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## NCFA Election Position Statement

### Competitive Regulatory Environment

The federal government must create a regulatory environment that provides opportunities for a competitive and sustainable Canadian beef industry and does not serve as an impediment to growth.

#### Background

- The Canadian beef sector generates \$6.8 billion annually in income. This vibrant industry is a result of innovative and sophisticated production technologies that result in some of the most affordable, nutritious, and safest beef in the world.
- However, certain aspects of the present federal regulatory environment put the Canadian beef sector at a disadvantage to our U.S. and international competitors.
- Many regulations do not reflect the realities of the day-to-day operations within the industry, nor do they keep pace with ongoing innovations within the sector.
- In addition, these regulations are often inconsistently enforced, creating a difficult business environment that impacts Canada's ability to compete on a level playing field with its trading partners.

#### NCFA Position

- The NCFA supports the efforts of the Canada-U.S. Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC) to increase cooperation and align regulations between Canada and the U.S., which will ease the flow of goods across the border. RCC initiatives of particular importance to the NCFA include a harmonized Canada-U.S. regulatory system for veterinary drug approvals, agreement on protocols on zoning for foreign animal disease, and electronic certification to reduce the cost and time burden on exporters while speeding the pace of commerce between Canada and the U.S.
- Proposed amendments to Canadian animal transportation requirements do not reflect the time realities of transporting live animals from Western Canada to Eastern Canada, and may create risks to animal health and welfare while significantly increasing transportation costs.
- Inconsistent inspection and enforcement of animal identification requirements results in confusion for cattle feeders, transporters, and receivers.

#### Candidate Question

What are your ideas for creating a regulatory environment that provides opportunities and not impediments to a competitive agriculture sector?