



BRITISH COLUMBIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Representing the Beef Cattle Industry of British Columbia

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April 25, 2025

Hon. Niki Sharma,
Attorney General of BC
PO BOX 9044, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca

BCCA File # 2025-010
Sent by Email

Dear Attorney General:

RE: Concerns with Bill 7 - Economic Stabilization (Tariff Response) Act

The BC Cattlemen's Association has been following the discussion and debate on proposed Bill 7. We understand that the intent of the Bill is to enable swift actions to protect the economy however, we have been concerned about the extensive authorities granted.

Fundamentally we are concerned that the use of Orders in Council do not allow opportunity for transparent debate. Democracy exists to ensure a diversity of perspectives is considered and that the will of the public—not just the Cabinet—is respected and upheld.

Bill 7 (Part 1) – Interprovincial Trade Barriers:

BCCA finds this to be the one part of the bill that we can support. Efforts to eliminate inter-provincial trade barriers would be beneficial.

Bill 7 (Part 2) – Procurement of Goods:

The procurement of goods or services by government and government entities is extremely broad and without limitations and opens the door to abusive powers without safeguards.

Bill 7 (Part 3) – Tolls, Fees and Charges:

Canada is a major agricultural trading partner to Mexico. The implementation of tolls and fees of US goods moving through British Columbia could trigger retaliatory tariffs on goods traded with Mexico. In addition, we are concerned that the scope of this legislation goes beyond tariff response and could be used to implement tolls affecting BC businesses.

The province's proposed Bill 7 enables an unprecedented overreach of governmental authority. The BC Cattlemen's Association calls on you to withdraw Bill 7 and recommit to transparency, accountability, and democratic principles for the benefit of all British Columbians.

Recommendations:

- **That the province withdraws Bill 7; and**
- **That the province introduces a new bill to eliminate interprovincial trade barriers.**

We request the opportunity to meet with you while we are in Victoria on May 6th for BC Beef Day. Please feel free to contact our General Manager, Kevin Boon at 250-320-3611, for further information or to arrange a meeting.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Stump', is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Werner Stump, President

cc: Hon. David Eby, Premier
John Rustad, MLA