



Canadian Veterinary  
Medical Association  
Association canadienne  
des médecins vétérinaires

February 8, 2024

Mr. Paul MacKinnon  
President  
Canadian Food Inspection Agency  
Government of Canada  
[Paul.MacKinnon@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:Paul.MacKinnon@inspection.gc.ca)

Dear Mr. MacKinnon:

On behalf of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA), I am delighted to extend our warmest congratulations on your recent appointment as President of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), effective January 27, 2024.

Your career and dedication to public service have been commendable. We are excited about the prospect of a collaborative relationship with you as we work together to advance shared objectives in safeguarding the health and well-being of people, animals, and the environment in Canada, as well as ensuring food security and enabling international trade of animals and animal products.

While we have not had the opportunity to collaborate directly in the past, CVMA had an ongoing relationship with Dr. Kochhar in his capacity as CFIA President. We are eager to explore avenues of partnership and mutual support under your leadership at CFIA. The CVMA is committed to promoting excellence in veterinary medicine and advocating for [One Health](#): the highest standards of animal health and welfare, environmental health, and public health. The CVMA and all veterinarians across the country play a vital role in One Health, the delivery of a safe and secure food supply, and the stability of international trade of animals and animal products.

CVMA believes that through open dialogue and collaboration with our members and with the federal government, we can address the complex challenges facing our industry and contribute to the development of innovative solutions that benefit all Canadians. As you assume your new responsibilities, we extend our full support and encouragement. Your wealth of experience and leadership qualities will undoubtedly guide CFIA in its crucial mandate of protecting Canada's food supply, agriculture, and environment.

We look forward to the opportunity to meet with you and discuss potential areas of collaboration that align with our respective mandates and objectives. For more information on CVMA's current priorities for government, please see the attached document.

Once again, congratulations on your appointment, Mr. MacKinnon. We recognize there are large challenges to address, and we look forward to the opportunity to continue to work with the CFIA with you at the helm.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Trevor Lawson, DVM  
President CVMA



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