

June 11, 2021

Senator
Senate of Canada
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A4

Re: Bill C-208

Dear Senator,

On behalf of Canadian Canola Growers Association (CCGA), I write to you today to express our support for Bill C-208, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (transfer of small business or family farm or fishing corporation) to be passed at Third Reading without amendment and receive Royal Assent.

CCGA represents 43,000 canola farmers from Ontario to British Columbia on national and international issues, policies, and programs that impact farm profitability. The canola industry is a strong contributor to Canada. It has been the number one source of farm revenue from crops for over a decade, contributes \$29.9 billion to the economy annually and provides for 207,000 Canadian jobs.

Bill C-208 seeks to allow the transfer of incorporated small businesses, family farms, and fishing operations to have the same tax rate when selling to another business in their family that is also incorporated, as when selling to a third party. As it stands now, it costs a farmer more in this circumstance to sell their business to a family member, than a third party.

CCGA views this bill as an opportunity to level the playing field, giving farmers equal opportunity to pass their businesses to the next generation while not compromising their retirement savings, and to build on the success and longevity of Canadian farm operations. As such we would welcome Bill C-208 to pass Third Reading without amendment and receive Royal Assent.

Continuity of farms are an integral part of maintaining Canada's strong food systems, our food security, and our ability to feed the world. According to a recent study by the Canadian Agricultural Human Resources Council (CAHRC), 39% of grains and oilseed farmers are expected to retire over the next 10 years.¹ Now is the time to make the changes necessary to help facilitate smooth farm transfers and keep family farms thriving.

CCGA encourages you to support this legislation and to help Canadian farmers keep the results of their lifetime work in their family, and contribute to lasting, thriving Canadian farms.

¹ Report. How Labour Challenges Will Shape the Future of the 'Grain and Oilseed' Industry: Agriculture Forecast to 2029. Canadian Agricultural Human Resources Council. 2019. <https://cahrc-ccrha.ca/programs/agrilm/commodity-data/grain-and-oilseed>

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Dave Carey
Vice President, Government and Industry Relations
Canadian Canola Growers Association