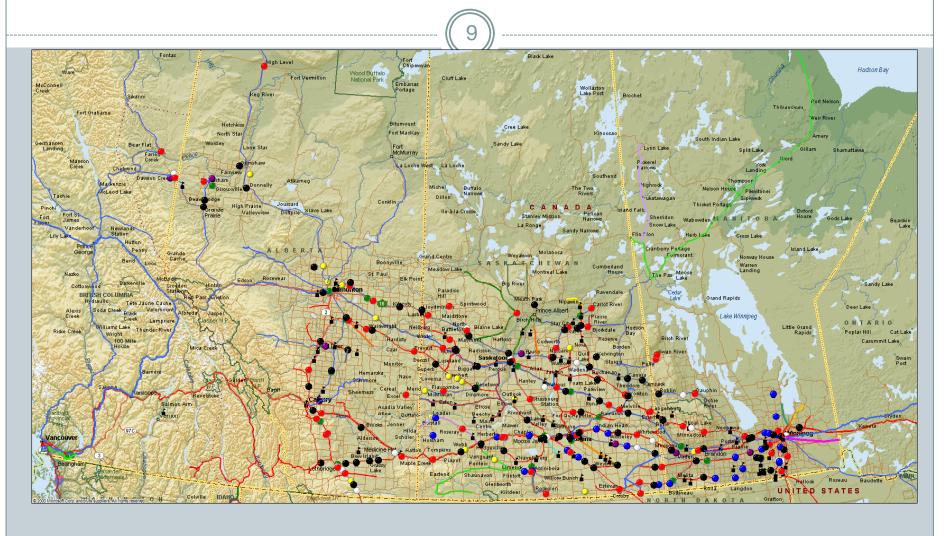






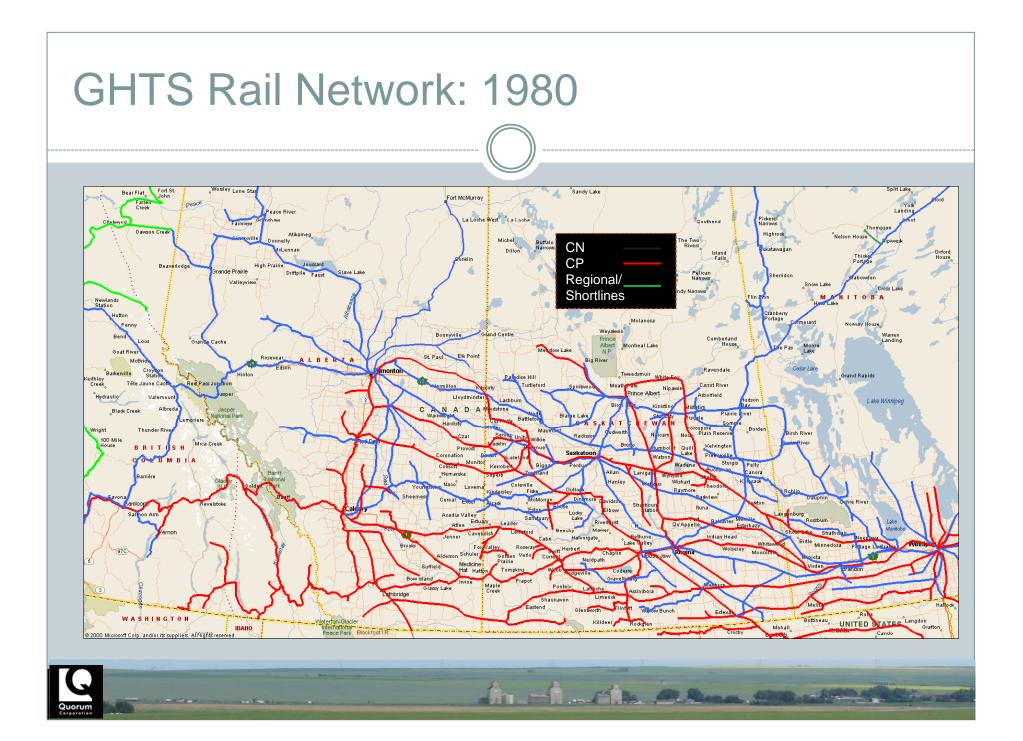
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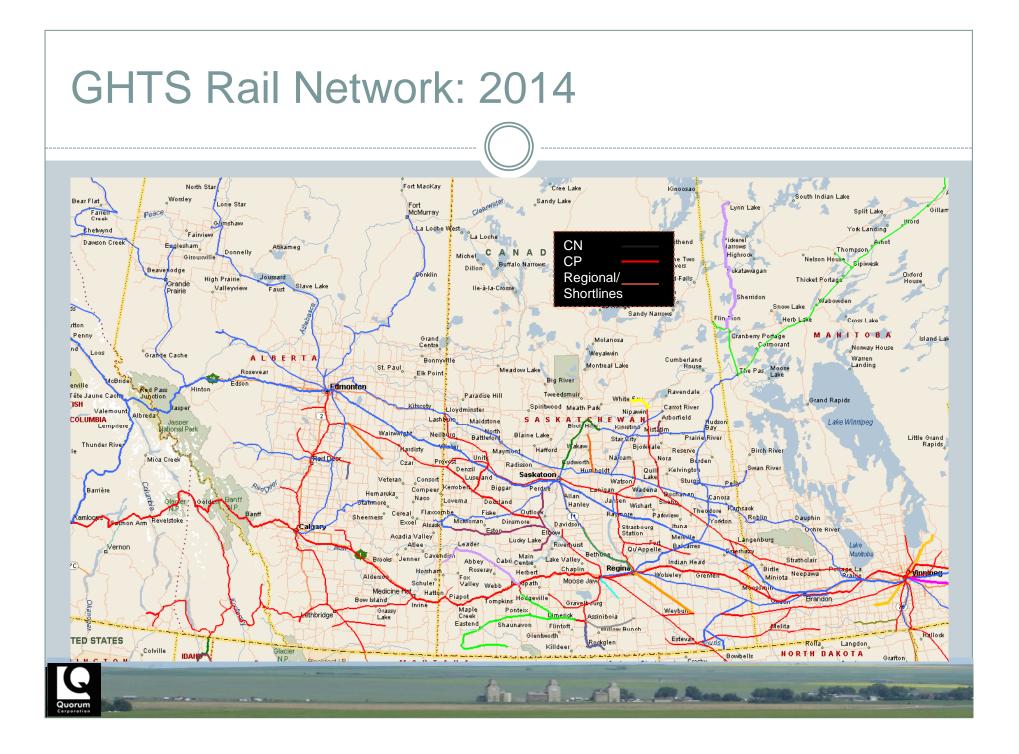
# **Country Network - Ownership Changes**

