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## **For Immediate Release**

### **WTO Doha Round should not result in economic hardship for farmers**

Ottawa (June 19, 2007) – Canadian dairy, poultry and egg farm leaders will travel to Whistler, British Columbia during the upcoming federal-provincial-territorial meetings from June 26 to June 29, 2007, to rally further support for supply management from both levels of government.

Though it has long stated its support for Canada's supply management system, the federal government has effectively removed itself from the current round of agricultural trade negotiations at the World Trade Organization (WTO), contending that a unanimously approved 2005 House of Commons Motion limits its ability to negotiate.

“The motion represents an outcome objective, not a limiting mandate. Its spirit is to ensure that Canada achieves the necessary results at the WTO to maintain the viability of our Canadian supply management programs, and to ensure that our dairy, poultry and egg farmers do not suffer negative economic impacts,” says Jacques Laforge, President of Dairy Farmers of Canada.

Supply management producers firmly believe that these objectives are attainable. They encourage government representatives to fight for all of Canadian agriculture and find new ways to engage in the negotiations and deliver a result acceptable to all sectors.

“We have seen countries with less influence than Canada negotiate terms for their industries that have been incorporated into the working text at the WTO,” says David Fuller, Chairman of Chicken Farmers of Canada. “We know that our requirements are reasonable and attainable. The federal government must ensure that it avails itself of all possible means to achieve the desired outcome.”

Canadian dairy, poultry and egg producers are calling upon all provincial governments and all Members of Parliament to clearly indicate to the federal government that the outcome of WTO negotiations in agriculture can only be judged as successful if it brings about no economic losses to supply management industries.

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