REGULATORY RECONCILIATION AND COOPERATION TABLE (RCT) WORK PLAN #5 (2023)

Approved by RCT: January 18, 2023

This 35-item Work Plan was developed pursuant to Annex 404 (para. 8) of the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA).

Overview of RCT Work to Date:

- 17 regulatory reconciliation items from a total 30 on the 2023 RCT Work Plan have been completed to date. They are:
 - Occupational Health and Safety (2018 Reconciliation Agreement):
 - First Aid Kits (Item 1a)
 - Hearing Protection (Item 2)
 - Personal Flotation Devices (Item 4)
 - Head, Foot and Eye Protection (Item 5)
 - Occupational Health and Safety (2020 Umbrella Reconciliation Agreement):
 - First Aid Training (Item 1b)
 - Fall Protection (Item 3)
 - Transport: Wide-base Single Tires) (Item 8)
 - Transport: Truck Driver Certification Entry-Level Training (ELT) (Item 29)
 - Standards and Codes: Construction Codes (Item 12)
 - Technical Safety: CRN for Pressure Vessels (Item 13)
 - Standards and Codes: Energy Efficiency Standards for Household Appliances (Item 14)
 - Agriculture / Agri-Food / Aquaculture: Aquaculture Site marking (Item 17)
 - Agriculture / Agri-Food / Aquaculture: Aquaculture Organic Labelling (Item 18)
 - Agriculture / Agri-Food / Aquaculture: Grade Inspection for Produce (Item 19)
 - Regulatory Requirements: Corporate Registry (Item 22)
 - Textiles / Upholstery: Upholstered and Stuffed Articles (Item 24)
 - Transport: Electronic Logging Devices (Item 11)

- Two regulatory cooperation items from a total of five on the 2023 RCT Work Plan, have been completed to date. They are:
 - Transport: Testing of Automated and Connected Vehicles (AV/CVs) (Item 2)
 - Construction: Builders' Lien Prompt Payment Legislation and Associated Regulations (Item 3)

	SUMMARY OF COMPLETED RECONCILIATION AGREEMENTS AND IMPLEMENTATION STATUS					
THEMES	TOPICS	STATUS / IMPLEMENTATION				
Occupational Health and Safety	 First Aid Kits (Item 1a) (2018) Hearing Protection (Item 2) (2018) Personal Flotation Devices (Item 4) (2018) Head, Foot and Eye Protection (Item 5) (2018) Common standards have been agreed to for first aid kit contents, eye, face, head, foot, and hearing protection and personal flotation devices. When implemented, businesses operating across multiple jurisdictions will no longer bear the time and expense of navigating different requirements. 	 Endorsement: All RCT representatives from Participating Parties have endorsed. Signing: All Participating Parties have signed. Publication: Summary of Agreement and Final Agreement with consolidated signatures have been posted on the CFTA website. Implementation: A majority of jurisdictions have completed work for the first aid kit standard with those outstanding awaiting regulatory change. Almost all jurisdictions have completed their implementation work in the other areas. Completing this implementation remains a challenge as COVID-19 has become a priority for all OHS jurisdictions with many playing a lead role in supporting Medical Officers of Health. 				
Occupational Health and Safety	First Aid Training (Item 1b) (2021) 1st Amendment to the 2020 Pan Canadian Occupational Health and Safety Reconciliation Agreement.	 Endorsement: n/a Signing: Signature process by Participating Parties is underway since June 20, 2022. CA, QC, NB, and NS have submitted their signatures. Publication: Summary of Agreement has been posted on the CFTA website. Implementation: Implementation expected in 2023. 				
Occupational Health and Safety	Fall Protection (Item 3) (2020)	 Endorsement: All RCT representatives from Participating Parties have endorsed. Signing: All Participating Parties have signed. Publication: Summary of Agreement and Final Agreement with consolidated signatures have been posted on the CFTA website. Implementation: Implementation expected in 2022. 				

