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CPMA committed to working with Canadian Government on NAFTA

May 18, 2017 — Ottawa: Today, United States Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer [notified Congress](#) that President Donald Trump intends to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Trade in fresh fruit and vegetables in North America is highly integrated across the entire supply chain. Open trade is critical to ensuring Canadians have access to fresh fruit and vegetables year-round, as well as ensuring growth and economic sustainability.

CPMA has already been actively consulting with industry, partners and governments to ensure the needs of the fresh fruit and vegetable sector are heard and considered during negotiations. The association is committed to working with the Canadian Government on this issue and will strongly represent the interests of the produce industry during any renegotiation process.

“CPMA supports an integrated North American market for fresh produce,” said Ron Lemaire, President of CPMA. “The North American Free Trade Agreement has been successful, with significant volumes of trade in produce flowing north and south across borders.”

In 2014, Canada imported \$8.1 billion in fresh produce, with the U.S. and Mexico being our largest suppliers. Canada exported \$2.1 billion in fresh produce in 2014, representing 52% of all Canadian production.

CPMA looks forward to working with our partners in Canada, the U.S. and Mexico on this issue to ensure an open and vibrant produce supply chain.

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About the Canadian Produce Marketing Association (CPMA):

Based in Ottawa, CPMA is a not-for-profit organization that represents companies that are active in the marketing of fresh fruit and vegetables in Canada from the farm gate to the dinner plate. CPMA's vision is to enable and lead the produce industry by enhancing the market and facilitating trade of fresh fruit and vegetables for its members. CPMA is proud to represent over 840 members who are responsible for 90% of fresh fruit and vegetable sales in Canada.