

# National Environmental Farm Plan Initiative

# Background

- First EFP was developed in Ontario in 1993 – now in all provinces and Yukon.
- Continuous improvement is contained within actions plans.
- Pressures to demonstrate sustainability.
- EFP as a non-commodity specific trusted tool for producers.
- Early on CFA developed a policy position on the EFP for the NPF to bring it to the next level.
- All provinces endorsed the scoping document “Towards a National EFP”
- Provinces update their EFPs at regular intervals and use it as a vehicle for cost-shared funding.



- November 1-2, 2016
- Excellent attendance across regions, EFP programs and value chains.
- Presentations highlighted the uniqueness of current EFPs, the use of EFPs in sustainability programs already in place and future opportunities.
- Results of a benchmarking study across EFP programs was released.
- Participants saw continued value in EFPs, supported the harmonization initiative, felt it would be useful to their organizations and called for the EFP to remain focused on the environment.
- There was overall strong support from producer groups of the National EFP.
- Plans to hold a second summit, tentatively Ottawa in early November 2017.

# Current Governance

- A coalition of the willing involving producer groups, governments, processors, ENGOs and others.
- A draft Terms of Reference will be presented for a NEFP SC at the next call.
- Committees have been launched:
  - Standards
  - Verification
  - Data Management
  - Communications

# Benefits of the NEFP

- A single standard
- Producer familiarity
- Pre-exists
- Existing coverage of many of the environmental aspects of existing sustainability programs
- Expandable
- Flexibility
- Regionally appropriate application

# Considerations

- EFPs will not be all things to all groups.
- Many decision points and many stakeholders.
- Achieving market acceptance.
- Maintaining strong producer support.
- Maintaining and expanding FPT investments.
- Addressing other sustainability aspects.
- How will the benefits and continuous improvement be demonstrated to both the agricultural sector and the public?

# Questions?

## NEFP Co-Chairs

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