

RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT ON INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR PRODUCE

Whereas the Governments of Canada, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Newfoundland and Labrador, the Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Nunavut resolve to:

PROMOTE an open, efficient, and stable domestic market for long-term job creation, economic growth, and stability;

REDUCE AND ELIMINATE, to the extent possible, barriers to the free movement of persons, goods, services, and investments within Canada;

Recognizing that federal requirements for grade inspections for apples, potatoes and quality inspections for blueberries that differ based on province of origin and destination represent a barrier to the inter-provincial trade of apples, potatoes and blueberries originating from these provinces;

Acknowledging that the proposed *Safe Food for Canadians Regulations* will modernize Canada's food safety regulatory regime and contribute to fair trading practices;

The Government of Canada *commits* to reconciling differing requirements for grade inspections for apples, potatoes and quality inspections for blueberries as follows.

1. Regulatory measures being reconciled:

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Regulations, Part III, Section 29

2. The obligations to achieve reconciliation (harmonization, mutual recognition, equivalency or such other method as the Parties may agree)

The *Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Regulations* will be repealed once the *Safe Food for Canadians Act* comes into force.

The *Safe Food for Canadians Regulations* will eliminate requirements for quality inspections for blueberries and requirements related to inspections for grade for apples and potatoes prior to conveyance from once province to another.

3. The extent to which the reconciliation agreement addressed the barrier identified.

Actions outlined in item 2 above will fully resolve existing barriers to the inter-provincial trade of apples, potatoes and blueberries that result from federal requirements for grade inspections for apples, potatoes and quality inspections for blueberries that differ based on province of origin and destination.

4. Timeline for implementation

Actions outlined in item 2 above will be implemented with the coming into force of the *Safe Food for Canadians Act*.

5. Process to address changes in circumstances

If a change in circumstance occurs whereby the Government of Canada wishes to introduce inspection requirements for quality or grade for apples, potatoes or blueberries in the future, the Government of Canada shall provide notice to the RCT including: (a) a description of the circumstance, (b) the impact on this reconciliation agreement, and (c) the measure(s) being considered to address the impact.

6. Signatures and Date

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "L. Lamondin June 15, 2018". The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Lyzette Lamondin
Executive Director
Food Safety and Consumer Protection Directorate
Canadian Food Inspection Agency**