



FERTILIZER CANADA
FERTILISANTS CANADA

907 – 350 Sparks, Ottawa ON K1R 7S8
T (613) 230-2600 | F (613) 230-5142

info@fertilizercanada.ca
fertilizercanada.ca | fertilisantscanada.ca

March 24, 2020

Dear Premier,

As Canadian governments continue to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic it has become necessary for some jurisdictions to enact bans on non-critical businesses. At this time, the governments of both Ontario and Quebec have published lists of essential workplaces, which are exempt from these bans.

We are asking your government to include the entire fertilizer supply chain, for both agricultural and lawn and garden fertilizer products as critical. This would include manufacturing, transportation, and agri-retail locations essential workplaces. We would recommend that your government use the Ontario list as an example of preventing the spread of COVID-19, while also ensuring Canada's agriculture industry can continue to operate.

Our member companies have implemented COVID-19 plans at manufacturing plants, storage terminals and agri-retail outlets across the country to protect employees and the public and to ensure farmers get the fertilizer they need in time for seeding. The agriculture sector is paramount to Canada's long-term goal of recovery, and the fertilizer industry is essential to the spring planting season's success, which is also directly related to global food security.

The Canadian supply chain is resilient and can manage through these challenges. However, our industry would be concerned about any restrictive measures that may have unintended consequences on rail, port, and truck service, or imports and operations at agri-retail. Your government must ensure that the Canadian border remains open to the movement of critical goods, like fertilizer, in order for farmers to receive their product and meet their spring seeding requirements.

Sincerely,

Garth Whyte
President & CEO, Fertilizer Canada