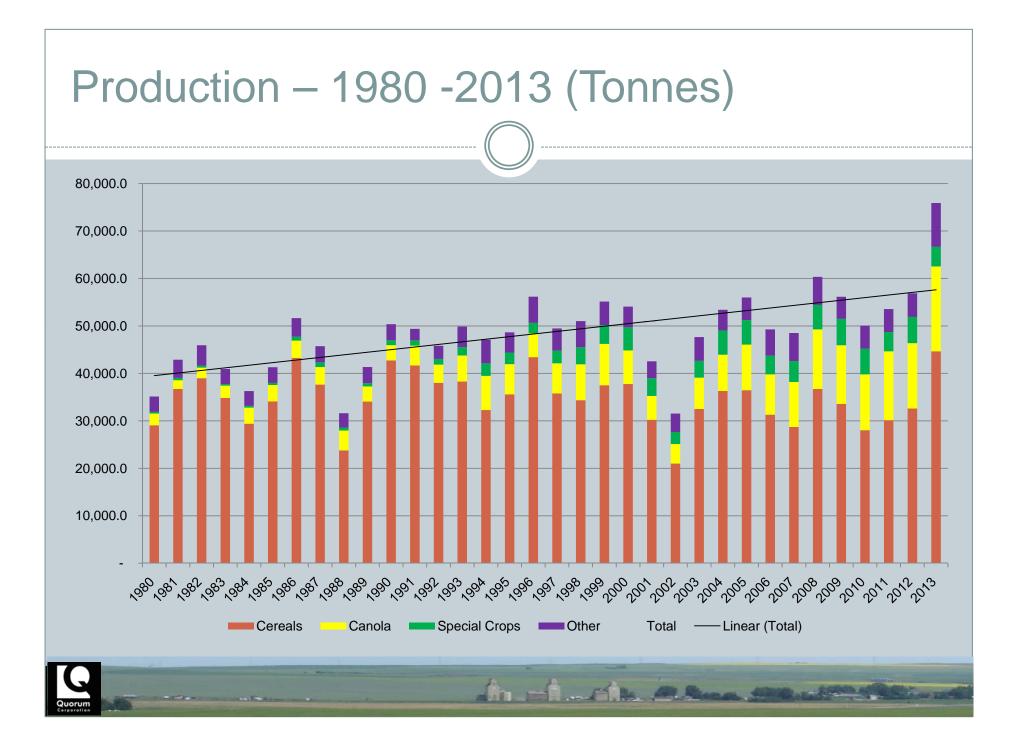




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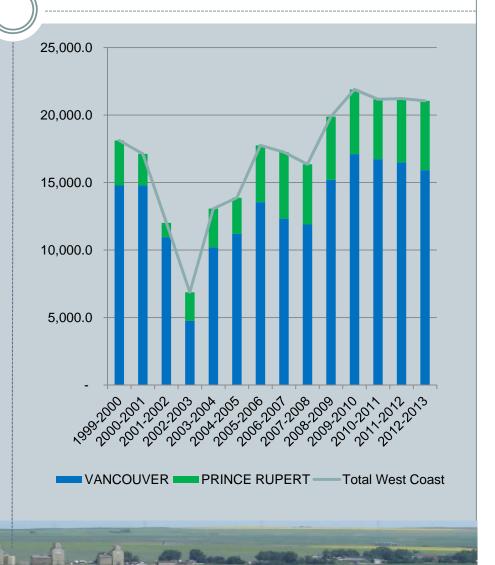