Transport	Wide Base Single (WBS) Tires (Item 8) (2018) Weights for wide-base and dual tires will be aligned within jurisdictions to make the use of the tires more practical for the transportation sector.	 Endorsement: All RCT representatives from Participating Parties have endorsed. Signing: All Participating Parties have signed the Agreement. Publication: Summary of Agreement and Final Agreement with consolidated signatures have been posted on the CFTA website. Implementation: All jurisdictions now have measures in place to allow WBS tires at weight limit parity.
Transport:	Electronic Logging Devices (Item 11) (2022)	 No Reconciliation Agreement. The Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA) intends to provide a close-out report outlining achievements on this item to the RCT by the end of Q1 2023. Implementation: Underway via the CCMTA.
Standards and Codes	Construction Codes (Item 12) (2019) Jurisdictions will identify, reduce or eliminate existing variations between their construction codes and the National Codes by 2025, and minimize new variations in the future. A transformed national code development system will underpin these regulatory alignment efforts.	 Endorsement: All RCT representatives from Participating Parties have endorsed. Signing: Signature process by Participating Parties is underway since July 10, 2020. AB, BC, CA, MB, NL, NS, NT, NU, ON, PE, QC, SK, and YK have submitted their signatures. Publication: Summary of Agreement and Final Agreement without signatures have been posted on the CFTA website. Implementation: Work continues with implementation and the new Harmonized Codes Development System will become fully operational in early 2023.
Standards and Codes	CRN for Pressure Equipment (Item 13) (2018) Mutual recognition for the review of pressure vessel equipment design will remove the requirement for redundant and expensive reviews by participating Parties.	 Endorsement: All RCT representatives from Participating Parties have endorsed except AB. Signing: Four Parties have not yet signed: AB, NU, NL, and NB. NU noted that they are still working towards signature of the agreement. AB, NL, and NB have proposed amendments to the Agreement. If these are accepted, AB, NL, and NB are expected to provide their signature. Publication: Summary of Agreement and Final Agreement without signatures have been posted on the CFTA website. Implementation: The Agreement took effect on January 2, 2020.

Standards and Codes	Energy Efficiency Standards for Household Appliances (Item 14) (2019) Participating Parties have agreed to align their respective regulations by reconciling differences, which will provide consumers and industry with certainty and clarity, over the long term, regarding the energy efficiency rules for household appliances.	 Endorsement: All RCT representatives from Participating Parties have endorsed. Signing: Signature process by Participating Parties is underway since July 23, 2020. BC, CA, MB, NS, ON and QC have submitted their signatures, while NB has not yet signed. Publication: Summary of Agreement and Final Agreement without signatures have been posted on the CFTA website. Implementation: The obligations to achieve reconciliation will be implemented expeditiously by Participating Parties in accordance with each jurisdiction's respective regulatory processes.
Agriculture / Agri- Food / Aquaculture	Aquaculture Site Marking (Item 17) (2019) Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia will align their site marking requirements with the federal requirements, which will reduce the variance between, and duplication of, regulations and procedures and make compliance easier for aquaculturists in those provinces.	 Endorsement: All RCT representatives from Participating Parties have endorsed the Agreement. Signing: All Participating Parties have signed the Agreement. Publication: Summary of Agreement and Final Agreement with Party signatures have been posted on the CFTA website. Implementation: Implementation has commenced. NS has implemented the required regulatory and policy changes.
Agriculture / Agri- Food / Aquaculture	Aquaculture Organic Labeling (Item 18) (2018) The Safe Food for Canadians regulations broadens the scope of products that may be labelled as organic.	 Endorsement: All RCT representatives have endorsed the Agreement. Signing: The Participating Party has signed. Publication: The Agreement with the signature has been posted on the CFTA website. Implementation: Complete. The coming into force of the federal Safe Food for Canadians Act (January 15, 2019) and its regulations has effectively removed the restrictions in place that prohibited the ability of producers to market aquaculture products as organic.

Agriculture / Agri- Food / Aquaculture	Grade Inspection for Produce (Item 19) (2018) The Safe Food for Canadians regulations eliminates requirements for quality inspections for blueberries and requirements related to inspections for grade for applies and potatoes prior to conveyance from one province to another.	•	Endorsement: All RCT representatives have endorsed the Agreement. Signing: The Participating Party has signed. Publication: The Agreement with the signature has been posted on the CFTA website. Implementation: Complete. The coming into force of the federal Safe Food for Canadians Act (January 15, 2019) and its regulations has effectively eliminated the inspection requirements for apples, blueberries, and potatoes.
Regulatory Requirements	• Corporate Registry (Item 22) (2019) Participating Parties will reconcile differences in corporate registration and reporting requirements between jurisdictions to alleviate the burden placed on businesses seeking to expand their operations across the country. This includes a commitment to develop and implement the Multi-jurisdictional Registry Access Service (the "MRAS"), which is a scalable and adaptable digital solution that enables information to be shared among jurisdictions through a central hub. Through a search function, MRAS also increases access to core business information to enable suppliers, buyers, creditors, consumers and other members of the public and private sector to verify and identify businesses in Canada.	•	Endorsement: All RCT representatives from Participating Parties have endorsed. Signing: Signature process by Participating Parties is underway since July 31, 2020. AB, BC, CA, MB, NL, NT, ON, QC, SK and YK have submitted their signatures, while NB, PE, NS, and NU have not yet signed. Publication: Summary of Agreement and Final Agreement without signatures have been posted on the CFTA website. Implementation: AB, BC, CA, MB, ON, QC, and SK have implemented MRAS as of November 10, 2021. NL is expected to implement MRAS in 2022. NT still needs to complete Schedule B. NB, and NS are in the process of seeking approvals for signature. PE remains committed to participating. No update available for NU.
Textiles / Upholstery	Upholstered and Stuffed Articles (Item 24) (2019) Participating Parties aim to eliminate red tape and reconcile regulatory measures that act as a barrier to the trade of upholstered and stuffed articles within Canada.	•	Endorsement: All RCT representatives from Participating Parties have endorsed. Signing: All Participating Parties have signed the Agreement. Publication: Summary of Agreement and Final Agreement with Party signatures have been posted on the CFTA website. Implementation: Complete.

