



February 13, 2025

Honourable Senator Daryl Fridhandler  
Senate of Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A4

**RE: Bill C-293 An Act Respecting Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness**

Dear Senator Fridhandler,

On behalf of Lacombe County Council, I am writing you to express Council's concerns regarding *Bill C-293 An Act Respecting Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness*.

Recognizing the COVID-19 pandemic as a significant event that all Canadians had to endure, we can agree that governments need to plan more effectively for future pandemics and mitigate risks. However, we believe certain provisions within Bill C-293 require further examination and scrutiny, particularly regarding agricultural production.

The language provided in Section 3(2)(l) of Bill C-293 is of deep concern. Specifically, the Bill provides measures to "regulate commercial activities that can contribute to pandemic risk, including industrial animal agriculture", "promote commercial activities that can help reduce pandemic risk, including the production of alternative proteins", and "phase out commercial activities that disproportionately contribute to pandemic risk, including activities that involve high-risk species". Upon review, the verbiage of the Bill lacks the necessary detail required to fully understand the implications this Bill may have on livestock producers and Canada's food production system.

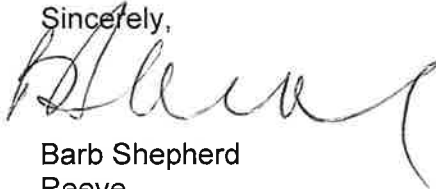
In addition, Bill C-293 also seems to overlook the existing biosecurity and food safety protocols required by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and provincial regulators. These existing checks and balances ensure that Canadian agricultural products are of the highest quality and among the safest in the world. This oversight in Bill C-293 raises concerns about additional and redundant regulation to Canada's agriculture sector should Bill C-293 proceed unchanged.

As currently written, Bill C-293 stands to severely impact Canada's agriculture industry, rural communities, and Canada's food security. Further, without clear definitions and guidelines, Bill C-293 is vague and open to interpretation which may result in unnecessary additional regulation

of Canada's agriculture industry and unintended consequences to Canada's economy and food security. Considering these concerns, we urge you and your fellow Senators to reconsider Bill C-293 in its current form.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We trust that you and your fellow Senators will approach this Bill with a balanced perspective ensuring that pandemic preparedness and agricultural sustainability are addressed in a fair and equitable manner.

Sincerely,



Barb Shepherd  
Reeve  
Lacombe County

Cc: The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agrifood Canada  
The Honourable R.J. Sigurdson, Alberta Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation  
The Honourable Jason Nixon, Alberta Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services  
Blaine Calkins, MP, Red Deer-Lacombe  
Jennifer Johnson, MLA, Lacombe-Ponoka  
Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee  
Alberta Agricultural Service Boards



February 13, 2025

Honourable Senator Patti LaBoucane-Benson  
Senate of Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A4

**RE: Bill C-293 An Act Respecting Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness**

Dear Senator LaBoucane-Benson,

On behalf of Lacombe County Council, I am writing you to express Council's concerns regarding Bill C-293 *An Act Respecting Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness*.

Recognizing the COVID-19 pandemic as a significant event that all Canadians had to endure, we can agree that governments need to plan more effectively for future pandemics and mitigate risks. However, we believe certain provisions within Bill C-293 require further examination and scrutiny, particularly regarding agricultural production.

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February 13, 2025

Honourable Senator Paula Simons  
Senate of Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A4

**RE: Bill C-293 An Act Respecting Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness**

Dear Senator Simons,

On behalf of Lacombe County Council, I am writing you to express Council's concerns regarding *Bill C-293 An Act Respecting Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness*.

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February 13, 2025

Honourable Senator Karen Sorensen  
Senate of Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A4

**RE: Bill C-293 An Act Respecting Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness**

Dear Senator Sorensen,

On behalf of Lacombe County Council, I am writing you to express Council's concerns regarding *Bill C-293 An Act Respecting Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness*.

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February 13, 2025

Honourable Senator Scott Tannas  
Senate of Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A4

**RE: Bill C-293 An Act Respecting Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness**

Dear Senator Tannas,

On behalf of Lacombe County Council, I am writing you to express Council's concerns regarding Bill C-293 *An Act Respecting Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness*.

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February 13, 2025

Honourable Senator Kristopher Wells  
Senate of Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A4

**RE: Bill C-293 An Act Respecting Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness**

Dear Senator Wells,

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