



December 10, 2020

Premier

Minister of Health

Chief Medical Officer of Health

Minister of Agriculture, Food  
and Rural Affairs

Re: COVID-19 Vaccine

The Baking Association of Canada (BAC) is joining its voice with other food manufacturing associations asking that you consider granting priority vaccine access to food workers employed in essential services.

BAC appreciates and supports that our first responders, medical professionals, elderly and care providers, along with other vulnerable individuals clearly have the highest priority for vaccination. However, as you move beyond these priority groups, we ask that workers in the bakery industry and our supply chains such as grain millers be included in the next highest priority for the vaccine within provincial COVID-19 Vaccination Plans.

Canada's National Strategy for Critical Infrastructure has designated the food and agriculture sector and its supply chain as part of the nation's critical infrastructure, and all provinces have designated these as essential services. Since the onset of the pandemic in March 2020, bakers and their suppliers have been of critical importance in supplying Canadians with breads and other baked products.

Our members made significant investments modifying their plants to avoid congregate settings and in the provision of additional respiratory protective equipment. However, the risk can never be eliminated. Recognition of the importance of front-line essential food workers like ours needs to be incorporated into the prioritization of population subgroups in COVID-19 immunization.

Regards,

Paul Hetherington  
President and CEO

cc. Gordon Harrison, President Canadian National Millers Association