

## Canada's Agri-Food Exporters Urge Swift Ratification of CUSMA

**December 10, 2019** – Dan Darling, President of the Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance (CAFTA) today issued the following statement regarding the Canada-US-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) negotiations:

"CAFTA welcomes the announcement that negotiations have concluded on updating the CUSMA.

"We look forward to receiving confirmation that the changes don't negatively impact our members.

"Since the initial negotiations concluded well over a year ago, the prolonged discussions required to secure support in the U.S. Congress have undermined business certainty.

"We applaud the leaders of all three countries in re-negotiating a comprehensive and high-standard agreement that will ensure North America continues to create jobs and opportunities for people in all three countries, and takes our free trade platform to the next level.

"With the negotiations now concluded, all three parties must complete their ratification processes without further delay. It's time to restore predictability and certainty to North American trade."

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CAFTA is the voice of Canadian agriculture and agri-food exporters, representing the 90% of farmers who depend on trade and the ranchers, producers, processors and agri-food exporters who want to grow the economy through better access to international markets. This includes the beef, pork, meat, grains, cereals, pulses, soybeans, canola as well as the sugar, malt, and processed food industries. The sectors CAFTA represents 90 per cent of Canada's agri-food exports and support over a million jobs in urban and rural communities across Canada.

For further information, please contact: Claire Citeau Executive Director T: 613-560-0500 / C: 613-266-9104 cciteau@cafta.org