

CANADIAN AGRI-FOOD TRADE ALLIANCE

About CAFTA

- CAFTA is the voice of Canadian agriculture and agri-food exporters.
- Our members represent farmers, processors and exporters from the major trade dependent sectors including; beef, pork, grains, oilseed, sugar, pulse, soy and malt sectors. Together, we account for **80%** of Canada's agriculture and agri-food exports, about **\$50 billion dollars** in exports and an economic activity that supports **hundreds of thousand of jobs** across the country.

Key Messages

- Being competitive in international markets is a requirement.
- The Canadian agri-food sector depends on trade: over half of everything we produce is exported: 50% of our beef, 70% of our pork, 75% of our wheat, 90% of our canola and 40 % of our processed food products.
 - 90% of farmers depend on international markets
 - 1 in 2 jobs in crop production depend on exports, and 1 in 4 jobs in food manufacturing; Export opportunities help us grow: over the last 10 years in Canada, agriculture and agri-food exports have grown by 77% to over \$56 billion - boosting farm cash receipts by 46% over the same period.
- In the current environment of trade liberalization, the competitiveness of our sector depends on the timely negotiation and implementation of trade access to the markets that our competitors are after.
 - Canadian agriculture cannot afford to relive the devastating losses endured with South Korea when a billion dollar market was cut in half virtually overnight as our competitors (US and Australia) had their tariffs eliminated and we didn't.

2 Trade Priorities

Transpacific Partnership: it is paramount that Canada ratifies the TPP quickly.

- CAFTA strongly supports the TPP and believes it is integral to the future viability of Canada's export-based agriculture sector.
- The TPP region absorbs 65% of our exports, includes some of our major traditional markets (the US, Mexico, Japan) but also includes some of our largest competitors (the US, Mexico and Australia) – and some signatories already have FTAs with each other.
- Ultimately, if we are not part of the TPP and other signatories are, we fall behind.
- The best chance to implement the agreement quickly is to ratify quickly.

Canada-Europe free trade agreement(CETA): we strongly encourage the completion of the respective legal and political processes of the CETA while simultaneously completing technical discussions so that the stated benefits of the agreement can be realized in the form of commercially viable access for all Canadian exporters.

- CAFTA has expressed strong support for the CETA, as it has the potential to result in significant benefits for Canadian agri-food exporters, this assuming that negotiated outcomes provide for commercially viable access for CAFTA members. Outstanding technical issues to allow real access to the EU remain and we are also confident that the Canadian government is working hard to resolve them issues before the CETA is implemented. Our support for the implementation of CETA will be evaluated based on the extent to which the negotiated outcomes result in commercially viable market access for Canadian agri-food exporters.