





March 17, 2022

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada 80 Wellington Street
OTTAWA ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

Export and import supply chains have been disrupted by the pandemic, floods in British Columbia, cold weather, rail service issues, illegal blockades, port congestion, and now Russia's brutal war of aggression on Ukraine. Price shocks and significant financial pressures continue to occur and Canada's reputation as a reliable supplier has been damaged.

We are now faced with the potential of a labour disruption, which could shut down the Canadian Pacific network and disrupt the movement of a broad range of goods. We already have heard significant concerns from several sectors such as grain, livestock, forestry, potash, and oil and gas regarding the potential impact of a strike or lockout. A disruption of this magnitude, stacked on an already stressed system, would be severe.

This is also a critical time of the year for crop producers and fertilizer shortages resulting from a strike or lock-out would jeopardize primary production. A rail disruption would also further stress livestock producers who are relying on imported feed from the United States, as a result of the drought conditions experienced this past summer. Any of these additional adverse impacts on feed supplies would, in a matter of days, result in significant animal welfare issues, affecting millions of head of cattle across western Canada. Crop and livestock production and the associated value-added processing is critical to prairie economies.

To avoid further escalating an already suffering supply chain, we ask that the Government of Canada take immediate and effective measures to ensure that service on Canadian Pacific's critical rail network resumes as quickly as possible, if a strike or lock-out were to occur.

We would also like to meet to discuss longer-term measures (such as railways being deemed an essential service, like longshoremen after strikes in the 1990's) to avoid future disruptions on Canadian railways, which can have a crippling impact not only on agricultural producers but also on Canada's and the world's food supply.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Heather Stefanson

Premier of Manitoba

Scott Moe

Premier of Saskatchewan

Jason Kenney

Premier of Alberta

cc: Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance

Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities

Honourable Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Labour

Honourable Omar Alghabra, Minister of Transport

Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

Honourable Mary Ng, Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and **Economic Development**

Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Natural Resources

Honourable Cliff Cullen, Deputy Premier and Minister of Economic Development, Investment and Trade (MB)

Honourable Cameron Friesen, Minister of Finance (MB)

Honourable Scott Fielding, Minister of Natural Resources and Northern Development (MB)

Honourable Reg Helwer, Minister of Labour, Consumer Protection and Government Services (MB)

Honourable Derek Johnson, Minister of Agriculture (MB)

Honourable Doyle Piwniuk, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure (MB)

Honourable Donna Harpauer, Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance (SK)

Honourable Don Morgan, Q.C., Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety (SK)

Honourable Jeremy Harrison, Minister of Trade and Export Development (SK)

Honourable David Marit, Minister of Agriculture (SK)

Honourable Bronwyn Eyre, Minister of Energy and Resources (SK)

Honourable Fred Bradshaw, Minister of Highways (SK)

Honourable Travis Toews, President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance (AB)

Honourable Sonya Savage, Minister of Energy (AB)

Honourable Kaycee Madu, Minister of Labour and Immigration (AB)

Honourable Nate Horner, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development (AB)

Honourable Doug Schweitzer, Minister of Jobs Economy and Innovation (AB)

Honourable Rayjan Sawhney, Minister of Transportation (AB)