



THE PRIORITIES OF CANADIAN AGRI-FOOD EXPORTERS

REALIZING **CANADA'S EXPORT POTENTIAL** IN AN UNPREDICTABLE AND FIERCELY COMPETITIVE WORLD

In preparation for the upcoming federal election, the Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance (CAFTA), representing Canada's agri-food exporters, prepared recommendations to enable agri-food exports to continue setting records and bring jobs and prosperity to communities across the country.

In 2018, Canadian agri-food exports reached a record high of \$59.3 billion. Despite this strong performance, there is still room for further growth. That is why the Government set to grow Canada's agri-food exports to at least \$75 billion annually by 2025. However, given the unprecedented uncertainty and aggressive protectionism, the need for Canada to intensify its trade diversification efforts has never been greater. In a world where trade is increasingly linked to geopolitical and global events, a strategy to ensure trade agreements enable free and fair trade is more important than ever. A summary of CAFTA's key recommendations are:

1. **Preserve and Enhance Access in Key Export Markets**

- Ratify **CUSMA** as quickly as possible to ensure the stability of trade in North America
- Promote the proper implementation of the **CPTPP** to ensure that rules are respected
- Expedite discussions with Europe to remove non-tariff barriers affecting meat, durum wheat and biotech exports so the **CETA** can deliver commercially viable access for Canadian exporters

2. **Create New Export Opportunities**

- Bring additional countries into the CPTPP such as **South Korea, Thailand and Indonesia**
- Fostering positive, long-term and mutually beneficial relationships with **China**
- Launch FTA talks with **ASEAN, UK**

3. **Support Rules-Based Trade and the Global Trading System**

- Support efforts to reform and modernize the **WTO** so that it remains an effective organization at the forefront of the global trading system
- Ensure that regulatory measure don't impede trade and encourage greater harmonization, adherence to international standards and better processes for the agri-food trade

4. **Prioritize Canada's Trade Objectives**

- Focus on trade negotiations that hold the greatest promise for Canadian businesses



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