

Agricultural Innovation Action Plan (2022 to 2024) Netherlands-British Columbia

The Province of British Columbia in Canada and the Government of the Netherlands have jointly agreed to build upon their 2019 Letter of Intent to strengthen cooperation on agricultural innovation through the signing of an Agricultural Innovation Action Plan (2022-2024).

Whereas the two jurisdictions have made progress to strengthen scientific cooperation and strategic partnerships with companies and broader industry, through events and ongoing dialogue since signing the Letter of Intent, this Action Plan identifies specific strategies to further cooperation between government, academia, companies and others in British Columbia and the Netherlands.

The focus of the Action Plan is to promote agricultural innovation, including agricultural technology ("agritech"), to increase food security and the productivity, resilience, diversification and sustainability of the sector and regional and global food systems.

To this end, the participants have agreed to the following:


1. Government-to-Government Dialogue

As jurisdictions with diverse agricultural industries and with great potential for the application of technology and innovation, the participants are committed to ongoing dialogue and cooperation to strengthen business opportunities, academic collaboration/innovation partnerships, investment attraction and industry success. Specifically, the participants are committed to:

- Regular dialogue and information sharing between the British Columbia and Netherlands governments on opportunities to develop and apply technologies in the agriculture and food sector.
- Active, mutual public promotion and celebration of British Columbia companies working alongside industry, academia and/or government to adopt Dutch technologies/innovations/initiatives and vice versa, through in-person and virtual events, media promotion, and other means.

2. Scientific Cooperation

The participants recognize the importance of academic institutions in driving innovative and evidence-based solutions for the agriculture sector to mitigate climate change, and become sustainable and circular, thus reducing food waste and improving food security.



Specifically, through the employment of high-tech solutions such as AI, 5G and precision agriculture. The participants are committed to:

- Cooperation on agricultural innovation between academic institutions in both jurisdictions, supported and enabled by the British Columbia and Netherlands governments in alignment with joint priorities.
- Supporting the development of "Living Labs" that encourage jointly applied agricultural research and solutions to help address climate change.
- Supporting the creation of a physical and virtual ecosystem of industry, academia, governments, and other partners that will collaboratively work on targeted initiatives and projects that support food security, skills development and knowledge-sharing.
- Developing initiatives that bring together experts from both jurisdictions to discuss green policies in agriculture.

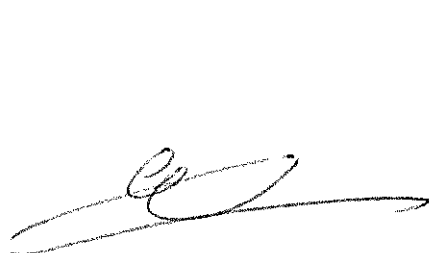
3. Industry Partnerships & Exchange Opportunities

Noting the demonstrated opportunities to build further collaboration between agritech companies and the agriculture industry in their respective jurisdictions, the participants are committed to:

- Partnership and exchange opportunities between agritech companies and the agriculture industry, within and between the two jurisdictions, to increase access to markets, transfer knowledge and accelerate the pace of innovation and commercialization.
- Supporting targeted pilot and demonstration projects to promote on-farm technology adoption and help address major sector and environmental challenges.
- Sharing knowledge/best practices related to accelerator models and developing robust acceleration programs that can facilitate collaboration and company exchange opportunities between the two jurisdictions.
- Developing targeted supports for British Columbia agriculture and agritech companies to enter/expand their markets in the Netherlands, and vice versa.

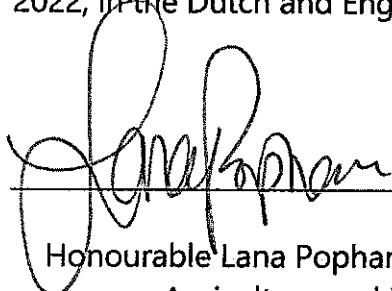
4. Coordination & Monitoring of Activities

The organizations designated to coordinate the activities specified in this Agricultural Innovation Action Plan (Action Plan) are the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation for the Province of British Columbia, the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, the Agriculture Office at the Netherlands Embassy in Washington, D.C. and the Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Vancouver, British Columbia. These organizations will

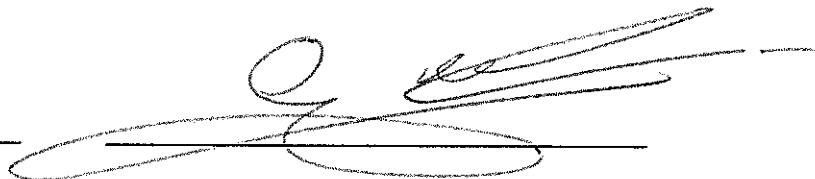


convene bi-annually to review and assess progress under the Action Plan and to identify further opportunities to promote cooperation on agritech and agricultural innovation between the Netherlands and British Columbia.

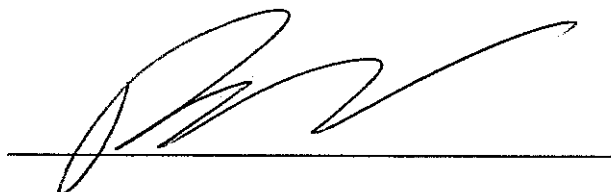
This Action Plan is signed in duplicate in The Hague, Netherlands, this 23rd day of May, 2022, in the Dutch and English languages, with both texts being equally valid.



Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of
Agriculture and Food



Guido Landheer, Assistant Vice
Minister



Honourable Ravi Kahlon, Minister of
Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

For the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature
and Food Quality of the Netherlands

For the Province of British Columbia,
Canada