

For Immediate Release

Budget announcement positive for Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers

Nov 6, 2020 – (LONDON) Yesterday’s budget announcement is great news for the Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers. We appreciate the initiatives by the provincial government to increase funding for business risk management programs, to the healthy sector funds and support to the Agricultural and horticultural societies impacted by COVID -19.

Finance Minister Rod Phillips and Agriculture Minister Ernie Hardeman have shown a commitment to our sector by this budget which focused on health and safety measures during the pandemic, supports for families, workers and employers, and planning for economic recovery and growth.

“We appreciate that the provincial government is not lapsing the safety net funds and that they will take a cautious approach to the design for the next review period”, stated Dave Hope, Chair of the Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers (OPVG). “We look forward to working with the government to establish workable solutions that recognize the unique needs of the horticultural sector.”

The OPVG is a marketing board regulated under the Farm Products Marketing Act and represents 338 Ontario processing vegetable growers producing crops such as tomatoes, onions, sweet corn, carrots, cucumbers, green, wax & lima beans, green peas, squash and pumpkin. Farm gate sales for our processing vegetable crops in 2020 was just under \$97 million. OPVG members are family-owned and operated businesses, growing vegetable crops for Ontario food manufacturing companies.

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