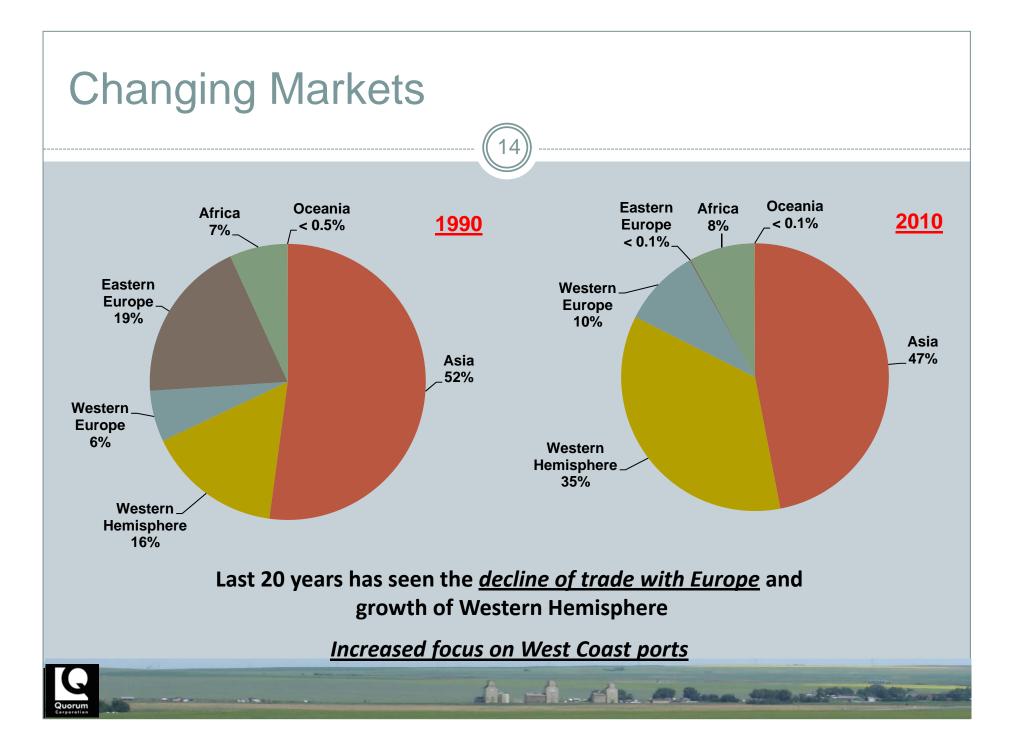


#### West Coast Volumes

- Last four years averaged 21.3 MMT – up 58% from the average 12 years ago and about 30% the 25 year average
- Is this the new normal?
- How much can it grow?





