



## FBC-ABC Members:

### **House of Commons Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration to undertake study on Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP)**

The House of Commons Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration has [agreed](#) to undertake a study of closed work permits issued by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and their impact on temporary foreign workers and of the findings related to Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP) by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery. The Minister, alongside officials and other witnesses will be invited. FBC-ABC will be monitoring this closely.

### **Employment and Social Development Canada to begin consultations on legislation to help eradicate forced labour from Canadian supply chains**

As part of an announcement in Budget 2023, the Government intends to introduce legislation in 2024 to help eradicate forced labour from Canadian supply chains, and is now seeking feedback on more detailed aspects of supply chain legislation (including due diligence) and the import prohibition. The government has space for a limited number of participations for a full-day discussion scheduled for October 13, 2023 in Gatineau, Quebec, with an additional option to participate virtually. If you are interested in participating, please let Kristina know. FBC-ABC's Policy and Advocacy Committee will be providing written comments in response to a discussion document that will be circulated at a later date.

### **Government of Canada releases inspection numbers**

The Government recently [announced](#) that last fiscal year, over 2,100 ESDC inspections were completed. Of the employers inspected, 94% were ultimately found compliant, and 6% were found non-compliant. Moving forward, the Government intends to provide updates on TFWP compliance efforts on a semi-annual basis.

### **Update on the House of Commons Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food**

This week, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food began its study of [Bill C-275](#), An Act to amend the Health of Animals Act (biosecurity on farms). If passes, this enactment would amend the Health of Animals Act to make it an offence to enter, without lawful authority or excuse, a place in which animals are kept if doing so could result in the exposure of the animals to a disease or toxic substance that is capable of affecting or contaminating them. During a meeting to discuss committee business, the Committee agreed to hold one additional meeting on the study of animal biosecurity preparedness, and will soon undertake a study of the agricultural aspects of the Indo-Pacific Strategy.

### **Save the Date – FBC-ABC’s Annual Policy Breakfast**

FBC-ABC is happy to announce that it will again be holding its annual policy breakfast to coincide with Canadian Ag Day. This event will take place the morning of Tuesday, February 13 at the Shaw Centre, Ottawa. Further details and a formal save the date will follow. If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities or in learning more, please reach out to Kristina.

### **Minister Champagne reports on the initial commitments from the five largest grocers to stabilize food prices**

On October 5, the Honourable Francois-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry provided an [update](#) on work to stabilize food prices. First, he reported that initial commitments have been secured from the top five major grocery chains for actions such as discounts and price freezes. Second, the government will enhance the capacity of the Office of Consumer Affairs by establishing the Grocery Task Force, a team with a focus on the retail sector. Third, the government will continue its engagement on the Grocery Code of Conduct. Finally, the government will improve the availability and accessibility of data on food prices and cost breakdown through the Canadian agri-food supply chain. FBC-ABC's news release in response to this announcement can be found [here](#).