



FOOD SECURE CANADA ♦ SÉCURITÉ ALIMENTAIRE CANADA

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The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, P.C., M.P.
Department of Health
Brooke Claxton Building, 16th Floor
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Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9

7 February 2013

Dear Minister Aglukkaq,

I write to you today on behalf of the members of Food Secure Canada, a national membership-based network of organizations and individuals working towards zero hunger, healthy and safe food for all, and sustainable food systems. Thank you for your letter of August 29, 2012. We appreciate the opportunity to have a dialogue with you.

As you know, the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Dr. Olivier De Schutter, will be officially delivering his report on his mission to Canada to the United Nations Human Rights Council on March 4. Many of our members met with the Special Rapporteur during his mission to Canada last May and we think his recommendations deserve serious attention. Amongst others, we think his recommendations on a national right to food strategy (including children and food), the need to revise social assistance levels, and the need to ensure proper dialogue and access to land for indigenous peoples merit serious attention from our Government.

I understand your disappointment that, for economic considerations, Dr. De Schutter was not able to visit the Territories while he was here. Food Secure Canada is well aware of the immense food security challenges in Canada's north and we work in partnership with people in the north to defend access to country foods and improve overall access to healthy and economically accessible food.

We shall be organizing community events across the country in early March to discuss the UN's report on the right to food and we would be delighted to engage Members of Parliament, Cabinet Ministers and indeed all sectors of the Canadian public in a conversation about this important matter. We are available to discuss these important matters with you at your convenience.

Respectfully yours,

Diana Bronson
Executive Director