



FBC-ABC Members:

New for FBC-ABC Members - Monthly Political Round-up Call-in

As a new benefit to members, FBC-ABC will be hosting a monthly political round-up call-in. This will serve as an opportunity for FBC-ABC members and their staff to call in, receive an update on what's happening in Ottawa, and ask FBC-ABC's CEO any questions they may have on federal policy and FBC-ABC's advocacy.

The first call-in will take place on **Tuesday, December 5, 2023 from 1:00pm - 2:00pm EST** on Teams. We invite you to share this invite with any of your interested colleagues. To facilitate our planning, we ask that you please register by e-mailing [Kristina Farrell](mailto:kristina.farrell@fbc-abc.ca). A link for the meeting will be circulated to those that register. We ask that you please submit any preliminary questions you may have in advance to assist us in preparing.

Federal Court strikes down cabinet order labelling plastics toxic; federal government to appeal

On November 16, the Federal Court [struck down](#) the federal government's decision to add "plastic manufactured items" to the List of Toxic Substances in Schedule 1 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999. The ruling does not undo the government's ban but would require the federal regulations to be rolled back. The federal government has since announced that it will appeal the ruling. FBC-ABC will continue to monitor, in particular how this development may impact the federal governments related initiatives, such as the Pollution Prevention Planning Notice.

UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery request to meet with employers

The Commissioner for Employers, Nancy Healey, has reached out to the Temporary Foreign Worker Task Force, which FBC-ABC is a member of, to request suggestions of specific employers the UN Special Rapporteur should meet with in advance of his drafting of a final report on Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Program. As FBC-ABC members may recall, the September [interim report](#) acknowledged that the Special Rapporteur did not actually visit any farms or plants, nor did he meet with any employers. Please reach out to [Kristina Farrell](#) if your company would be willing to be put forward.

Prime Minister holds roundtable discussion on food affordability during trip to San Francisco

In a visit to San Francisco last week, the Prime Minister held a roundtable discussion on food affordability with both Canadian and American stakeholders. The fresh produce sector appeared to be prominent, with representatives from the International Fresh Produce Association and the Canadian Produce Marketing Association participating. A recording of the Prime Minister's opening remarks can be found [here](#) (English).

Governments of Canada and Ontario investing up to \$25M to boost efficiency in farming and food processing

This week, the governments of Canada and Ontario [announced](#) that they are investing up to \$25M through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP) to expand production capacity and boost energy efficiency in the agriculture and food sector. Through the Agri-Tech Innovation Initiative, funding will be provided to eligible farm and food processing businesses to help them invest in innovative technology, equipment or processes.

Fall 2023 Regulatory Review Progress Updates

Regulatory Review Progress Reports for Round 1 and 2, including on the Agri-Food and Aquaculture Regulatory Roadmap, have been [posted](#).
