

Minister
of Agriculture and
Agri-Food



Ministre
de l'Agriculture et de
l'Agroalimentaire

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0C5

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Quote: 178869

Ms. Louisette Lanteigne
700 Star Flower Avenue
Waterloo, Ontario N2V 2L2

butterflybluelu@rogers.com

Dear Ms. Lanteigne:

Thank you for your email and the attached presentation "Waterloo Moraine and Risks of Aggregates to Canada's GDP, Water and Food Security." I appreciate being made aware of your interest in a national food strategy.

The Government of Canada recognizes the importance of the farmland that provides Canadians with basic human necessities like food and the key role that the agriculture sector plays in the Canadian economy. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is currently leading the development of a federal national food and farm strategy that will align and articulate a range of farm and food priorities. The security of the Canadian food system and the need for resilience in the face of changing environmental conditions within the agriculture sector are just a few of the issues that the framework will be seeking to address.

Our government is committed to helping the agriculture sector prosper while supporting best management practices on our agricultural lands, including helping producers manage water resources on their farms. In order to promote an environmentally responsible agriculture sector, our government, in partnership with provinces and territories, supports environmental farm planning programs to assist farmers in assessing the environmental risks and benefits on their farm and creating an action plan to address identified risks. Incentives are also available to facilitate the adoption of beneficial management practices by producers that address environmental risks on their farms. I would note that additional land-use policies and regulations fall within the jurisdiction of the provinces and territories.

I trust that this information is of assistance to you. Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Gerry Ritz, PC, MP

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