



TURKEY FARMERS  
OF CANADA®  
LES ÉLEVEURS DE DINDON  
DU CANADA<sup>MD</sup>

TURKEY FARMERS OF CANADA  
STATEMENT RE BUDGET 2019  
March 20, 2019

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Turkey Farmers of Canada is currently reviewing the relevant sections of the budget announcement as it relates specifically to the turkey industry.

On its face, this announcement effectively parallels the 2015 commitments that followed the initial TPP announcement. The impact of the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) on Canadian turkey farmers is not addressed in Budget 2019.

We are pleased that the government is understanding the significant challenges posed by recent trade agreements on our specific sector. However, there is a long way to go and much work to do, with respect to addressing the specific needs of the turkey industry, as turkey farmers and processors prepare to react to a 90% increase in imports.

We will continue to examine these details more closely in our future discussions with government in the Poultry Working Group, where discussions on commodity specific programming and CUSMA need to be of the highest priority.

It is more important now than ever for the government to commit to stop increasing market access in order to seal trade agreements. This and previous governments have made agreements that have cost our industry significantly in terms of production, jobs, and has also reduced the contribution of our sector to rural economies and the GDP.

Canadians want Canadian food and they trust Canadian farmers. In a recent Leger survey, over 88% Canadians said that they believe that it's important for the government to support Canada's dairy, poultry and egg farmers.

Supply management is a system that benefits farmers and consumers alike. It exists to ensure that its farmers receive a fair return for their products without government subsidies. As a result, Canadian consumers benefit from a consistent and stable supply of high quality, domestically produced food products.

TFC commits to working with the Government in the Poultry Working Group, in order to address the remaining outstanding matters facing the turkey industry as a result international trade agreements.

The turkey industry in Canada generates \$3.3 billion in economic activity annually, supporting over 14,000 jobs across rural and urban centres.