Transport	Truck Driver Certification Entry-Level Training (ELT) (Item 29) (2021)	 Endorsement: All RCT representatives from Participating Parties have endorsed. Signing: Signature process by Participating Parties is underway since June 29, 2022. MB, ON, SK, and YK have submitted their signatures, while AB, BC, NB, NL, NT, NS, PE, and QC have not yet signed. Implementation: Implementation expected in 2025.
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GENERAL NOTES:

1. Completed Reconciliation agreements means agreements are substantially complete. They may be in various stages of implementation, including RCT endorsement, Party signatures and working group implementation.

	SUMMARY OF COMPLETED REGULATORY COOPERATION ITEMS						
THEMES	TOPICS	STATUS					
Transport	Testing of Automated and Connected Vehicles (AV/CVs) (Item 2) (2022) Jurisdictions participated in policy development on testing guidelines through participation in numerous AV working groups/committees, including the Council of Ministers of Transportation (COMT) AV/CV Coordinating Council, the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA) AV Working Group, and the Transportation Association of Canada AV Task Force.	This Work Plan item is complete.					
Construction	Builders' Lien – Prompt Payment Legislation and associated regulations (Item 3) (2022)	This Work Plan item is complete.					

SUMMARY OF 2023 WORK PLAN: REGULATORY MEASURES FOR RECONCILIATION AND FUTURE REGULATORY COOPERATION For more detailed information, see Annex 1

Items for Regulatory Reconciliation

THEMES	TOPICS	TIMING OF RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT
Occupational Health and Safety	 Occupational Exposure Limits (Item 6) Occupational Health and Safety Management System (Item 7) Personal Protective Equipment (Item 27) 	 Short Term (by December 31, 2023) Deferred Short Term (By December 31, 2023)
Transport	 Spring Weight Restrictions (Trans-Canada Highway) (Item 9) Size and Weight Restrictions (excepting Spring Weight Restrictions) (Item 10) 	DeferredDeferred
Standards and Codes	Canadian Electrical Codes (Item 28)	Short Term (by December 31, 2023)
Agriculture / Agri-Food / Aquaculture	Food Inspection (Item 15)Meat Inspection (Item 16)	DeferredShort Term (by December 31, 2023)
Construction	Construction Labour (Hiring Priority System) (Item 20)	Deferred
Drug Scheduling Requirements	Drug Scheduling (Item 21)	Deferred
Registration Requirements	Workers' Compensation Board (Item 23)	Deferred
Technical Safety / Labour Mobility	Gasfitter/Gas Technician Licensing/Certification (Item 25)	Short Term (by May 31, 2023)

Goods and Services	Identification and Mutual Recognition of Regulatory Measures Related to the Sale or Provision of Goods and Services (Item 30)	Short Term (by December 31, 2023) and Medium Term (by December 31, 2024)
	Items for Future Regulatory Cooperation	
THEMES	TOPICS	TIMING OF COOPERATION AGREEMENT
Technical Safety / Labour Mobility	Building Officials/Inspectors Certification/Licensing (Item 4)	• TBC
Temporary Labour Mobility	Temporary Rapid Registration for Workers in Times of Urgent Need (e.g., Floods, Epidemics) (Item 5)	Medium Term (by December 31, 2024)
Standards and Codes	Energy Using and Saving Products (Item 6)	Short Term (by December 31, 2023)

GENERAL NOTES:

- 1. For regulatory reconciliation items, the desired outcome is to achieve regulatory reconciliation among the Parties.
- 2. The RCT will support existing forums or create new ones for regulatory cooperation items identified in the work plan. The items are not intended to remain on the work plan indefinitely. Where it becomes evident that a reconciliation or cooperation agreement is not achievable within a reasonable timeframe, the RCT may remove such an item from the work plan.

