

For Immediate Release



## Canadian Agri-food exporters welcome launch of process for UK to join CPTPP

Ottawa, ON - June 2, 2021 – Dan Darling, President of the Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance (CAFTA) today issued the statement below regarding the official launch of accession talks for the United Kingdom (UK) to join the Comprehensive Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

“Canadian agri-food exporters have long welcomed the idea that the CPTPP pact would continue to grow provided new members agree to the high level of ambition this agreement has achieved.

“The UK is one of Canada’s key trading partners in the Atlantic. We welcome the launch of the negotiations of the UK’s accession to the CPTPP. This demonstrates a commitment to free, open and rules based trade.

“We look forward to providing inputs into the bilateral aspect of the accession process so that we can continue to deepen and strengthen Canada-UK trade and investment ties.

“In addition to the CPTPP, we will continue to urge both Canada and the UK to launch permanent, comprehensive bilateral free trade talks without delay.

“Trade can be a powerful force in driving post-pandemic recovery and these developments are good news for those who understand clearly that the best way to create jobs, economic growth and prosperity around the world is by eliminating trade barriers in all their forms and by having a rules-based trade at the centre of the global economy.”

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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.*

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