

**GRAIN GROWERS
OF CANADA**



**LES PRODUCTEURS
DE GRAINS DU CANADA**

January 26, 2010

The Honourable Carol Mitchell
MPP Heron-Bruce
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
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Members:

Alberta Barley
Commission

Alberta Grain
Commission

Alberta Oat Rye &
Triticale Association

Alberta Pulse Growers

Alberta Winter Wheat
Producers Commission

Atlantic Grains Council

British Columbia Grain
Producers Association

Canadian Canola
Growers Association

Manitoba Corn Growers
Association

Oat and Barley Council
of Ontario

Prairie Oat Growers
Association

Western Barley
Growers Association

Western Canadian
Wheat Growers
Association

Dear Hon. Carol Mitchell,

On behalf of the Grain Growers of Canada and the 80,000 farmers we represent, I would like to congratulate you on your appointment as Ontario's new Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. We are sure your experience as a Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Agriculture and Food will serve you well in your new portfolio.

In Ontario, we have as our active members both the Ontario Canola Growers and the Oat and Barley Council of Ontario. We are looking forward to working with you on issues like farm safety nets and the need for a thorough review of possible programs for the next suite of Business Risk Management Programs. We have done substantial research on past programs, both the good and bad, and have discovered that a whole farm revenue type program may be a key piece needed in the future.

Our farmer members have shared our research with Deputy Ministers from Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan and they have indicated they would support more federal analysis of the costs and benefits of this approach.

We are available for consultations at any time on this or any issue pertaining to agriculture and we hope you will choose to stay in close contact with us over your term as Minister.

In closing, we would like to wish the very best in your new portfolio, and hope that we will have many opportunities to work together.

Sincerely,

Richard Phillips
Executive Director
Grain Growers of Canada