

Minister
of Agriculture and
Agri-Food



Ministre
de l'Agriculture et de
l'Agroalimentaire

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0C5

On behalf of the Government of Canada, congratulations to the Canadian Animal Health Institute (CAHI) on 50 years of helping to keep Canadian agriculture strong and healthy.

Over the past half-century, the animal health industry has not only advanced the health and welfare of production animals, but it also made strides to improve human health, the environment, and the Canadian economy. As someone who was in the dairy business, I know the value of healthy and productive animals to our farm businesses, our communities, and our economy. Today, Canada's livestock industry drives our economy with more than \$20 billion in meat sales and over \$8 billion in exports.

CAHI continues to take a leadership role in building public trust through its work in areas such as antimicrobial stewardship in animals. Your continued focus on innovation is keeping Canada's livestock industry on the cutting edge in a highly competitive global market.

Canada's livestock industry has a proud past and a bright future. Over the next three decades, global demand for protein is expected to double, and our livestock industry has the quality product to meet that demand. Our government has set a goal of at least \$75 billion in agriculture and food exports by 2025, and a strong animal industry will be fundamental to that effort. Our ambitious trade agenda includes trade agreements and missions to gain access for our products in key markets. Canada's trading partners can be confident our animal agriculture relies on world-class genetics and health practices that are second to none, with regulations that are transparent and science-based.

To help our industry continue to lead, the federal government, provinces and territories are investing \$3 billion over five years in the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. The Partnership puts a strong emphasis on the priorities of our livestock industry—science, trade, and sustainability—helping us to meet growing demand for protein, while protecting the planet. The Partnership is also the first framework to address the importance of public trust in agriculture—a key priority for CAHI—helping the sector to inform Canadians about its work caring for animals and the environment.

Collaboration will continue to be vital to our success. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada works closely with CAHI, as well as with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Health Canada, the Canadian Centre for Veterinary Biologics, and the Canadian Animal Health Product Regulatory Advisory Committee. This constructive relationship has provided many gains for farmers, food processors, and consumers and will help Canada to play a constructive role in helping to feed the world with sustainable food, while increasing prosperity for Canadians.

I wish you productive discussions as you gather in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Congratulations to the past and present leadership of CAHI, and to all of your members, for reaching this milestone.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lawrence MacAulay".

Lawrence MacAulay, PC, MP

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