

February 20, 2024

The Honourable Mary Robinson, Senator The Senate Ottawa ON K1A 0A4

Sent via email - Mary.Robinson@sen.parl.gc.ca

Dear Senator Robinson,

On behalf of fresh fruit and vegetable farmers across Canada, allow us to express our warmest and most sincere congratulations on your appointment as Senator for Prince Edward Island.

As you know from our past collaborations, Fruit and Vegetable Growers of Canada is an Ottawa-based voluntary, not-for-profit, national association that represents fruit and vegetable farmers across Canada involved in the production of over 120 different types of crops on over 14,000 farms. Since 1922, FVGC has advocated on important issues that impact Canada's fruit and vegetable sector, promoting healthy, safe and sustainable food, and ensuring the continued success and growth of our industry.

Our sector represents a strong contribution to Canada's economy, and supplies jobs to Canadians from coast to coast. In order to continue supplying fresh, healthy and affordable food to Canadian families, and to remain competitive in the global market throughout this especially challenging time, our farmers' voices must be heard, understood, and acted upon.

FVGC welcomes the opportunity to work with you on issues of great importance to our members, including carbon tax exemptions and investments in sustainable technology, access to labour, financial protection, crop protection, and international trade, among many others.

FVGC values our strong relationship with many of your Senate colleagues. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you, at your earliest convenience, so that we may share with you our ideas and discuss our common goal of growing the fruit and vegetable sector. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jan VanderHout President Amy Argentino
Director of Operations