



TEAMALBERTA

ADVANCING ALBERTA'S CROP SECTOR TO 2025 AND BEYOND

August 16, 2022

Honourable Nate Horner
Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and
Rural Economic Development
Office of the Minister
131 Legislature Building
10800 -97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Horner,

On behalf of Team Alberta Crops and the thousands of producers we represent, we write to express our gratitude for your strong advocacy on behalf of our industry throughout the recent federal, provincial, and territorial meetings and the preliminary agreement reached for the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP).

From our Team Alberta Crops meeting with you in April, to the subsequent industry roundtable held during Stampede and the ongoing consultation through the industry – government Business Risk Management (BRM) Working Group, we are grateful for your commitment to engaging with our groups on this important topic.

Throughout these consultations it was reassuring to learn how closely aligned your Ministry's views are with those of Team Alberta Crops on the various issues related to the next policy framework. SCAP includes the most critical set of programs to help Canadian farmers remain competitive and feed the world. We remain concerned about the planned introduction of environmental requirements into the business risk management programs and are closely monitoring how they will impact farmers' goals of sustainable food production. We are pleased with the overall increase in funding and ongoing support for existing programs.

As valued stakeholders we are pleased to provide the feedback below on SCAP.

- AgriInsurance is the most critical, responsive, and reliable risk management tool that crop sector farmers have available to them and we are pleased that this program will remain intact.
- Our group was pleased to see the increase to the funding including the allocation for the Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP). We gladly offer to help facilitate farmer input for program development. RALP will be a critical component to ensure farmers can achieve production, growth and competitiveness challenges while also working toward environmental objectives.
- We understand that there will be a review of potential environmental cross-compliance into business risk management (BRM) programs – while we appreciate the extension to ensure practicality – as leaders in sustainable global food production, Canada's emission reduction targets must not impede the ability of farmers to access critical BRM programs and manage uncontrollable risk to their production and future viability.
- We share your frustration regarding the lack of consultation and flexibility for fertilizer emission reduction targets and how policy implementation could seriously damage our industry. We look forward to working with you and your Ministry on a strategy that can best mitigate this harmful policy.

Page 1 of 2



**Alberta
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- We're pleased to see the government's acknowledgement of the importance of the health and population numbers of bees in Canada, and the value that the beekeeping industry adds to the crop sector from an environmental and economic perspective. In addition, the timely access to healthy, safe, and reliable honey bee stock is critical to ensuring Canada's ability to support valuable crop pollination activities and contribute to domestic and global food security. We were also pleased to hear of the government's commitment to work together on the safe import of honey bees.

We look forward to continuing to dialogue as the SCAP and other programs are developed for Alberta farmers. Thank you for the work you and your staff do to advocate and support Alberta farmers.

Sincerely yours,

Team Alberta Crops

Tara Sawyer, Chair, Alberta Barley

Jeremy Olthof, Chair, Alberta Beekeepers Commission

Roger Chevaux, Chair, Alberta Canola Producers Commission

Robert Semeniuk, Chair, Alberta Pulse Growers

Tracy Niemela, Chair, Alberta-British Columbia Seed Growers

Gary Tokariuk, Chair, Alberta Sugar Beet Growers

Greg Sears, Chair, Alberta Wheat Commission

James Bareman, Chair, Potato Growers of Alberta



Alberta Barley

