

2021 FEDERAL ELECTION

# CANADIAN DAIRY FARMING AT-A-GLANCE



Every day, thousands of dairy farmers work hard in communities across this great nation, so that Canadians can have access to safe, nutritious foods produced right here within our own borders.

Across Canada, more than **10,000** dairy farms:



Contribute **\$16B** annually towards Canada's GDP



Generate more than **\$2.9B** per year in taxes for all three levels of government



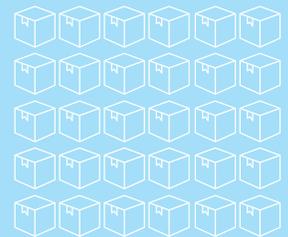
Support more than **178,000** full-time equivalent jobs in communities big and small, from coast to coast

## Dairy Farmers are Here for Canadians

Since the start of the pandemic, dairy farmers and processors have donated more than

**\$10 MILLION**

worth of dairy products to support Canadians in need.



## A Global Leader in Sustainable Farming

Canadian dairy farmers are naturally committed to sustainability and the environment, from the land and animals to which they tend, to the water and air we all share.

From 1990-2016, the carbon footprint of a litre of Canadian milk decreased by

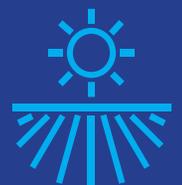
↓↓↓↓↓  
**23%**

The carbon footprint associated with producing a litre of milk is less than **1/2** the global average.

Since 2011, the Canadian dairy sector is responsible for using:

↓ **6%**  
**LESS**  
WATER

↓ **11%**  
**LESS**  
LAND



Dairy farmers are presently phasing in the Environment module of our proAction program, with full implementation slated for **September 2021**. This marks a major milestone in dairy farmers' ongoing commitment to environmental innovation.



Dairy Farmers of Canada is working in collaboration with Trees Canada to plant **25,000** trees in 2021 as part of the Government's 2 billion trees initiative – and plans to contribute even more in the future.

# HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT CANADIAN DAIRY FARMERS

## International Trade

Since 2015, the government has sacrificed Canadian dairy farm families to secure entry into consecutive trade agreements with the European Union (CETA), the Asia-Pacific Region (CPTPP), and the U.S. and Mexico (CUSMA). By 2024, 18% of our domestic dairy production will be outsourced to foreign producers, who will supply the milk for imported dairy products that replace those made with Canadian milk on our store shelves.

### Priority 1: Mitigation for CUSMA

Dairy farmers are waiting for the government to fulfil its commitments towards mitigation measures for the concessions granted in CUSMA. Full and fair mitigation, in the form of direct compensation, is essential to ensuring competitiveness against the influx of dairy products containing milk from foreign producers.

**ASK: The next government must follow through on its promise to provide full and fair direct compensation for the impacts of CUSMA.**

### Priority 2: U.S. Challenge on Dairy Tariff Rate Quotas

The U.S. government has launched a trade challenge regarding the way the Canadian government distributes its dairy Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQs) for CUSMA. TRQs determine who can import a pre-determined amount of dairy products at preferential tariff rates, generally duty-free.

Canadian dairy farmers stand firmly with the federal government – Canada has the right to allocate and administer its own TRQs in accordance with its obligations under CUSMA.

**ASK: The next government must protect and defend its sovereign right to determine its own domestic policies, such as those impacting supply management, including TRQ allocation under CUSMA.**

### Priority 3: No More Market Access Concessions

All political parties with a seat in the House of Commons have committed that no further concessions to the Canadian domestic dairy market will be granted in any new trade agreements. This must be the norm going forward.

The transitional free trade agreement between Canada and the United Kingdom, announced in December 2020, did not include any additional dairy market access concessions. However, negotiations for a permanent agreement are ongoing, and the U.K. has recently launched its accession process to join the CPTPP.

**ASK: The next government must not grant any additional access to the domestic dairy market including a permanent free trade agreement with the UK, and ensure trading partners are not granted access to our domestic market through multiple trade agreements.**

## Priority 4: Strengthening Border Enforcement

The expected increase in imports entering Canada as a result of recent trade agreements means that it will be more important than ever to ensure that the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) and Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) have the tools they need to adequately monitor and enforce Canada's dairy regulations and standards at the border. This means ensuring they have the resourcing to conduct inspections to validate these products at the border, and audits of foreign farms and processing plants to ensure all imported products are produced according to Canadian production standards.



**ASK: The next government must ensure that the CFIA and the CBSA are both provided with the resources and training they need to adequately enforce dairy regulations and production standards.**

## Sustainability

Dairy farmers are already playing a significant role towards reducing the impacts of climate change through various sustainability initiatives, such as the proAction® program, and investments in farm infrastructure and research. Dairy farmers from across Canada are committed to continuing to reduce their carbon footprint and would benefit from the additional support and partnership of government.

## Priority 5: Supporting Green Technology on Farms

Given the often-high costs of green technology at the farm level (biodigesters, for example), government initiatives supporting the implementation of such technologies must receive adequate and ongoing funding.

**ASK: The next government must provide existing and future sustainability programs with sufficient and ongoing funding to support the continued introduction and adoption of clean energy and green technology on farms.**

# The Future of the Canadian Dairy Sector

Dairy farmers make an important contribution to our domestic food security, drive jobs and investment in the Canadian economy, and are the backbone of communities across this great nation.

With the support of Canadians and the right policy environment, we can continue to foster a strong, healthy and vibrant dairy farming sector well into the future.



## Priority 6: The Dairy Vision Working Group

Following the dairy concessions granted in CUSMA, the government committed to the creation of a vision working group to chart a path forward, allowing the dairy sector to continue to innovate and remain an important source of jobs and economic growth for future generations.

**ASK: The next government must commit to undertaking and completing the dairy sector visioning exercise with all supply chain actors.**

## Priority 7: Grocery Retail Code of Conduct

Grocery retailing in Canada is highly concentrated – a handful of big players have a disproportionate level of influence over the dairy supply chain and are able to dictate the rules of the game in their relationship with processors. Suppliers are often subject to arbitrary fees and penalties, on top of long-standing practices of unreasonable listing and product placement fees.

**ASK: The next federal government must work in conjunction with its provincial counterparts to implement a grocery retail code of conduct.**

For more information



[dairyfarmersofcanada.ca](http://dairyfarmersofcanada.ca)



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