

Hello,

We would like to send you a few updates regarding COVID-19 and ask you to share this information in your networks. Please continue to consult the [AAFC website](#) regularly for updates.

1. **Launching the pathway to permanent residence**

The new **Temporary Resident to Permanent Resident Pathway** opened on **May 6, 2021**.

Candidates can apply for permanent residence through the pathway if they are

- international graduates who have completed eligible programs of study in Canada or
- temporary foreign workers in health care or in select essential occupations

To qualify, candidates must submit their application before November 5, 2021 or until the maximum numbers of applications is received, whichever comes first. We will accept up to

- 20,000 applications for temporary foreign workers in health care
- 30,000 applications for temporary foreign workers in selected essential occupations
- 40,000 applications for international students who graduated from a Canadian institution

To support Francophone immigration outside Quebec, and to add to the vitality of Francophone minority communities, **there is no maximum number of applications for French-speaking or bilingual candidates.**

Visit Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada [website](#) for more information about the new pathway and how to apply.

2. **Minister Bibeau launches the Youth Employment and Skills Program (YESP)**

On May 5th, 2021, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, and the Member of Parliament for Glengarry–Prescott–Russell, Francis Drouin, hosted a virtual event to [announce](#) an investment of up to \$21.4 million to enhance the Youth Employment and Skills Program (YESP) and fund about 2,000 jobs for youth in the agriculture sector.

The YESP aims to support agri-food employers and provide young Canadians between the ages of 15 and 30 with job experience in agriculture that could lead to a career working in the sector. In 2020, the Government of Canada invested \$9.2 million for the YESP, to fund nearly 1,000 jobs. You can find the live recording of the virtual event [HERE](#).

3. **Estimating Edible Surplus Food Survey- DEADLINE EXTENSION**

Canada's commitment to reduce food waste and associated carbon emissions, coupled with recent events including the COVID-19 crisis and its impacts on the number of vulnerable Canadians requiring food supports, have placed increased emphasis on the importance of redistributing excess edible food. Second Harvest, Canada's largest food redistribution organization, has commissioned Value Chain Management International (VCMI) to identify the volume, types and potential sources of edible food.

Please complete the following survey to help gather data that is critical to this study. The survey should take no longer than five to seven minutes to complete.

All information collected will be treated with the strictest confidentiality. Individuals' names or contact details are not being sought; only organization name and location (city/town and postal code) is requested, to enable the accurate analysis of data.

The survey can be accessed [HERE](#).

The survey deadline has been extended to Monday, May 17

If you have questions about the survey and overall study, please contact Martin Gooch (416) 997-7779 martin@vcm-international.com or Lori Nikkel (647) 382-0159 lorin@secondharvest.ca

4. The 2021 Census of Agriculture is now faster and easier to complete

This spring, all Canadian farm operators will be asked to complete the Census of Agriculture 2021 questionnaire. Data from the census will provide farm operators, farm organizations, policy makers, stakeholders and citizens with relevant information about the Canadian agricultural sector, and will help them make informed decisions regarding agricultural investments and practices in Canada.

Statistics Canada has made improvements to this year's online questionnaire, making it easier and faster to complete. Farmers can familiarize themselves with the questions by consulting the [2021 Census of Agriculture questionnaire](#). While some adjustments were made, most questions are identical to those asked in 2016. A letter will be sent to all farm operators in May 2021 with instructions on how to complete the questionnaire. All farm operators are required to participate and will have until the beginning of September 2021 to complete their questionnaire.

5. Information on Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) from the Public Health Agency of Canada

There are a number of updated resources available on the Public Health Agency of Canada website for the public including an **Outbreak Update** and the **COVID-19 Virtual Assistant: Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)**.

Vaccines

• **COVID-19 Vaccines:**

- **NEW!** [Summary Safety Review - Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine - Health Canada](#)
- **UPDATE!** [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine: What you should know](#)
- **UPDATE!** [Recommendations on the use of COVID-19 Vaccines \(addition of Janssen COVID-19 vaccine\)](#)
- **UPDATE!** [Vaccines for COVID-19: Shipments and deliveries \(Vaccine distribution\)](#)
- **UPDATE!** [Vaccines for COVID-19: How to get vaccinated or register](#)
- [Reported side effects following COVID-19 vaccination in Canada](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination in Canada: Vaccines administered](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination in Canada: Vaccination coverage](#)

• **General information:**

- **UPDATE!** [Vaccines for children: Deciding to vaccinate \(COVID-19 vaccination\)](#)
- **UPDATE!** [Vaccine safety and possible side effects](#)

Recalls and Safety Alerts

- **NEW!** [Bamlanivimab - Potential Risk of Treatment Failure Due to Circulation of Resistant SARS-CoV-2 Variants](#)
- [Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine and the Risk of Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia](#)

- [Importation of Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine with Two Types of English-only Vial and Carton Labels](#)

Rapid Reviews and Evidence Briefs

- **NEW!** [Evidence Brief on SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Concern and Transmission in Children](#) *(Available upon request)*
- **UPDATE!** [Rapid Review on SARS-CoV-2 Aerosol Transmission, Update 2](#) *(Available upon request)*
- Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): [Travel restrictions, exemptions and advice](#)
 - **NEW!** [COVID-19 mandatory hotel stopover: Apply to be a government-approved hotel](#)
- Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): [Guidance documents](#)

Health Sector Preparedness

- **UPDATED!** [Federal/Provincial/Territorial Public Health Response Plan for Ongoing Management of COVID-19](#)
- Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): [Awareness resources](#)
 - **NEW!** [How do we know the COVID-19 vaccines are safe?](#) *(Video)*
 - **NEW!** [How are the COVID-19 vaccines being monitored for safety?](#) *(Video)*
 - [For travellers with COVID-19 symptoms returning to Canada by air](#)
 - [For travellers without symptoms of COVID-19 returning to Canada by air](#)
 - [For travellers with COVID-19 symptoms returning to Canada by land or water](#)
 - [For travellers without symptoms of COVID-19 returning to Canada by land or water](#)
 - [Going out safely during COVID-19](#)

For any questions: phac.hpoc.stakeholders-partiesprenantes.cops.aspc@canada.ca

Reminder: Next AAFC COVID-19 stakeholder call will be held Wednesday May 12th at noon EST

We encourage you strongly to share your comments and questions in writing through the AAFC Roundtable account (aafc.roundtable-table ronde.aac@canada.ca).

Industry Engagement Division

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Government of Canada