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June 6, 2022

Mr. Chris Forbes, Deputy Minister  
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada  
1341 Baseline Road Tower 7, Floor 9, Room 349  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0C5

VIA EMAIL: [chris.forbes@canada.ca](mailto:chris.forbes@canada.ca)

Dear Mr. Forbes:

On behalf of the National Cattle Feeders' Association (NCFA), I want to thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to meet with us to discuss mutual priorities. It is clear you understand the issues facing the beef sector and are committed to working in partnership to advance our industry.

As discussed at our meeting, NCFA acknowledges that Minister Bibeau's mandate letter includes "incorporating climate risk management, environmental practices, and climate readiness into Business Risk Management (BRM) programming." However, we strongly urge the government to re-consider the severe impacts of this approach to BRM programs—programs that are intended to support farmers in times of crisis. In addition, we ask you to lead government in a deliberate effort to fully understand and recognize the industry-led voluntary actions to address climate change and environment. NCFA remains committed to working with you and your officials in considering an alternate approach to achieving the same objective.

NCFA also offers its support to AAFC efforts that seek to improve Agri-Stability, particularly in the areas of timeliness and adjusting the current cap to reflect rising costs, and to improving the Livestock Price Insurance Program (LPIP).

Also as discussed, NCFA supports innovative solutions and new technologies that can assist our industry in advancing government priorities. By way of example, innovations like the 3-NOP feed additive (Bovaer) are now coming to market and hold potential to reduce methane emissions by 30% in dairy cattle and up to 90% in beef cattle. A more modern and forward-looking regulatory pathway would allow the agriculture sector to fully contribute to the government's climate change goals. We hope you will be a champion across government to allow innovation to be embraced by the agriculture and agri-food industry.

Of final note, NCFA firmly believes that ground beef and pork should be exempt from Health Canada's proposed "front-of-pack" labelling regulations. Ground beef is an affordable, nutritious, convenient staple for Canadian families. Beyond this reality, the proposed regulations could sow seeds of confusion about healthy food choices by increasing consumption of ultra-processed foods (not requiring a label) and decreasing the intake of single ingredient protein foods (requiring a label). We respectfully request that you discuss these concerns with your counterpart at Health Canada and advocate for the sector that AAFC serves.

Thank you again for taking the time to meet. NCFA looks forward to an ongoing positive working relationship and building together on the continued success to the Canadian agriculture and agri-food industry.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Tranberg", written in a cursive style.

Janice Tranberg  
President & CEO