

June 5, 2008

MEMORANDUM TO: All employees

In the fall of 2007, as part of the Government's new Expenditure Management System, the CFIA was one of 17 organizations that undertook a strategic review of its programs and put forward a series of proposals that identified where program spending could be reinvested more effectively.

Budget 2008 outlines the results of this review and savings realized are being used to help fund a major re-investment in Canada's Food Safety Action Plan. This will ensure that Canada better manages emerging health risks and ensure the quality and safety of products Canadians purchase.

As a result of this strategic review, certain program changes have been identified that will increase efficiency and effectiveness. They include:

- Reallocating funds from equipment purchases that are not required;
- Consolidating import document review with the creation of a single import service centre;
- Taking advantage of private sector innovation to strengthen oversight in the areas of pre-market label approval for meat and processed fruit and vegetable products, inspection of animal feed mills and the certification of commercial seed

These changes, which will be phased in gradually over the next few years, will better position the CFIA to meet Government priorities by providing programs and services that are streamlined and better focused on the Agency's core mandate. The health and safety of Canadians remain a top priority for the Agency and will continue to be supported under these initiatives.

The CFIA is strongly committed to the well being of all of its employees, and managers have already spoken with those who could be affected by these changes. The Agency will ensure that those whose jobs are affected by these initiatives are guaranteed a reasonable job offer within CFIA, as specified in the *Employment Transition Policy* and in related provisions of collective agreements and will work closely with bargaining agents during all stages of planning and implementation.

The Agency's senior management will provide more details as they become available and as we get closer to implementation. In the meantime, I encourage you to speak directly with your manager should you have any questions.

Carole Swan