



FBC-ABC Members:

Minister Champagne announces tripling of funding for Canada's Contributions Program for Non-profit Consumer and Voluntary Organizations to \$5M per year

This week, the Honourable Francois-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry **announced** \$5M per year in funding for Canada's Contributions Program for Non-profit Consumer and Voluntary Organizations, as well as new projects with consumer advocacy groups to "investigate and reveal price inflation and harmful business practices, such as shrinkflation and skimflation in the grocery sector". FBC-ABC is preparing messaging in response to this and would welcome input from members.

Canada's immigration Minister makes concerning comments on the Temporary Foreign Worker Program

This week saw the Honourable Marc Miller, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship make some concerning **remarks** to the media which suggested that the Temporary Foreign Worker Program is being used to drive down wages. FBC-ABC has reached out to the Minister's office, as well as Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship and Employment and Social Development Canada to express our concerns and discuss further, recognizing the detrimental impact of comments such as these.

Employment and Social Development Canada to engage industry on Budget 2022 commitment to implement a new foreign labour program for agriculture and fish processing

Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) officials have reached out to FBC-ABC regarding an engagement session they will soon be holding on a Budget 2022 commitment of \$48.2M over three years to implement a new foreign labour program for agriculture and fishing processing, tailored to the unique needs of employers and workers. If you are interested in participating in this meeting when scheduled, please reach out to [Kristina Farrell](#).

House Agriculture and Agri-Food Committee resumes study on Efforts to Stabilize Food Prices; identifies Issues Relating to the Horticultural Sector as next study

This week, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food held **two** meetings as part of its study on Efforts to Stabilize Food Prices. Witnesses have included representatives from the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, the Retail Council of Canada, and the Competition Bureau, among others. The Committee is now drafting instructions for a report, and has identified issues relating to the horticultural sector as its next study.

Government of Canada launches public engagement on the 2035 greenhouse gas emission reduction target

To help inform the government's work in setting Canada's 2035 national greenhouse gas emissions target, the Honourable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change is **inviting** Canadians to share their views on a public engagement platform until March 28, 2024. The input collected through this engagement process is one of several components that will be considered when setting the 2035 target.

Government announces two-year extension to ban on foreign ownership of Canadian housing

This week, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, **announced** the federal government's intent to extend by an additional two years the existing ban on foreign ownership of Canadian housing. The ban on foreign ownership of Canadian housing, which is currently set to expire on January 1, 2025, will be extended to January 1, 2027.