



CANADIAN AGRI-FOOD TRADE ALLIANCE
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ANNOUNCEMENT

CAFTA ANNUAL MEETING - TWO NEW MEMBERS, NEW VICE-PRESIDENT

Ottawa, October, 2005 - The Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance (CAFTA) is pleased to welcome two new members: Alberta Beef Producers and Sunterra Group. The two new members brings CAFTA's membership to 15 organizations and companies, increasing its producer, processor and exporter representation.

Alberta Beef Producers was established in 1969 at the request of five widely diverse farm groups (the Alberta Cattle Breeders Association, Alberta Dairymen's Association, Alberta Federation of Agriculture, Farmers Union of Alberta and the Western Stock Growers' Association.). Today Alberta Beef represents the interests of more than 35,000 beef producers in Canada's largest beef producing province - Alberta. Alberta Beef is represented on CAFTA's Board of Directors by its Chairman, Darcy Davis.

The Sunterra Group is a family owned operation that incorporates farming, processing and retailing. Sunterra Farms produces grains and livestock. Sunterra Farms crops about 13,000 acres of land, has beef feedlot capacity of about 45,000 head in 3 locations, and about 7,500 sows on farms in Alberta. Sunterra Meats operates federally inspected meat processing plants, and exports to the United States, Mexico and Japan. Sunterra Markets supply fresh food to consumers in 6 markets across Calgary and Edmonton. Sunterra is truly a Canadian success story, presently employing over 650 Canadians. It is represented on the CAFTA Board of Directors by Dave Price.

Like CAFTA's other 13 member organizations, these new members are highly dependent on international trade, and understand first hand the difficulties of operating in a market distorted by subsidies and access barriers," said CAFTA President Liam McCreery. "We are very pleased that they will be lending their expertise and experience, and their strong support of liberalized agriculture and food trade to our organization."

Liam McCreery, a cash crop producer from Oxford County Ontario was re-elected to serve another term as CAFTA's President, and Alanna Koch, a farmer director of Agricore United was elected to her first term as CAFTA's Vice President. "Alanna is a strong asset to CAFTA's leadership team," said Mr. McCreery. "As a western Canadian farmer and an elected director of Canada's largest farmer directed agri-business, she brings both a personal and business perspective to CAFTA. We are very lucky to have Alanna on board."

"I believe that trade liberalization provides one of the greatest opportunities for our industry with expanded market access and increased profitability," said Alanna Koch. "It's the long term trend towards more open trade and better trade rules that is so vital to the future growth and success of our agri-food industry. I am excited to be involved with CAFTA and and its work to make a strong case to negotiators and decision makers in Canada and internationally."

During the annual meeting, the CAFTA Board of Directors also reviewed and updated CAFTA's trade policy goals. The updated policy statement can be found on CAFTA's website at http://www.cafta.org/Doha_Goals_Oct_2005.pdf

www.cafta.org

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My Future is Global

CAFTA's 2005-06 Board of Directors is:

Liam McCreery, Cash Crop Producer Oxford County Ontario - President
Alanna Koch, Grain and Oilseed Producer, Saskatchewan - Vice President
Darcy Davis, Alberta Beef Producers
Ted Haney, Canada Beef Export Federation
Rick White, Canadian Canola Growers Association
Brad Wildeman, Canadian Cattlemen's Association
Jim Laws, Canadian Meat Council
Bob Broeska, Canadian Oilseed Processors Association
Sandra Marsden, Canadian Sugar Institute
Tyler Bjornson, Canola Council of Canada
Rob Meijer, Cargill Limited
Ellen-Mary Mills, Food and Consumer Products Canada
Christine Moran, Grain Growers of Canada
Phil deKemp, Malting Industry Association of Canada
Art Stirling, Pioneer Hi-Bred Limited
Dave Price, Sunterra Group

The Canadian Agri-Food Trade represents producers, processors and exporters of agriculture and agri-food products, as well as suppliers of agricultural inputs. Accounting for over 80% of Canada's agriculture and food exports, and more than 60% of farm cash receipts, CAFTA's members are united in their dependence on trade, and in their need for a liberalized international trading environment.

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