

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**Renewed Optimism for Canadian Canola Exports to EU**

*Countries Agree to End Six-Year WTO Dispute over GM Canola*

**Winnipeg, Manitoba - July 17, 2009** Canada’s canola farmers are encouraged that the Government of Canada has resolved a six-year trade dispute preventing genetically modified canola seed from entering the EU. “While canola oil has had EU market access for several years, the July 15<sup>th</sup> announcement by Canada’s Ministers of International Trade and Agriculture and Agri-Food means that Canadian grown canola seed from approved varieties can now enter the EU,” says Brian Chorney, President of the Canadian Canola Growers Association.

With nearly 90% of Canada’s canola production being grown from genetically modified varieties, the EU market has been completely closed to Canada’s canola farmers until today. “We are optimistic that Canadian canola seed will begin entering the EU, especially for the biodiesel market,” says Chorney.

The commitment of the EU to continue an on-going dialogue with Canada about products of biotechnology is a positive step. “Ensuring market access for new technologies is essential to maintaining profitability and global competitiveness for Canada’s farmers,” says Chorney.

The Canadian Canola Growers Association represents more than 52,000 canola farmers on national and international issues that impact farm profitability.

- 30 -

**Contact:**

Kelly Green, Director, Communications  
Canadian Canola Growers Association  
Phone: 204.789.8821  
E-mail: [kellyg@ccga.ca](mailto:kellyg@ccga.ca)