



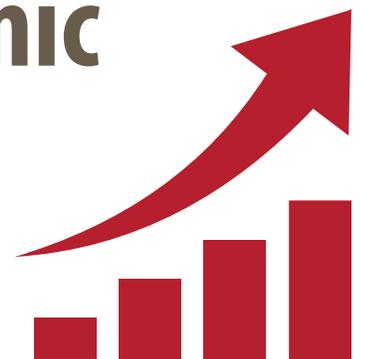
CAFTA Canadian Agri-Food
Trade Alliance



CAFTA'S 2022 PRIORITIES



Putting Agri-Food Trade at the Centre of Canada's Economic Growth Strategy



Agricultural trade can deliver gains for people, the planet and the economy.



Background

While the unfortunate reality of COVID-19 has caused international trade to take a backseat to pandemic fighting, we believe it must once again be at the top of Canada's economic recovery agenda.

However, agri-food issues remain very much in the news and on the public agenda due to ongoing supply chain and logistics challenges as well as inflation that is at a 20-year high.

Against this backdrop is an opportunity to show how free and open trade benefits consumers, supports global food safety and sustainable food systems while also protecting jobs and supporting overall economic recovery. Throughout 2022, CAFTA will continue to show Canadian policy- and decision-

makers as well as Canadian consumers that open borders and open markets is the best way to keep food plentiful and prices stable in Canada and around the world.

Agricultural trade can deliver gains for people, the planet and the economy. At the forefront of science, innovation and sustainability, farmers and food manufacturers need a robust, rules-based trading system to deliver better outcomes on agricultural trade.

The following **3 priorities** have been developed with the current 2022 context in mind.

1

1. Open new markets for Canadian agri-food. Key to these efforts will include:

- Immediately launch and prioritize trade talks with the UK, Indonesia and ASEAN that secure commercially meaningful access for Canada's export-oriented agri-food products.

2

Canada should also seek to ensure that future trade negotiations recognize the importance of effective implementation so that negotiated outcomes translate into real growth opportunities. There are too many examples of deals not delivering on promises.

2. Uphold the Rules-Based Trading System

- Conduct a review of Canada's major free trade agreements to make sure FTAs are implemented properly, promoted and enforced and ensure that negotiated outcomes for agri-food are being maximized, including the CETA.
- Increase Canada's leadership at the WTO through the Ottawa Group and key WTO Committees to advance key priorities such as ambitious outcomes for agriculture at MC12 and resuming the function of the Appellate Body.
- Work with trading partners to ensure existing and new regulatory measures avoid impeding trade in the areas of food safety, animal welfare and protection of the environment, and continue to engage at the international level, through Codex Alimentarius, World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and FAO to support greater regulatory cooperation, transparency and harmonization of standards.

3

3. Strengthen Trade Diplomacy Capacity and Industry-Government Collaboration in order to improve accountability, transparency, prevent market access issues and advance solutions:

- Enhance Canada's advocacy capacity within the trade and diplomatic network so that officials promote the science, innovation and sustainability behind Canada's world-class agri-food and defend a rules-based, science-based trading system. Enhancing this capacity is key to strengthening Canada's diversification in key fast-growing markets such as the Indo-Pacific region.
- Create new mechanisms for proactive dialogue and information sharing to prevent regulatory misalignment from creating trade barriers and ensure swift coordinated responses. For example, launch a high level Industry-Government dialogue to meet quarterly and identify ongoing trade challenges in current markets and develop strategies to address future risks.