



June 23, 2020

Dr. Siddika Mithani
President, Canadian Food Inspection Agency
1400 Merivale Road Tower 1, Floor 6, Room 100
Ottawa ON K1A 0Y9

By email: Siddika.Mithani@canada.ca

Dear Dr. Mithani,

I am writing today on behalf of some 1950 members of the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada (PIPSC) employed by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).

As you know, our CFIA Informatics, Scientific and Analytical, and Veterinary Medicine Groups are in the process of negotiating their respective Collective Agreements with your representatives. After much work and collaboration, we were scheduled to have a hopeful first and final face-to-face meeting shortly before the COVID-19 pandemic struck. Unfortunately, negotiations have since been slowed by technological challenges that needed to be ironed out and by a natural desire to focus on the impact of the pandemic.

On May 12, 2012 PIPSC and CFIA representatives met virtually to reignite and direct efforts back to the negotiation table. During that meeting, both parties confirmed their commitment to a "CFIA central table" mirroring the Core Public Administration (CPA) and PIPSC central table gains. In addition to these gains, we confirmed the requirement for an SR classification project reopener for the SA Group, as well as an agreement to re-engage wage conversations for the IN Group when the CPA CS Group settles, if necessary. We agreed there would be no other issues brought forward from either party. In preparation for pre-COVID-19 negotiations, PIPSC provided CFIA with the CPA central table gains language and proposed language for the SA reopener and the IN agreement. These materials currently rest with your representatives.

On May 12, 2020, we also requested that CFIA provide us with a timeline for negotiations which could be communicated to our members and their bargaining teams. We have asked for this timeline consistently since, but have yet to receive it. Instead, we have been told by CFIA representatives that they are in the process of reconfirming their mandate and not yet able to provide a timeline.

I am concerned by this unexpected development, given the progress that has been achieved so far. I would like to ask you to direct your representatives to prioritize a return to negotiations with a defined mandate as soon as possible. Our CFIA members have been without a current and comparable collective agreement for many years. They deserve to know that their efforts

to reach an agreement have not been in vain and that the process will not be needlessly dragged out in the months ahead.

I thank you for your immediate attention to this matter and look forward to your response.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Debi Daviau', written in a cursive style.

Debi Daviau
President
The Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada