

NEWS FROM THE Hill

DECEMBER 2016

2017 PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATIONS WITH THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Standing Committee on Finance put out a call earlier this year to hear what priorities Canadians would like to see in the 2017 Budget in order to grow the Canadian economy. Based on our written submission made in August, Chicken Farmers of Canada was invited to appear as witnesses before the committee on October 26th. Past chair, Dave Janzen, and Executive Director, Mike Dungeat, presented on how fixing the major issues facing the chicken industry would positively impact the Canadian economy. Mr. Janzen told the committee that implementing our recommendations to stop illegal imports of chicken as spent fowl, to exclude chicken from the Duties Relief Program and to reinstate the sauce and cooking requirements into the Customs Tariff will create 4,456 new jobs, contribute an additional \$335 million to Canada's GDP, and generate \$112 million in additional taxes.

NEXT AGRICULTURAL POLICY FRAMEWORK CONSULTATIONS

Chicken Farmers of Canada has participated in all Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Next Agricultural Policy Framework consultations since June. In order to hear from all stakeholders, the House Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food invited Chicken Farmers of Canada to appear before the committee on November 15th. The presentation outlined the key priorities we are seeking from the next framework, which fall under the categories of public trust, innovation, and shared costs. We would like the next framework to incorporate a Federal/Provincial/Territorial recognition program for animal care, implement poultry research stations and scientists, increase cluster funding, and provide consistent funding by government of consumer and industry-driven initiatives.

VISIT TO R & J FRASER FARMS

Ottawa farmers Jonathan and Rob Fraser hosted MPs and staff for a tour of their chicken farm on November 14th. Visitors learned about the biosecurity measures in place on the farm, innovation in farming, and the importance of supply management to food safety and the economy.



Chicken Farmers of Canada Director David Hyink (right) joins fellow Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) members to meet with B.C. MP Joyce Murray (2nd from right) as part of CFA's annual Lobby Day.



Nova Scotia MP Mark Eyking puts on a mandatory biosecurity suit before entering the barn on the Chicken Farmers of Canada farm tour in Ottawa in November.



Farmer Rob points out the sophisticated feeding system to Nova Scotia MP Mark Eyking and Ontario MP Chandra Arya. The system ensures enough food is available for the chickens.



Quebec MP Ruth-Ellen Brosseau, Nova Scotia MP Mark Eyking, Ontario MP Francis Drouin, Ontario MP Chandra Arya and staffer Jonathan Gauvin look on as farmer Rob explains how feed is spread throughout the barn.



Chicken Farmers of Canada wishes you, your families, and your constituents all the joy of the holiday season, and a prosperous 2017!



For more information on our government relations program, please contact Lauren Kennedy at lkennedy@chicken.ca.

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