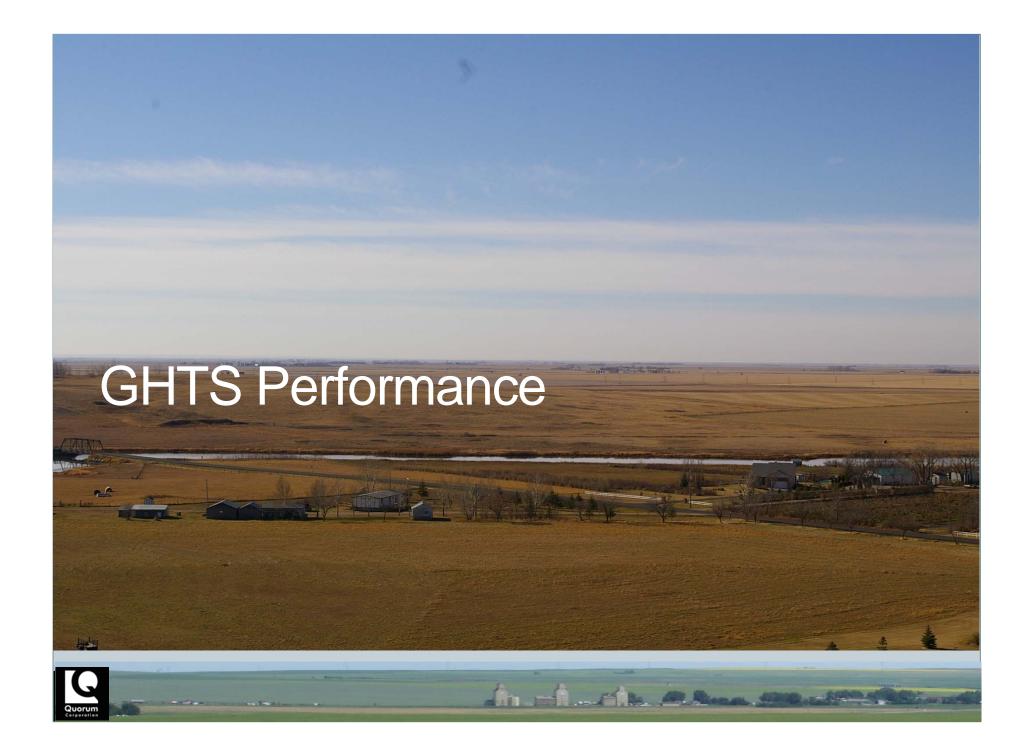


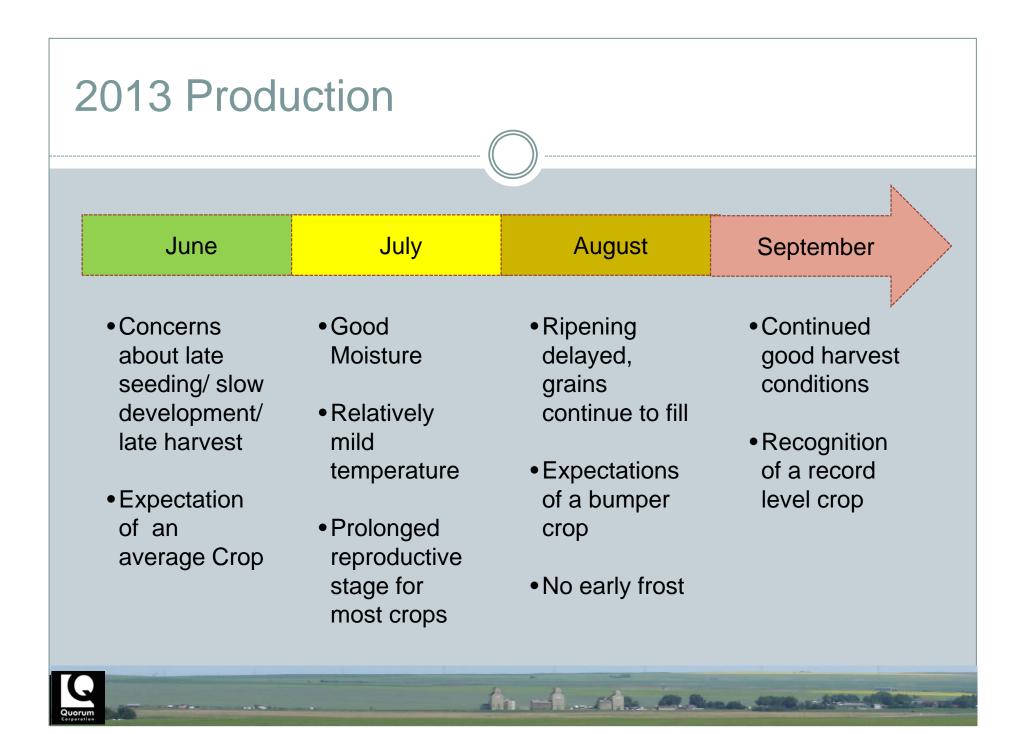
## West Coast Drivers

 Changing Global Demand: Depleted global reserves, rising standard of living in Asia Pacific markets and fluctuating production levels in competitor countries

• Logistical Economics: Spreads on ocean and rail freight are significant drivers on the routing choice for sellers of Canadian grain, making West Coast routing a preference.







#### **Record Breaking Crop and Capacity Planning**

- Stats Canada September Estimate = 65 million tonnes in Western Canada
- Railways and Shippers meet to discuss capacity railways plan for 5,000 – 5,500 cars/ week per railway
- Stats Canada November final estimate = 75.9 MMT in Western Canada

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#### Where are we now?

	2013	5 Yr Average	Var %
Production	75.9	55.4	+37%
Carry In	4.9	8.1	-39.5%
Total Supply	80.8 MMT	63.5 MMT	+27.2%

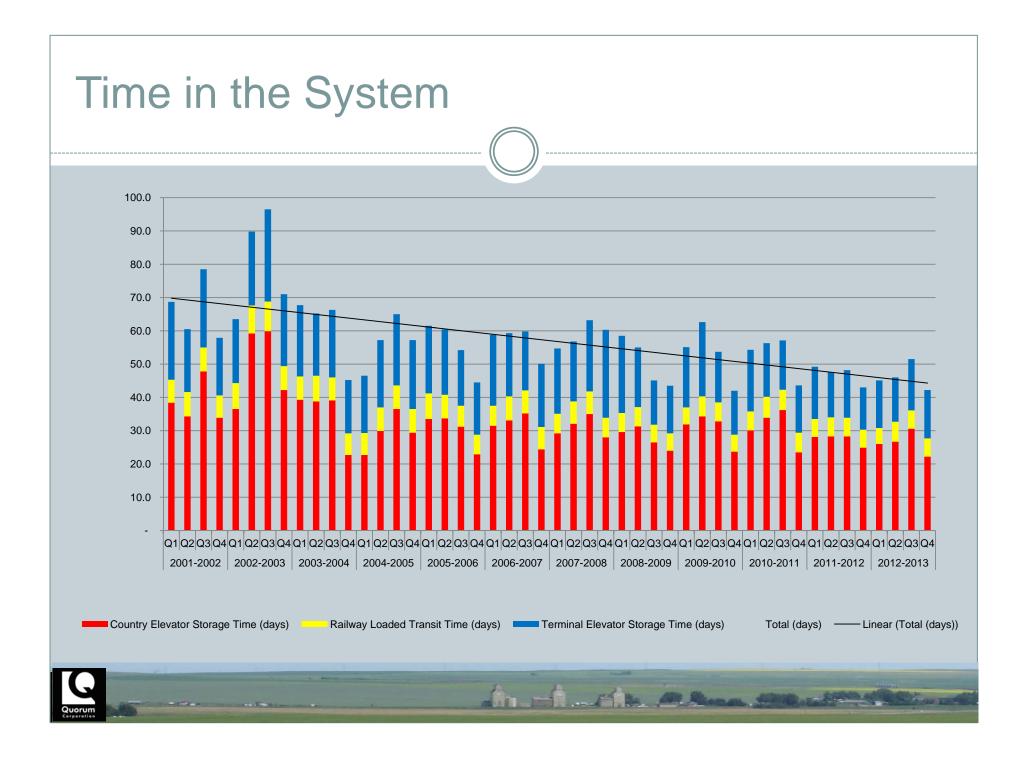
Total Supply (2013-14)	80.8	
Domestic use/ US movement (5 Yr Avg)	29.3	
Shipments to port (5 Yr Avg)	<u>26.1</u>	
Total Marketings (5 Yr Avg)	54.4	
Expected Carry out in 2014 (without additional marketings)	25.4 MMT	

