



PRESS RELEASE

CPMA Welcomes Signing of USMCA

November 30, 2018 (Ottawa, ON) – The Canadian Produce Marketing Association welcomes the signing of the new United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) today in Buenos Aires, Argentina. CPMA has been actively involved in the negotiations of the USMCA and has worked closely with negotiators since formal negotiations were launched in summer 2017.

“The North American fresh fruit and vegetable industry is a highly integrated and complex system that works to provide Canadians with affordable fresh produce all year round. The USMCA will provide long-term certainty for both industry and consumers in all three countries,” said CPMA President Ron Lemaire. “On behalf of CPMA and its members, I would like to thank the Prime Minister, Minister Freeland and Minister MacAulay for their steadfast support of the fresh produce industry during these negotiations. The USMCA will increase trade, provide business stability and bolster our North American competitiveness for generations to come.”

CPMA is pleased with many elements found in the new USMCA such as the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Chapter, the Competitiveness Chapter, the maintenance of binational panels to resolve disputes on duties, world-leading provisions on biotechnology, and the formalization of the bilateral Consultative Committees on Agriculture.

CPMA strongly urges all three countries to ratify the agreement as soon as possible and will be monitoring the ratification process closely.

-30-

For more information, please contact:

Troy Sherman
Manager, Policy
Canadian Produce Marketing Association
Tel: 613-226-4187 x227 | Cell: 613-218-0301
Email: tsherman@cpma.ca

About the Canadian Produce Marketing Association (CPMA):

Based in Ottawa, Ontario, CPMA is a not-for-profit organization that represents a diverse membership made up of every segment of the produce industry supply chain who are responsible for 90% of the fresh fruit and vegetable sales in Canada. CPMA is fortunate to represent a sector that is both a significant economic driver for communities and that also improves the health and productivity of Canadians.