ANNEX 1: 2023 RCT Work Plan

(Regulatory measures to be reconciled and measures for regulatory cooperation)

GENERAL NOTES:

- 1. For regulatory reconciliation items, the desired outcome is to achieve regulatory reconciliation among the Parties.
- 2. The RCT will support existing forums or create new ones for regulatory cooperation items identified in the work plan. The items are not intended to remain on the work plan indefinitely. Where it becomes evident that a reconciliation or cooperation agreement is not achievable within a reasonable timeframe, the RCT may remove an item from the work plan.

ITEMS FOR REGULATORY RECONCILIATION

ITEM	THEME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	TIMING (SHORT, MEDIUM, OR LONG TERM)
1a	Occupational Health and Safety	First Aid Kits	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
1b	Occupational Health and Safety	Workplace First Aid Training	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
2	Occupational Health and Safety	Hearing Protection	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
3	Occupational Health and Safety	Fall Protection	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
4	Occupational Health and Safety	Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
5	Occupational Health and Safety	Head Foot and Eye Protection	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
6	Occupational Health and Safety	Occupational Exposure Limits	Businesses operating in or desiring to expand into other jurisdictions in Canada must comply with differing federal, provincial and territorial OSH regulations. Occupational Exposure Limits (OELs) for chemicals vary across Canada.	Short Term By December 31, 2023
7	Occupational Health and Safety	Occupational Health and Safety Management System	An Occupational Health and Safety Management System is a process put in place by an employer to minimize the risk of injury and illness. Currently no Canadian jurisdiction requires the use of occupational health and safety management systems in legislation or	Deferred

ITEM	ТНЕМЕ	ТОРІС	DESCRIPTION	TIMING (SHORT, MEDIUM, OR LONG TERM)
			regulation and there are no known plans for doing so, but a number of provinces do encourage the use of such systems by providing benefits for businesses.	
8	Transport	Wide Base Single (WBS) Tires	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
9	Transport	Spring Weight Restrictions (Trans- Canada Highway)	Differing spring weight regulations require transport trucks, which are distributing goods across provincial boundaries on the Trans-Canada Highway, to abide by the lowest weight restriction.	Deferred
10	Transport	Size and Weight Restrictions (excepting Spring Weight Restrictions)	Trucking businesses have to contend with different trucking rules, depending on whether they are travelling inter-provincially or intra-provincially. Each province and territory is responsible for regulating the size and weights of trucks allowed on their highway systems.	Deferred
11	Transport	Electronic Logging Devices	NO RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT AS ALTERNATIVE RESOLUT	TION REACHED
12	Standards and Codes	Construction Codes	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
13	Standards and Codes	CRN for Pressure Equipment	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
14	Standards and Codes	Energy Efficiency Standards for Household Appliances	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
15	Agriculture / Agri- Food / Aquaculture	Food Inspection	Food sold within a province or territory must comply with that province or territory's food safety and inspection rules. Once it crosses borders, it falls within the jurisdiction of the new province/territory, as well as applicable federal legislation. To trade interprovincially, businesses must meet all the applicable federal requirements to get a federal registration.	Deferred
16	Agriculture / Agri- Food / Aquaculture	Meat Inspection	Only meat processed in federally registered abattoirs can be exported inter-provincially. Meeting the requirements for federal registration is currently costly and time consuming, and there are no provisions for exemptions based on regulatory system recognition.	Short Term By December 31, 2023
17	Agriculture / Agri- Food / Aquaculture	Aquaculture Site Marking	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	