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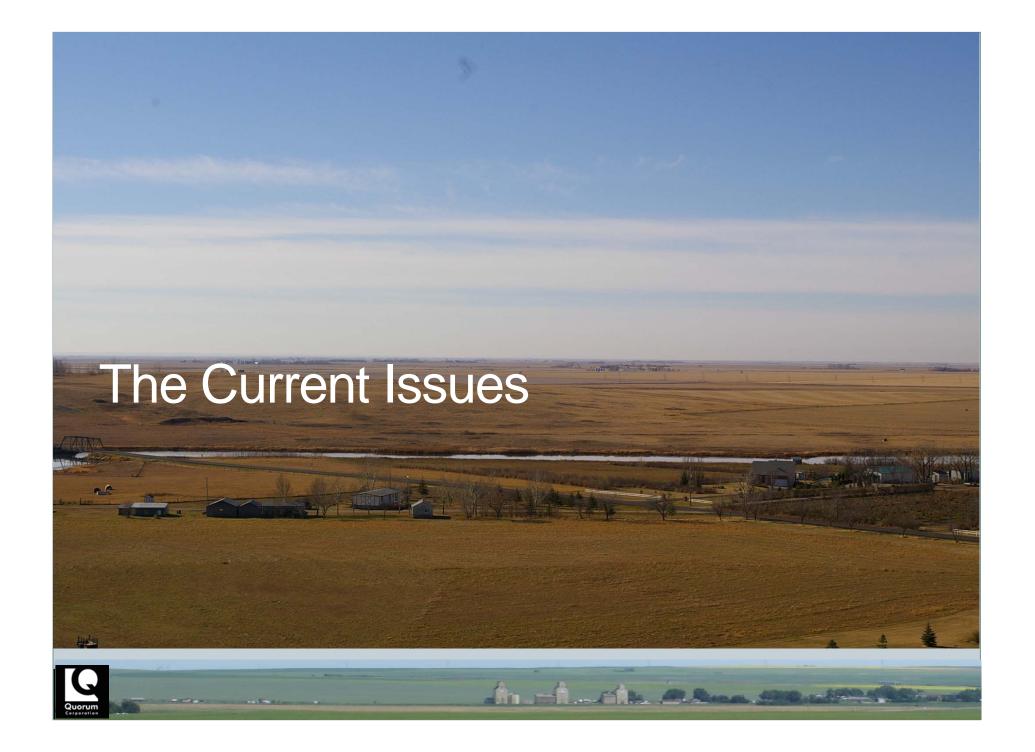


GMP Dashboard				
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	Year/Year Change
Total Time in System:	52.3	47.1	46.2	<b>.</b> -1.9%
Loaded Transit Time:	6.0	5.6	5.4	-3.7%
Time In Store – Country:	30.8	27.6	26.5	-4.0%
Time in Store – Terminal:	15.5	13.9	14.3	<b>1</b> +2.9%
Vessel Time in Port:	9.9	6.6	9.7	<b>+47.0%</b>
Elevator Turnover Ratio:				
Country:	5.7	6.0	5.8	-3.3%
Terminal:	9.9	11.1	11.1	-
Total Car Cycle:	14.3	13.9	14.0	+0.9%



