

Andrew Scheer

What is your position on open markets in the grain sector, where many players compete vigorously for farmers' business, including in farm inputs and farm products?

I believe competition is good, a variety of different grain companies competing for farmers' products can only be of benefit to producers.

What is your position on free and competitive markets in international trade, including the elimination of export subsidies, reduction of trade-distorting domestic support, and reducing tariffs and non-tariff barriers that inhibit market access?

I want to do all I can to ensure farmers are well-supported and remove hindrances to market access, which is what they need in order to contribute to their success. This includes eliminating tariffs and barriers as well as seeking out new bilateral trade agreements for our grain in large markets like in Asia.

What is your position on a commercial and efficient grain transportation system, recognizing the need for government regulation to foster greater service, competition, and accountability in the rail sector?

I am 100% for competition in the rail system. Our Conservative government introduced valuable tools which have started to create a degree of competition in the rail system and farmers and shippers can't afford to lose it. While more work is needed, so far the Liberal Government has been a little too ambiguous on whether or not they intend to maintain it.

What is your position on the development of agricultural innovations that make farmers more profitable and sustainable, with a science-based regulatory approval process for the introduction of new technologies, including the adoption of genetically modified crops?

I support any innovation that gives farmers the most robust toolbox possible. There is a lack of understanding or acceptance of modern agriculture in all levels of government. I will always be for defending our farmers using science-based approaches.

What is your position on a carbon pricing system, including on a credit and debit system that acknowledges the significant carbon reductions being achieved by prairie grain growers?

I am absolutely against the carbon tax, and have committed that as Prime Minister, the first Bill I introduce will be the one repealing it. If provinces insist on implementing their own, then farmers need to be given credit for the carbon reductions they have been making for years.

As Prime Minister, what would your top five priorities be for farmers and the agriculture industry in Canada?

As an MP from Saskatchewan, I have a deep appreciation for the hard work that farmers do and the challenges they face.

I want to do all I can to ensure farmers are well-supported and able to grow their businesses. As Leader, and eventually Prime Minister, my top five priorities for the agriculture sector are:

- Maintaining and Opening new markets
- Giving farmers access to the tools they need to make their businesses grow
- Encouraging innovation
- Defending farmers through sound science
- Ensuring a competitive environment so that grain farmers and grain shippers can get their product to market
- Support for supply management