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Agriculture Safety Week

Mr. Forbes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the snow in the fields is melting, and producers all across the province will soon be out seeding this year's crop and preparing to put livestock out into the pasture. So in the spirit of planting seeds for a great harvest, I rise in the Assembly today to recognize Agriculture Safety Week.

Every year, an average of 14 people are killed on the job in our province's agricultural sector. One death is one too many. Every one of these deaths is a tragedy, and every one of these deaths affects families and communities all across our province. In addition to these deaths, many others suffer terrible injuries that affect them for the rest of their lives.

However, Mr. Speaker, nearly every agriculture injury is a preventable injury. By wearing the correct personal protective equipment, taking the time to locate buried and overhead power lines, and by being cautious and careful when operating farm machinery, we can ensure that all farming families and farm workers will be able to make it home safe at the end of a hard day's work.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in recognizing Agriculture Safety Week, and I hope that each member here today will do their part to ensure that, come harvest time, we will have zero deaths or injuries on our farms and ranches. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.