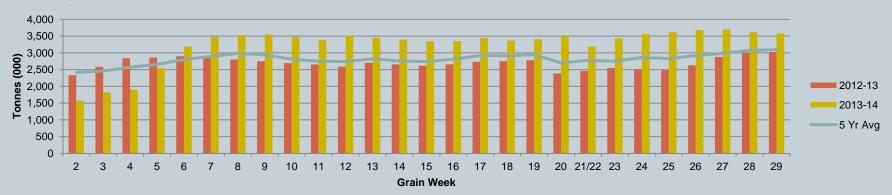


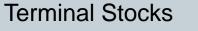


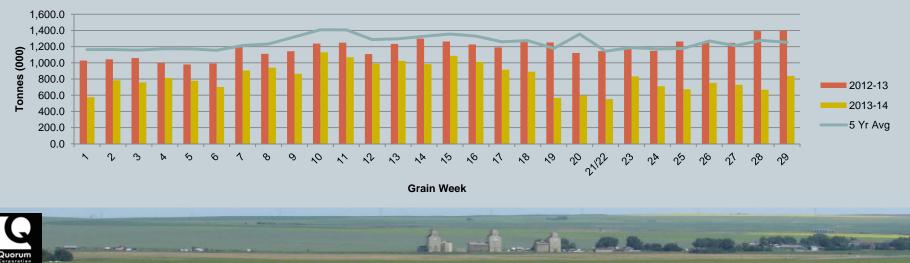




#### **Country Stocks**







# Total Unloads – YTD Week 29(Cars)

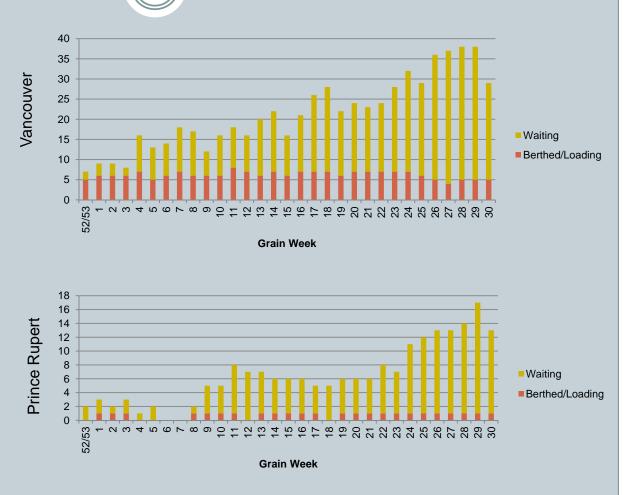
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	Vancouver	Prince Rupert	West Coast	Thunder Bay	Churchill	Total
5 Yr Avg	97,988	28,800	126,788	35,188	5,574	167,550
2012-13	103,232	31,390	134,622	42,906	4,906	182,434
2013-14	100,185	30,601	130,786	34,541	6,156	171,483
Var % to 5 Yr Avg	2%	6%	3%	- <b>2%</b>	10%	2%
Var % to Last Year	-3%	-3%	-3%	-19%	25%	-6%

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# Vessel Lineups (to week 30)

- Vessel lineups have grown rapidly since new crop availability.
- Reports from terminals at Vancouver would indicate that rail pipeline coordination of product to vessel is sub-optimal creating problems in terminal operations and extending loading times and increasing vessel wait times.



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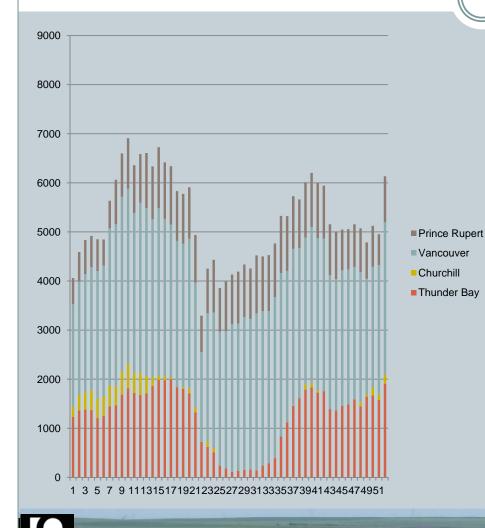
#### Railway Allocation vs. Unloads



- A critical issue is the numbers of cars allocated by the railways (committed to the grain companies for country spotting) as compared to the numbers of cars unloaded at port
- YTD in 2013-14 CY, actual cars unloaded in the Vancouver corridor for both railways is 23% lower than the cars allocated and 8% lower in the Prince Rupert corridor

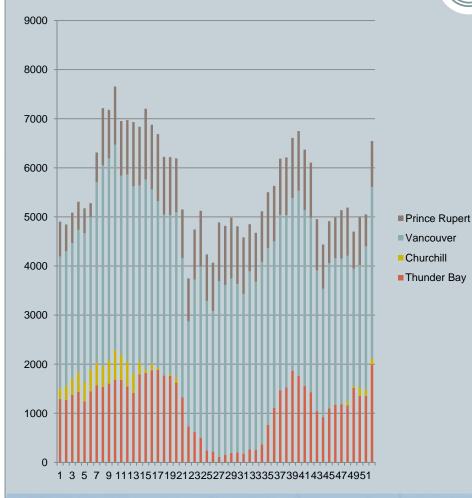
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#### Weekly Port Unloads - 10 year average



- •Over the last 10 years we continue to see a decrease in the numbers of cars unloaded through the winter months.
- •The movement leading through the period before the Christmas break consistently slows and does not recover until well into the latter parts of spring.
- Demand does not normally follow this same pattern and normally stays strong through to the late spring.

