



November 17, 2023

Senator Paula Simons
Senate of Canada

Re: Bill C-282

Dear Senator,

Are you familiar with Bill C-282? It is a bill introduced by the Bloc Quebecois that would protect supply management from any future trade agreement. I am writing to you today on behalf of Alberta's 18,000 beef producers. I would like to highlight the overarching implications the bill would have on Canada's ability to complete trade agreements in the future.

As you probably are aware, 63% of Canada's GDP is trade dependent. Bill C-282 would handcuff our trade negotiators (as Global Affairs Trade Negotiators have said previously) and Canada's economy at large.

Further, 70% of Canada's exports go to the USA. With a review of CUSMA coming up in 2026, we need to ensure we're doing everything we can to support Canadian business to export. This bill is not about supply management or agriculture—it is about trade and the bill sets a terrible trade precedent.

As beef producers, we take care of my environment and are a key contributor to Canada's economy. Trade is essential for producers to continue to produce beef, as is the same story for 90% of Canada's agriculture producers. But trade is not only important for the economy, it is also essential to global food security. Canada is a trading nation and is a supplier of agri-food to the world.

I urge you to stand up for the Canadian economy, and support small businesses like ours, so that we can continue to produce high-quality, sustainable beef for Canadians and consumers around the world.

Thank you,

Brodie Haugan
Chair, Alberta Beef Producers