

National Cattle Feeders' Association

The National Cattle Feeders' Association (NCFA) serves as a unified voice for Canada's fed cattle producers. Our membership is comprised of provincial beef organizations from Canada's major cattle feeding regions, each of which contributes funding to NCFA based on their province's proportionate share of total fed cattle production.

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Michel Daigle, NCFA Chair



Cattle at a feedlot in Ontario.

COVID-19

Without doubt, the year 2020 will go down as one of the most difficult and challenging years on record for the Canadian beef industry. The COVID-19 pandemic saw slow-downs and shut-downs in beef processing, which then caused 130,000 head of harvest-ready cattle to back-up on our feedlots and costing feeders \$500,000 each and every day.

This, coupled with a collapse in fed cattle prices that have yet to recover, has generated a staggering \$500 million loss for the nation's beef producers.

A collaborative effort with our beef industry stakeholders resulted in a policy response to help address the crisis, mitigate its effects, and get in place federal and provincial financial backstops to ensure industry liquidity:

- Serving on the COVID-19 Emergency Lead Team, Policy Response Team and Communications Team
- Agriculture and agri-food is deemed "essential" to keep cattle moving through the supply chain
- Foreign workers under TFWP and CUSMA can enter Canada despite border closures
- Up to \$85 million in federal-provincial Agri-Recovery secured for feed cost and Set Aside programs
- Up to \$50 million in federal support for costs of mandatory isolation under the TFWP
- Up to \$78 million in assistance to ensure health and safety of food processing workers
- Developing and distributing "Best Management Practices" to prevent on-farm COVID-19 infection
- Agri-Stability interim payments from 50 per cent to 75 per cent and extending the enrolment deadline
- Additional \$5 billion in loans available through Farm Credit Canada

