



Canadian
Chamber of
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du Canada

Because
Business
Matters. Parce que les
affaires sont
importantes.

June 21, 2021

Honourable Marc Garneau, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Foreign Affairs
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, ON K1A 0G2

Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
1341 Baseline Road
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5

Dear Ministers:

We are writing to you on behalf of thousands of businesses of all sizes in the agriculture and agri-food sector ahead of the United Nations Food Systems Summit in September 2021. Despite COVID-19 pandemic placing stress on the food system, the Canadian agriculture and agri-food supply chain has remained resilient and will be a driver of Canada's economic recovery.

The Summit represents an opportunity to promote Canada's agricultural leadership on issues such as food security, climate change resiliency, and supply chains. With this in mind, we urge the federal government to be ambitious in its goals for the Summit given the outcome could shape the international food system for the next decade.

It is important to seek goals that prioritize maintaining the economic competitiveness of the agriculture and agri-food industry. This can be done with a particular focus on innovation, trade, sustainability, and regulatory matters.

Additionally, we should use the Summit to highlight Canadian best practices. For example, while agriculture accounts for approximately 23% of emissions globally, it only accounts for 8% of Canadian emissions according to Environment and Climate Change Canada. We need to be strategic in demonstrating the different pathways to achieve sustainability since the attempt by some countries to set a one-size-fits-all for the agriculture and agri-food sector could do more harm than good in the fight against climate change. At the same time, our global partners can learn from our leadership that having a vibrant agriculture and agri-food sector is compatible with environmental sustainability through a commitment to innovation.

In the months leading up to the Summit, close collaboration between industry and government is vital. This must include the whole of the agriculture and agri-food supply chain: input manufacturing, transportation, science and research, producers, and processors. Each are part of the solution to meeting Canada's food security, economic, and export goals, as well as global food security targets.

Industry stands ready to actively partner with the government to develop Canada's positions for the Food Systems Summit and champion our agriculture success stories.

Sincerely,

Honourable Perrin Beatty, P.C., O.C.
President and Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Chamber of Commerce

Brian Treacy
Government and Industry Affairs Lead – Crop
Science Division
Bayer Inc.

Gordon McKenzie
President and Chief Executive Officer
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Allen Foster
Vice President, Bulk, Sales and Marketing
Canadian National Railway

Pierre Petelle
President and Chief Executive Officer
CropLife Canada

Karen Proud
President and Chief Executive Officer
Fertilizer Canada

Mark Thompson
Executive Vice President, Chief Strategy and
Sustainability Officer
Nutrien

W.L. (Bill) Greuel
Chief Executive Officer
Protein Industries Canada

Christian Buhagiar
President and Chief Executive Officer
Supply Chain Canada

Trevor Heck
President
Syngenta Canada

Simon Jolette-Riopel
General Manager
Timac Agro Canada

Scott Bolton
President and Chief Executive Officer
UFA Co-operative Ltd.