



ADVANCING ALBERTA'S CROPPING SECTOR TO 2025 AND BEYOND

CANADA'S AGRI-FOOD VISION FOR 2025 is to

Increase agri-food exports to at least \$75 billion by 2025

Alberta's crop sector can help the Government of Canada accomplish this goal toward global competitiveness.

BUILDING OUR PATH TOWARD GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS



Access to existing and innovative farming tools

Continuous and aggressive investment and adoption of new innovation in agriculture, driven by constant support for rigorous scientific research, will be key to unleashing the economic potential and retaining competitiveness of the Canadian agriculture sector including:

- A regulatory system that is timely, predictable, and effective, ensuring objective science and risk-based decisions.
- Recognizing the impact at the farm gate of pesticide re-evaluations and regulations that impede accessibility to modern and innovative tools such as new breeding techniques, pesticides and fertilizers.
- Understanding that these tools allow farmers to be more efficient, grow more with less, and operate in a sustainable manner while keeping the cost of food affordable for Canadians.



Improved access to key markets

Alberta's grain farmers, like most of Canada's agricultural sector, rely on export markets. For our farmers to stay globally competitive we need the Federal Government's support for:

- Real improvements to Canada's rail capacity, including investments in hopper cars and other infrastructure that represent a net increase in capacity.
- Multi-lateral agreements like USMCA, CPTPP, and CETA, as well as bi-lateral pacts with countries like China, which are key to levelling the playing field between Canada and our competitors.
- A trade agenda that resolves non-tariff barriers and attempts harmonization of biotech, pesticides and phytosanitary regulations which restrict access to foreign markets.



Regulations that support the variable nature of farming

Our farmers operate in an environment of thin margins and high capital requirements while being at the mercy of markets and weather. This causes thin margins and high income variability. We rely on a pro-growth regulatory environment:

- Accelerated Capital Depreciation, as announced in the Fall 2018 Fiscal Update, will ease the burden of purchasing new farm equipment.
- Regulatory reform stemming from the Regulatory Review process could address a number of inefficiencies which hamper growth.

Reform in the operating and/or funding models of the CFIA, PMRA, and CGC are needed to ensure these organizations effectively support Canada's reputation as a safe and reliable exporter of food.

THE ALBERTA CROPPING SECTOR IS WELL ON TRACK TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE GOAL OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

With the federal government's support, farmers will continue to have access to the necessary tools to ensure the growth and competitiveness of the agricultural sector and the **sustainability of the Canadian family farm to 2025 and beyond.**

OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

Alberta has one of the world's most productive agricultural economies with **a total farm area of 50.5 million acres**, producing approximately 20 million tonnes of wheat, barley, canola, and pulses (peas, beans, lentils, etc.) every year.

Over the past 10 years, Alberta's exports of unprocessed agricultural products rose **158% to \$5.5 billion.**

Alberta has an expanded value-added agricultural products sector. In 2015, sales of Alberta's processed food and beverage (agri-food) industry reached a record **\$14.6 billion** making it Alberta's top manufacturing industry on a revenue basis.

The grain and oilseed milling sub-sector in Alberta exported **\$1 billion in 2015, a 90% increase from 2005.**

In 2016, Alberta farm cash receipts **totaled \$13.5 billion** accounting for **19.7%** of national crop receipts.



The cropping sector in Alberta employs **20,500**, up **10%** from 2015.

Alberta cropping sector exports totaled **\$3.9 billion** with total national agri-food export total of **\$56 billion** to key markets such as the US, China, the EU, Japan, Indonesia, Mexico, India.

The four crop commissions invested over **\$5.2 million** in farmer funded agricultural research in 2016.

TEAM ALBERTA

Team Alberta is a collaborative initiative led by the province's four crop commissions. Our commissions are producer elected, directed and funded organizations established to represent the interests of our producers across the province.



**Alberta
Barley**



Alberta Barley and Wheat Commissions:
Shannon Sereda, Government Relations
and Policy Manager
ssereda@albertawheatbarley.com | 587-899-5299

Alberta Canola Producers Commission:
Karla Bergstrom, Manager
Government and Industry Affairs
karla@albertacanola.com | 780-454-0844

Alberta Pulse Growers:
Nevin Rosaasen, Policy and Program Specialist
nrosaasen@pulse.ab.ca | 780-986-9398