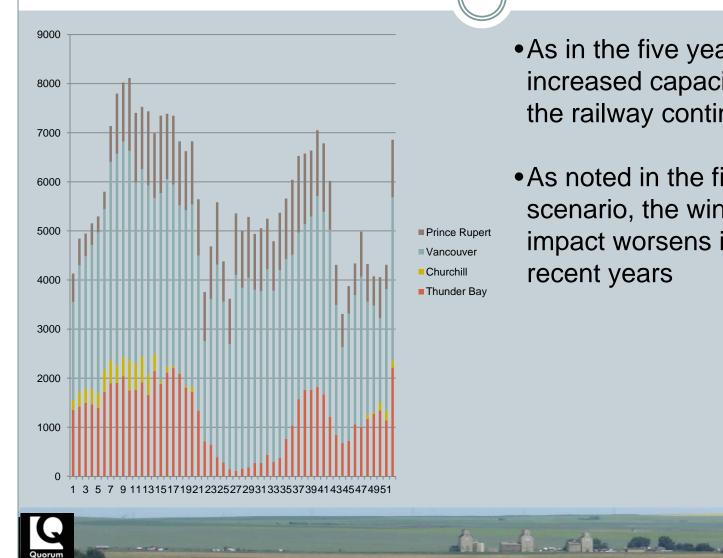
#### Weekly Port Unloads - 5 Yr Average



- •When viewed from a 5 year average in comparison to the 10 year view, an increase in overall capacity offerings from the railways becomes apparent
- •The seasonal cycle and impact of winter operations continues to reveal itself and in fact becomes worse when viewed in the shorter time period



#### Weekly Port Unloads - 3 yr Average

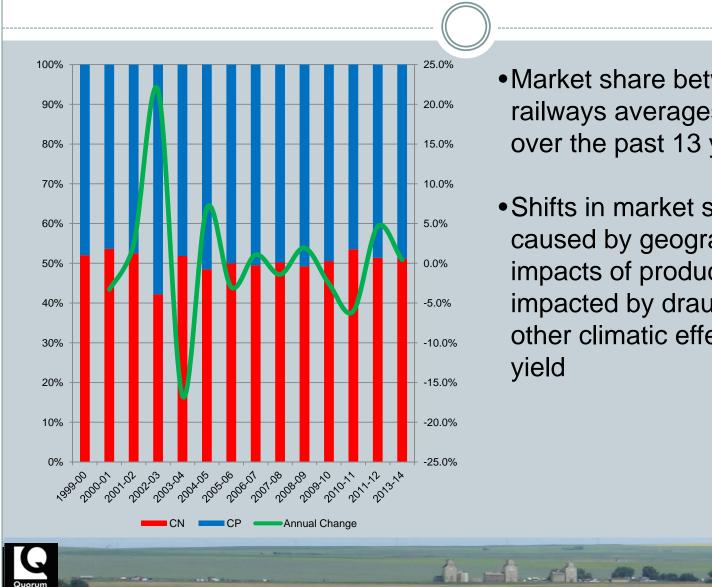


- •As in the five year scenario, the increased capacity offering by the railway continues to grow.
- As noted in the five year scenario, the winter operating impact worsens in the more recent years



