



October 8, 2024

Honourable Matt Jones  
Minister of Jobs, Economy, and Trade  
Government of Alberta

Re: Bill C-282 and its impact on Alberta Trade

Dear Minister Jones,

On behalf of Alberta Beef Producers, Alberta Pork, and the Alberta Cattle Feeders' Association and Team Alberta Crops, I am writing to express our deep concern regarding federal Bill C-282, **An Act to amend the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Act (Supply Management)**. This bill not only prioritizes the economic interests of one specific sector but has the potential to severely harm all other export-driven industries across Canada, especially here in Alberta.

While proponents of Bill C-282, including the Bloc Québécois, claim it is designed to protect farmers, the reality is that it will protect only a select few. Bill C-282 will hurt the 90% of farmers who depend on trade. By forbidding our international trade negotiators from discussing Canada's supply-managed sectors—dairy, poultry, and eggs—during trade talks, this legislation risks marginalizing the broader agriculture industry. Trade is essential to agriculture's success. In 2023 alone, Alberta exported \$17.9 billion in agriculture and agri-food products, with more than 50% of Alberta's beef and a significant portion of Alberta's pork, grain, pulse, honey and oilseed production destined for international markets. Restricting negotiators from leveraging the entire agriculture sector during trade talks weakens their ability to secure beneficial trade deals for all of Canada.

C-282 is disastrous trade policy for a diversified province like Alberta, and for the country as a whole, which depends heavily on export markets. It creates a dangerous precedent that could further undermine global free trade. With the upcoming review of the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) in 2026, the limitations imposed by Bill C-282 will severely weaken Canada's position at the negotiating table. Compounding this concern is the looming U.S. election, where trade policies are likely to be under intense scrutiny.

Moreover, this bill fosters a protectionist sentiment that will undermine Canada's leadership role in global forums such as the World Trade Organization (WTO), where we have long been advocates for free and fair trade.

We urge you to pressure your federal counterparts to recognize the far-reaching consequences this bill could have, not just on Alberta's agriculture industry but on Canada's broader economic interests. Furthermore, we respectfully request that you advocate to appear before

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the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee to voice Alberta's concerns and protect the livelihoods of those who rely on agricultural trade.

Our nation's prosperity depends on sound, forward-thinking trade policies, not on a private member's bill that risks politicizing and limiting our international competitiveness. We hope you will help ensure that common sense prevails and that the 60% of Canada's economy reliant on trade with the U.S. is not jeopardized by this deeply flawed bill.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue. We look forward to your support in safeguarding Alberta's and Canada's agricultural future.

Sincerely,



Brodie Haugan  
Chair, Alberta Beef Producers



Curtis Miedema  
Chair, Alberta Beekeepers



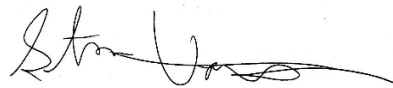
Roger Chevaux  
Chair, Alberta Canola Producers Commission



Keith Gregory  
Chair, Alberta Cattle Feeders' Association



Tara Sawyer  
Chair, Alberta Grains



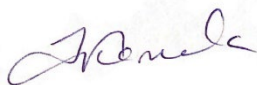
Stan Vanessen  
Chair, Alberta Pork



Shane Strydhorst  
Chair, Alberta Pulse Growers



Gary Tokariuk  
Chair, Alberta Sugar Beets Growers



Tracy Niemela  
Chair, Alberta & BC Seed Growers



James Bareman  
Chair, Potato Growers of Alberta

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Cc:

Premier Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta

Honourable R.J Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation

Senator Paula Simons, Deputy Chair of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Forestry