



Canadian Propane Association / Association canadienne du propane

Hon. Adrien Sala  
Minister of Finance  
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Dear Minister Sala,

As representatives of the Canadian Propane Association, Keystone Agricultural Producers, Manitoba Beef Producers, and Manitoba Pork Council, we extend our congratulations on your recent appointment as Minister of Finance. We commend your dedication to serving the interests of all Manitobans. We are writing to share some perspectives re: *Bill 3 – The Fuel Tax Amendment Act (Fuel Tax Holiday)*.

We collectively support Bill 3. Thank you for bringing this legislation forward as it will benefit farmers and rural Manitoba. While appreciating the positive strides this legislation aims to make, we note that the proposed list of fuels eligible for tax exemption notably excludes propane and dyed gasoline, which are currently subject to a 3-cent per litre fuel tax in Manitoba. We are therefore asking for consideration for their inclusion in the proposed legislation.

Propane is an integral transportation fuel in Manitoba, hence our request for its inclusion in the list of fuels eligible for exemption under Bill 3. Moreover, we are also advocating for the inclusion of dyed gas given its relevance to the agricultural community. As all other fuels are already exempt except for purple gas, which incurs a 3-cent tax, the incorporation of propane and dyed gas would provide substantial benefits for Manitobans, particularly farmers, aligning with the bill's intended objectives of delivering savings and advantages.

Propane holds a pivotal position in various automotive applications, particularly within school bus fleets. Nationally, approximately 96,000 propane vehicles and nearly 800 retail fuel outlets exist, with Manitoba boasting 50 propane fuelling stations, as reported by Natural Resources Canada. Notably, by the conclusion of 2023, the Brandon School Division plans to transition all 34 of its routes to propane-fueled school buses.

The inclusion of propane and dyed gas in the tax holiday would significantly benefit rural Manitoba and vehicles reliant on these fuels. Drawing attention to past oversights in other Canadian regions that later necessitated revisions, we emphasize the importance of including both propane and dyed gas in the exemption list, showcasing Manitoba's comprehensive consideration of diverse fuel types and their multifaceted applications, in line with the bill's intended benefits.

Thank you for considering our joint perspectives on this matter. We eagerly await your review and inclusion of propane and dyed gas in Bill 3, marking a meaningful step towards the betterment of all Manitobans.

Sincerely,

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General Manager  
Keystone Agricultural Producers

Cam Dahl  
General Manager  
Manitoba Pork Council

Carson Callum  
General Manager  
Manitoba Beef Producers

Chris Crawford  
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Canadian Propane Association

CC: Hon. Wab Kinew, Premier of Manitoba, Hon. Ron Kostyshyn, Minister of Agriculture