

The Canadian International Grains Institute

11.7.1.5

The Canadian International Grains Institute was incorporated in July 1972. It operates in affiliation with the Canadian Wheat Board and the Canadian Grain Commission and financial responsibility is shared by the federal government and the Canadian Wheat Board. It is designed to help maintain and enlarge markets at home and abroad for Canadian grains, oilseeds and their products, and offers instructional programs to foreign participants selected from countries purchasing these commodities and to Canadians associated with the grain industry. Courses are offered in grain handling, transportation, marketing, flour milling, bread baking and macaroni manufacturing, and lectures and practical training are given in analytical methods used in processing and utilization of grains and oilseeds. Located in the Canadian Grain Commission Building in Winnipeg the institute includes classrooms, conference rooms, offices, library, laboratories, a 9-ton (8.16 t), 24-hour-capacity flour mill and a pilot bakery.

The Canada Grains Council

11.7.1.6

The Canada Grains Council was established in 1969 to improve coordination and to assist in reaching agreement within the industry on recommendations to government. Its principal aim is to coordinate supportive activities directed at increasing Canada's share of world markets for all grains and grain products and effecting their efficient use in Canada. Membership in the council is open to all non-governmental organizations and associations whose members are directly engaged in grain production, processing, handling, transportation or marketing.

The administrative costs of the council are shared by the federal government and the industry members. The council currently has 28 member organizations representing thousands of individuals. At least two general meetings are held each year; the Board of Directors meets about 10 times a year. The council is served by a small secretariat.

Western Grain Stabilization Act

11.7.1.7

The Western Grain Stabilization Act, given Royal Assent on February 25, 1976, became effective April 1, 1976. It provides for the stabilization of the net cash flow to the prairie grains sector. The support given will prevent the net cash flow, that is the difference between total receipts from the production and sale of wheat, oats, barley, rye, flaxseed and rapeseed and the cash costs of production, in each calendar year, from falling below the average of net cash flow in the previous five calendar years.

Under this voluntary program, participating grain producers contribute a levy of 2% of their grain sales up to a maximum of \$25,000 a year to the Western Grain Stabilization Fund. The federal government will contribute an equal amount to double the participating farmers' contributions. Whenever a stabilization payment is required to prevent net cash flow from falling below the support level, the participating producers will share in that payment in proportion to their relative levy contributions.

The Western Grain Stabilization Act is administered by the Western Grain Stabilization Administration in the Canadian Grain Commission Building in Winnipeg.

The objective of the Western Grain Stabilization program is to provide producers protection against a large unexpected decline in either world grain prices or in sales of Canadian grain, increases in the cash costs of producing that grain or in any combination of those factors, thereby ensuring that a strong and viable grains sector will be maintained in Canada.

Government involvement in other farm products

11.7.2

Governments in Canada at both the federal and provincial levels have from the beginning enacted measures to improve and expand the performance of the agricultural sector. Originally, the emphasis was on production increases and the