



TRI-NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL ACCORD ACUERDO AGROPECUARIO TRI-NACIONAL ACCORD TRINATIONAL SUR L'AGRICULTURE

33rd Annual Tri-National Agricultural Accord Communiqué

Provincial and state agricultural leaders from Canada and the United States (U.S.) met in Arlington, Virginia, U.S. for the 33rd meeting of the Tri-National Agricultural Accord. Delegates were warmly welcomed to the United States by Wes Ward, Arkansas Secretary of Agriculture.

The Canadian and U.S. delegations are disappointed that Mexican states were not represented at this year's Accord. Meaningful dialogue requires active, trilateral participation. As state and provincial agricultural leaders, we recognize that the strength of our relationship can drive improvement in agricultural trade within the North American agriculture sector. As we move forward, we are confident that the Accord will include active and collaborative participation between all three countries.

Delegates gathered in-person to discuss agricultural topics of mutual importance including animal disease, water and soil management, sustainable agriculture production, agriculture technology, and global trade policies, among others. Delegates highlighted the importance of agricultural outreach programs and encourage jurisdictions to seek opportunities for cross-border collaboration to leverage resources to better reach rural, indigenous and minority communities. Additional discussions addressed the need for further inclusion of underrepresented groups in agriculture; regulatory harmonization across North America; growing trade between states and provinces; transportation improvement; and the importance of predictable, science-based and evidence-based agricultural policies.

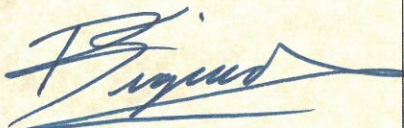
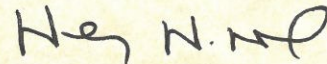
Delegates recognized the benefits of USMCA/CUSMA/T-MEC to enhance North American trade in agricultural products and emphasized the importance of the Agreement's 2026 review to further promote free trade across North America. This Accord also welcomed the participation of industry representatives from the agriculture and agri-food sector across North America. Representatives shared their perspectives and insights on current issues and barriers in the region, agricultural trade opportunities and challenges, as well as recommendations to ensure timely and effective cross-border trade and collaboration.

Delegates advocate that the three federal governments organize, fund, and conduct the first in a series of trilateral tabletop exercises in 2025 focused on the cross-border communication among federal, state and provincial agricultural leaders designed to mitigate untoward trade impacts in a scenario of an African Swine Fever outbreak as well as a scenario of a Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak. Delegates recognize that involvement of states, provinces, and industry in planning and execution of these exercises is critical.

Federal officials addressing delegates included Patrick Packnett, Acting Associate Administrator, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Michelle Cooper, Director General, Market Access Secretariat, International Affairs Branch, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada from Canada; and Carlos Vázquez, Minister for Agricultural Affairs, Embassy of Mexico.

The Accord has been a prominent agricultural assembly that cultivates strong and resilient relationships between states and provinces, and between industry representatives and the respective federal governments. The attached joint statement was agreed to by the Canadian and U.S. delegations.

In recognition of the importance of the Accord for the future and to continue strengthening our relationships, Mexican Association of Secretaries of Agriculture Development extended an invitation to the U.S. and Canada to attend the 34th meeting of the Tri-National Agricultural Accord in Morelia, Michoacán.

	
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation RJ Sigurdson Alberta	Secretary of Agriculture Wes Ward Arkansas