

SEP 21 2017

Ms. Marilyn Braun-Pollon
Vice-President, Prairie and Agri-Business
Canadian Federation of Independent Business
2400 College Avenue, Suite 503
Regina, SK S4P 1C8

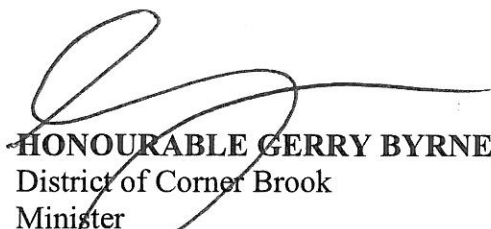
Dear Ms. Braun-Pollon:

Thank you for your correspondence outlining priority concerns with the next agricultural policy framework. I appreciate your comments and the views expressed by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) to help improve the agricultural business environment in Atlantic Canada.

With regards to the Newfoundland and Labrador Crown land issue raised by CFIB, I am pleased to inform you that my department has recently implemented measures to improve the timelines to obtain Crown land approvals. As well, Government recently identified an additional 64,000 hectares of agricultural areas of interest to increase the availability of agricultural land. These measures will certainly improve timelines and access to agricultural Crown land in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Thank you again for sharing input from your farm members.

Sincerely,



HONOURABLE GERRY BYRNE, MHA
District of Corner Brook
Minister

c: Ms. Lori Anne Companion
Mr. Keith Deering