

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY FOR CANADA

DO YOU WANT A FOOD SYSTEM THAT IS SAFE AND NUTRITIOUS FOR YOUR FAMILY?

Here are some disturbing facts you should be aware of ...

- Family farms are disappearing. The wealth produced by family farms is being captured by large agribusiness corporations.
- Family farmers have to depend largely on off-farm income to survive.
- More and more off-shore food is allowed into this country to displace our food production.
- Often the off-shore food comes from countries which use export subsidies to capture new markets.
- Current border inspection protocols allow a significant percentage of imported food products to enter the country without inspection.
- Misleading labelling requirements often fool consumers into thinking they are buying a Canadian product, when in fact it may contain only a small percentage of Canadian ingredients, with the balance coming from offshore suppliers
- Recent statistics show there are 60% fewer young farmers under the age of 35 producing food for the consumer than there were 15 years ago.

While the consequences of these trends may not be obvious right now, there is no doubt we will pay the price in the years to come. Family farms have provided a solid foundation for the Canadian food system for many, many decades. Dare we risk losing that long-term foundation? Is imported "cheap" food really worth sacrificing our food sovereignty? With the likelihood of increasing transportation costs and continuing border closures and other trade conflicts, isn't it worth taking steps to ensure a healthy, nutritious food supply in Canada's future?

If you would like to help save the family farm in Canada, we invite you to clip the bottom of this flyer and send it to the federal Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. Gerry Ritz:

It is becoming increasingly apparent that the contribution of Canadian family farms is being undervalued when it comes to agriculture policy and the security and health of our national food supply. We strongly urge your government to adopt policies which promote environmentally-sustainable policies that restore economic justice for family farms in Canada.

Name (Print)

Signature

Full Address

We are the

NATIONAL FARMERS UNION ONTARIO



NFU members believe that the problems facing food sovereignty are common problems, and that farmers and the public must work together to advance effective solutions. The NFU works toward the development of economic and social policies that will maintain the family farm as the primary producing unit of safe, sustainable food in Canada

www.nfu.ca/on - Toll free: 1-888-273-5545 - email:nfuo@rideau.net

Facts on the Farm Income Crisis

- Well researched and supported briefs can be found on our website www.nfu.ca
They begin "The Farm Crisis...."

Other Issues we are working on

Locally - Local food systems, environmental initiatives, strong rural communities and sustainable local economies

Provincially - Fair food prices for both farmers and consumers, protecting food and water safety through regulation and accountability, affecting provincial agricultural policy

Nationally - as a regional member of the NFU - Maintaining farmer-run supply management and orderly marketing systems, as a member of **CBAN**, a national organization made up of groups from across Canada that are concerned about genetic engineering (www.cbac.ca), affecting federal agricultural policy.

Internationally - as a member of VIA CAMPESINA, a global movement that brings together organizations representing small- and medium-scale farmers, peasants, agricultural workers, rural women, and indigenous communities. www.viacampesina.org

Join us as an associate member ~ find out more ~ www.nfu.ca

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REQUIRED IF
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CANADA

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