



November 3, 2023

Honourable R.J. Sigurdson
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation
Government of Alberta

Re: Thank You for CADLA Support and Concerns with Implementation

Dear Minister Sigurdson,

I would like to start by thanking you for the support you have given to the beef industry with the Canada-Alberta Drought Livestock Assistance (CADLA) program. Beef producers had a difficult summer, and with limited business risk management support, many are struggling to make ends meet. The commitment of \$150 per head to helping these producers may not make their farms whole but will help these producers with the extraordinary costs they are facing this year.

With that in mind, I would like to highlight the need for some producers that were not supported in CADLA. This summer was unique in that rain showers were exceedingly patchy, meaning that producers only miles apart have very different moisture realities. In CADLA, county boundaries were used to determine drought impact, however, some people in those counties were not impacted by lack of rain. Similarly, many producers outside the established boundary experienced extreme drought.

Alberta Beef Producers has consistently advocated that any program be based on need and not single out any regions of the province. We have heard substantial frustration from all areas of the province left out of the current program, and there are beef producers in these regions who have had severe drought impact too.

For the program to benefit all producers in the same level of need, Alberta Beef Producers would like to see the government:

- 1) reassess moisture eligibility to be based on experienced extreme drought conditions rather than arbitrary lines, and,
- 2) increase the overall budget to allow eligible, drought-affected producers to maintain at least \$150 dollars per head.

Again, thank you for your commitment to the beef industry and rural communities. The continued support by you and your government is sincerely appreciated. We look forward


CADLA Support

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to future conversations with you and your government regarding changes to the Business Risk Management suite so that this AgriRecovery process is not necessary next time.

We look forward to your prompt response to producers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brodie Haugan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brodie Haugan
Chair, Alberta Beef Producers

cc: Jason Hale, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation