



2025 REPORT

National Cattle Feeders' Association (NCFA)

Tariffs, no tariffs, tariffs, no tariffs. Trade irritants have been a dark cloud over this year, but cattle feeders have persevered despite difficult weather, supply chain barriers, industry strikes and labour shortages. These challenges unfolded in the context of a federal and several provincial elections and international unrest.

NCFA continues to collaborate closely with the federal government and industry partners to develop practical, science-based, and timely solutions that address the evolving needs of Canada's fed cattle sector. Through this ongoing work, NCFA has helped reduce regulatory and trade barriers, enhanced policy alignment, and leveraged new opportunities to strengthen growth, innovation, and long-term competitiveness for Canadian cattle feeders.



Brad Deleeuw, NCFA Chair

KEY RESULTS

In collaboration with our industry partners, NCFA has delivered value to Canadian fed cattle producers. NCFA action on key issues in 2025 include:

- Successfully lobbied to increase the Agri-Stability cap from \$3 million to \$6 million for the 2025 program year. NCFA will continue to advocate for further and more permanent increases to the cap.
- Strongly advocated the Canadian government on the impact of tariffs and counter-tariffs on the cattle sector.
- Closely inputted into Canada's strategy for the 2026 CUSMA review.
- Successfully ensured the Advanced Payment Plan limit did not revert to the original \$100,000.
- Successfully lobbied the federal government for extended tax deferral of livestock compensation received as part of the tuberculosis investigations.
- Secured an exemption for agriculture and agri-Food from a sweeping removal of interprovincial trade barriers.
- Co-led industry FMD drills and ensured feedlots were represented in the development of FMD vaccination response plans.
- Held the government to account for the completion of the SRM scientific report stage.
- Secured exemptions for agriculture and agri-food from several far-reaching TFWP changes.
- Succeeded in confirming a government commitment to remove cyclical re-evaluations of pesticides by PMRA.
- Influenced government's commitment to increase funding for Agri-marketing, trade diversification and digitalization of CFIA processes.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

NCFA is persistently engaged with key federal decision-makers in an effort to positively impact policy, regulations and legislation. Federal engagement in 2025 included:

- Ongoing engagement with MPs, Senators, political staff and senior government officials.
- Feedlot tours for Ministers, MPs, Senators and senior government officials.

- Active advocacy into federal election platforms and campaign.
- Appearances and/or written submissions to:
 - The House of Commons Agriculture Committee
 - The Senate Agriculture Committee
 - The House of Commons Trade Committee
- Pre-budget submission to the federal government.
- Numerous submissions to the federal government on priorities including trade, labour, traceability, red-tape reduction, greenwashing, country of origin labelling, antimicrobial resistance, biogas, BRMs and innovation.
- The annual NCFA Lobby Day in Ottawa featured over 45 meetings with MPs, Senators or political staff. In addition, Lobby Day included meeting with the Minister and Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food as well as the President of the CFIA.
- Actively advocating through social media to influence government and public opinion – In the past year gained 221 new X followers and had 27,234 post impressions.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND COLLABORATION

NCFA and its members identify the issues that are of greatest importance to fed cattle producers and ensure we are a lead voice in Ottawa on those priorities. We partner with other national organizations to provide a key perspective to government on issues that cut-across the beef value chain or across the entire agriculture sector. Collectively, NCFA provincial members strengthen our national voice through coordinated advocacy efforts in regions across Canada. NCFA attended several provincial member AGMs in 2025 and look forward to attending more in 2026.

NCFA believes that industry collaboration—multiple voices speaking with consistent, coherent, and complimentary messages—strengthens Canada’s beef industry. NCFA is a member of key organizations including:

- Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance (Vice-Chair)
- Animal Health Canada
- Canadian Agriculture Human Resource Council
- Agriculture Carbon Alliance
- Canadian Biogas Alliance

In addition, NCFA participates on numerous working groups across a wide range of issues including FMD preparedness, traceability and labour, as well as chairing the government-industry Animal Protein Table, and memberships in the Canadian Biogas Association and Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef.

NCFA also engages in international forums, with a focus on the US. These include PNWER, SARL, the Tri-Lateral Agriculture Accord, the World Organization for Animal Health and two 2025 advocacy missions to Washington.

And finally, the NCFA Board renewed the association’s strategic plan for 2026-2031.

The National Cattle Feeders’ Association (NCFA) serves as a unified voice for Canada’s fed cattle producers. We work to improve the growth and competitiveness of the beef sector in Canada. Our membership is comprised of provincial beef organizations from Canada’s major cattle feeding regions.