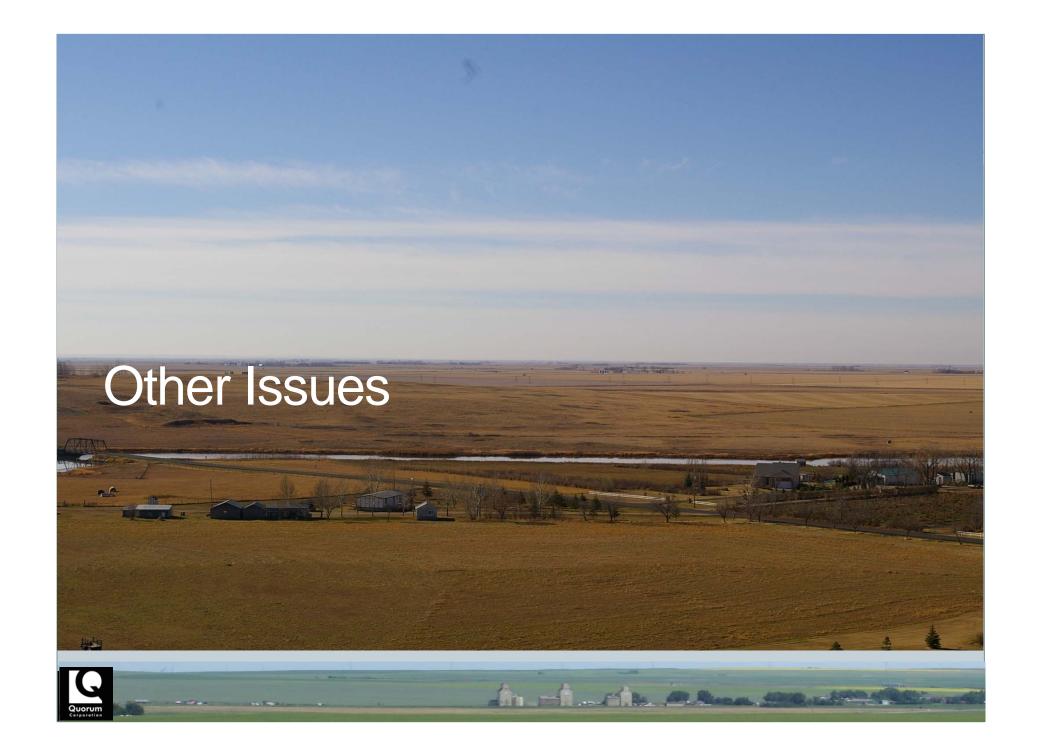


## **CN-CP** Market Share Shifts



- Market share between the two railways averages out at 50-50 over the past 13 years
- Shifts in market share are caused by geographic/ regional impacts of production as impacted by draught, flooding or other climatic effects on crop yield

What does it	all Mean?
For Producers	<ul> <li>Falling Prices</li> <li>Widening Basis</li> <li>Lack of Delivery opportunities</li> <li>Cash flow crunch</li> <li>Bins full</li> </ul>
For Grain Companies	<ul> <li>Widening Basis</li> <li>Vessel Demurrage</li> <li>Contract Extension costs</li> <li>Lost opportunity for add. Volumes</li> <li>Pressure to revisit shipper protection legislation</li> </ul>
For Railways	<ul> <li>Guaranteed volumes 18 months out</li> <li>Enhanced revenues</li> <li>Focus attention on Revenue Entitlement (Cap)</li> <li>Long term capacity question/ strategic choices</li> </ul>
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# What is The Revenue Cap or "Entitlement"

- The term "Revenue Cap" is a misnomer as it does NOT a place an absolute "cap" on railway revenues.
- What it does do is:
  - Provide a statutory limit on the amount of revenue a prescribed railway can earn from the movement of regulated grain in western Canada.
  - ... Provide an effective dynamic control mechanism limiting the amount of revenue per tonne that a railway company may derive from the movement of regulated grain

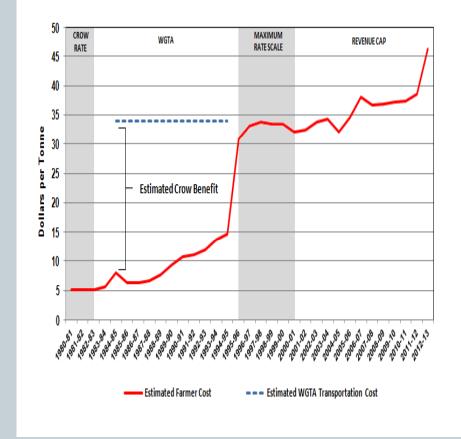
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#### It <u>does not penalize</u> the railways for:

Handling more grain; length of haul
Inflationary effects



#### Rail Freight Rates since 1980



- •Four rail freight rate regimes have been used over the last 30 years:
  - •The Crow rate

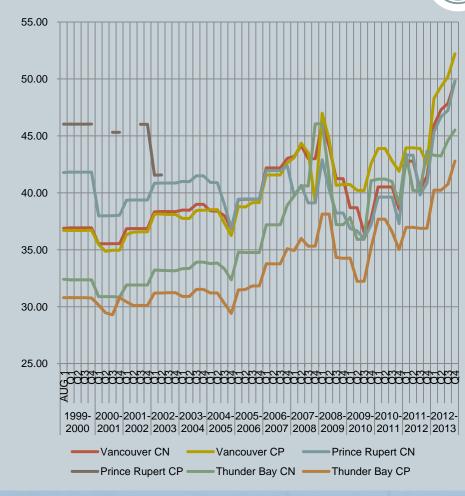
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- •The Western Grain Transportation Act/ Agency
- •The Maximum rate scale
- •The Maximum Revenue Entitlement - MRE (Rev Cap)

•Over the period from 1980, when the Crow Rate was still in effect, to 2013, the rail freight has increased from \$5/ tonne to over

Mr. Suna Sillion

#### Single Car Rates – Quarterly Trends with the MRE



- In the early years of the MRE, the railways moved rates in a manner that was consistent with one another, with only minor differential pricing being undertaken
- In the 2007-2008 CY, the railways began pricing differentially based on seasonal, commodity and corridor factors.





- VRCPI = the Volume related composite price index, as set by the Canadian Transportation Agency annually, is the maximum allowable annual rate increase that the railways can apply without penalty
- •The Allowable rate per tonne is the total average annual rate charged by the railways

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# Going Forward?

- Impacts of record western Canadian crop
- Challenges continue into next crop year due to huge carry over stock

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- Enhancements to the GMP announced Feb. 3rd:
  - o Railway order fulfillment data
  - o Fleet size
  - Port terminal unload performance
  - o Greater granularity weekly data
  - o Reported monthly



