



March 2, 2021

Hon. Omar Alghabra
Minister of Transport Canada
Omar.Alghabra@parl.gc.ca

Dear Minister Alghabra:

We the undersigned, representing Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP), the Alberta Federation of Agriculture (AFA) and the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS), are writing to call for changes to the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority that would improve its governance structure, enhance transparency and accountability and benefit those who rely on the port for market access.

The current governance structure, created 20 years ago by the Government of Canada for the port authorities, has not kept pace with changing economic conditions. Recommendations made in 2016 under the Transportation Act Review called for improvements to the organizational and governance structure of port authorities. However, these recommendations have not resulted in noticeable changes in the governance structure of the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority.

Canadian grain shipped through the Port of Vancouver in 2019 was the second-largest bulk export by weight. More than two-thirds of all exported western Canadian grain flow through the terminals operated by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority to reach overseas markets.

Grain sector representation on the Port Authority board of directors is logical due to the considerable amount of grain being shipped out of the Port of Vancouver. All stakeholders in the grain supply chain are responsible for the successful distribution of Canadian grain to the global marketplace.

KAP, AFA, and APAS recommend the Government of Canada implement the following changes:

- Allow Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba to jointly appoint two grain sector representatives to Port Authority board of directors.
- Address the perceived conflict of interest that occurs with the port management acting as both developer and regulator.
- Allow port users to challenge and appeal decisions made by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Campbell". The script is cursive and fluid.

Bill Campbell

President, Keystone Agricultural Producers

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Todd Lewis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Todd Lewis

President, Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Jacobson". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Lynn Jacobson

President, Alberta Federation of Agriculture

cc. Hon. Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food