

JOINT AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECTOR PLATFORM RECOMMENDATIONS

Farmers and ranchers, the backbone of our economy, are facing an uphill battle against the threats of tariffs from our most important trading partner, the United States, escalating challenges linked to frequent and severe weather events, growing labour disruptions, and an erosion of support for science-based decision making. These challenges threaten Canada's ability to remain a reliable supplier of agriculture and agri-food products, while also serving as an important contributor to Canada's employment (1 in 9 jobs) and gross domestic product (\$150 billion).

To help address these challenges and seize the opportunities in front of Canada's agriculture and agri-food sector, the undersigned organizations recommend the following joint platform recommendations. While each agricultural stakeholder has their own set of priorities which speak to their specific interests, all of the undersigned are united behind the following measures aimed at addressing some of the broader issues facing the competitiveness and vitality of the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector.

1. Ensure that agriculture and agri-food is considered a national priority by amending the [Cabinet Directive on Regulation](#) to mandate that regulations established under key government regulators like the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) reflect the economic and competitiveness interests of Canadian producers, while safeguarding the health and safety of Canadians and the Canadian environment. Immediate consideration should also be given to realigning reporting relationships and responsibilities to ensure they rest with the government department and/or agency best positioned to support these objectives of interest to Canadian agriculture.

In addition, the PMRA and CFIA need to be adequately resourced through a long-term commitment to fulfill core functions that impact these objectives. These include the PMRA's fulfillment of pre-market applications, re-evaluations, minor use registrations, as well as the water monitoring program which are critical activities to support the efficacy and credibility of PMRA decision-making on an ongoing basis. This also includes the CFIA's capacity to provide robust oversight including increased inspections performed in a timely and effective way, mitigation of animal disease outbreaks, enforcement of Canadian labelling and advertising requirements (including compositional standards) to ensure consumer protection, and capacity to guarantee timely feed additive approvals aligned with those of our international partners.

2. Ensure the competitiveness of the agriculture and agri-food sector by removing the tax for on-farm fuels for which producers have no alternative, immediately repealing the Competition Act's new explicit provisions targeting misleading environmental benefit claims (greenwashing) that were introduced under Bill C-59 and consult with industry on

future actions in this area. These amendments have the potential to negatively impact investment and innovation in the Canadian marketplace.

3. Support farm succession in Canada by increasing the Lifetime Capital Gains Exemption (LCGE) on qualified farm property to reflect the significant rise in farm asset values that has occurred since the LCGE was last adjusted in 2015, recognizing the recent commitment to increase the LCGE to \$1.25M fails to adequately account for the significant rise in farm asset values during this period. Permanently reverse the capital gains inclusion rate increase that is on pause until January 2026 for farmers.
4. Ensure that Canada's trade and domestic transportation infrastructure is world-class by recapitalizing and extending the National Trade Corridor Fund to assist in upgrading aging infrastructure while at the same time prioritizing infrastructure investments that support our capacity to realize timely market objectives in the face of growing uncertainty with our most important trade partner.
5. Immediately launch consultations with industry representatives and implicated stakeholders to explore options to address the root causes of labour disruptions and prevent the increasing frequency and severity of labour disruptions that are destabilizing the Canadian economy and undermining Canada's reputation as a reliable trading partner.

