



#6, 11010 – 46th Street SE
Calgary, AB T2C 1G4
Tel 403-769-1519
Fax 403-209-3255

October 3, 2023

Standing Committee of Agriculture and Agri-Food
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of the National Cattle Feeders' Association (NCFA), we express our full support for the passage of Bill C-275 through Parliament. We appreciate the Committee's work on this important piece of legislation and encourage a timely review.

Government must seek ways to support Canadian farmers who are facing unprecedented challenges with extreme weather, supply chain delays and increased input costs. Bill C-275 is a simple yet impactful way the government can demonstrate meaningful support for the agriculture sector.

Bill C-275 is an essential and overdue tool to ensure farmers can raise healthy animals and produce safe food knowing protection is in place to address unauthorized individuals trespassing onto their farms. Today's agriculture operations are characterized by sophisticated, rigorously upheld biosecurity protocols and unauthorized intrusions pose a significant threat. Such breaches can potentially expose animals to catastrophic diseases or hazardous substances, with far-reaching consequences.

On cattle feedlots, the feed and water sources are precisely managed, measured and controlled and the introduction of contaminants can have severe impacts. The controlled movement of livestock between enclosures is executed with precision, while rigorous protocols are followed in the cleaning of barns, equipment, attire and footwear. Furthermore, comprehensive manure management programs are in place. Visitor access is carefully controlled through maintaining records of the movement of people, animals and equipment onto and off of the premises. These measures are indispensable for the well-being of livestock, the integrity of our food supply, and are pivotal in facilitating efficient traceability in the event of a disease outbreak.

Canadian farmers are proud of their operations and welcome the opportunity to showcase their work in a manner that respects the required safety protocols. It is essential to recognize that Canadian farms are fundamentally places of business, deserving of legislative protection.

NCFA encourages the Committee to review Bill C-275 in a timely manner such that this legislation can be in place to protect Canadian farmers as soon as possible.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Canada's cattle industry.

Sincerely,

Will Lowe
Chair

The NCFA serves as the national voice for cattle feeders across Canada. Together with government, NCFA is committed to harnessing opportunities for growth, sustainability and competitiveness of cattle production across Canada.