ITEM	ТНЕМЕ	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	TIMING (SHORT, MEDIUM, OR LONG TERM)
18	Agriculture / Agri- Food / Aquaculture	Aquaculture Organic Labeling	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
19	Agriculture / Agri- Food / Aquaculture	Grade Inspection for Produce	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
20	Construction	Construction Labour (hiring priority system)	In general, in Québec, an employer must give priority to hiring workers residing in the region where the construction site is located before using workers from other regions. The province is divided into 11 regions (zones) (including Nunavik).	Deferred
21	Drug Scheduling Requirements	Drug Scheduling	When a drug is approved for sale in Canada, Health Canada decides whether or not the drug requires a prescription to be sold. The scheduling of non-prescription drugs (decisions on how they are to be sold in pharmacies) is the responsibility of the provinces and territories. Currently, the process by which P/Ts schedule non-prescription drugs varies across the country. This leads to uneven access to consumer health products and imposes a high regulatory burden on industry. The situation becomes even more complex when a prescription drug already on the market in Canada is switched from prescription to non-prescription status. The complexity and uncertainty involved in the switch process creates a disincentive for companies to pursue such switches, which can result in innovative non-prescription products not coming to market in Canada.	Deferred
22	Registration Requirements	Corporate Registry	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
23	Registration Requirements	Workers' Compensation Board	Current Canadian workers' compensation legislation varies from one province to the next. As a result, businesses employing workers in many provinces or territories must comply with sometimes highly variable rules according to the government authority – federal, provincial, or territorial.	Deferred
24	Textiles / Upholstery	Upholstered and Stuffed Articles Regulatory Requirements	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE	
25	Technical Safety / Labour Mobility	Gasfitter/Gas Technician Licensing/Certification	Differences exist among provinces and territories in the licensing, training, qualifications, certification, and scope of work of gasfitters/gas technicians. These differences present an opportunity to align regulations or policies in a way that will facilitate the ability of skilled gasfitters/gas technicians from one jurisdiction to work in others, enhancing nation-wide labour mobility and strengthening interjurisdictional commerce. If successful, this work could provide a model for reconciliation in other technical trades.	Short Term By May 31, 2023
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ITEM	THEME	ТОРІС	DESCRIPTION	TIMING (SHORT, MEDIUM, OR LONG TERM)		
		BECAME REGULATORY COOPERATION ITEM 6				
27	Occupational Health and Safety	Personal Protective Equipment	The increased usage of PPE across the globe has strained supply chains and made it difficult to find consistent, reliable sources to meet Canadian demand, especially because these essential products are not typically manufactured, tested, inspected, or certified in Canada. To increase the supply, a number of manufacturing companies in Canada (e.g.: Dupont, 3M) have retooled to create a "made in Canada" supply of PPE. The US-based National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), has been certifying PPE sold in Canada. Recently, NIOSH has indicated that they will not prioritize new applications for certification by manufacturers outside of the US, for the next 18 months. Therefore, the Government of Canada is developing a strategy to develop, approve and test products against a Canadian standard. Additionally, as NIOSH standards are embedded in federal and provincial/territorial (P/Ts) regulations and codes, related to the acquisition and use of PPEs, non-NIOSH certified PPE may not be considered in acquisition processes in most P/Ts. Furthermore, Canadian made PPE may not be permitted by some employers or worn by employees represented by many unions or other labour organizations who have standards or guidance that reference the NIOSH standard.	Short Term By December 31, 2023		
28	Standards and Codes	Canadian Electrical Code	The Canadian Electrical Code (CE Code) is developed by CSA Group as a National Standard of Canada. It is incorporated by reference in the regulations of every Canadian province and territory as well as in federal regulations to ensure the safety of electrical installations. Currently, the adoption of the CE Code by federal, provincial, and territorial governments is misaligned. It takes governments different lengths of time to adopt the latest edition of the CE Code which results in having different editions of the CE Code adopted. Second, some jurisdictions make jurisdiction-specific modifications and amendments to the CE Code as part of their adoption process. The objective is to facilitate the timely and aligned adoption of the CE Code across Canada by removing technical differences that may act as barriers to trade and addressing other issues related to aspects of CE Code implementation, including manufacturing, education/training, product design and certification, and labour mobility.	Short Term By December 31, 2023		
29	Transport	Truck Driver Certification Entry-Level Training (ELT)	RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT COMPLETE			
30	Goods and Services	Identification and mutual recognition of regulatory measures related to the sale or provision of goods and services	The identification and mutual recognition of regulatory measures, such that any good or service that may legally be sold or provided in the jurisdiction of one Party may legally be sold or provided in the jurisdiction of all other Parties, without further material requirements, unless specifically listed as an exclusion.	Short Term for: identification of existing regulatory measures; developing draft text; and identifying measures for exceptions and transitional provisions for goods		

ITEM	ТНЕМЕ	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	TIMING (SHORT, MEDIUM, OR LONG TERM)
				By December 31, 2023
				Medium Term for full reconciliation agreement on goods and services
				By December 31, 2024

ITEMS FOR FUTURE REGULATORY COOPERATION

ITEM	THEME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	TARGETED TIMING (SHORT, MEDIUM, OR LONG TERM)			
1	BECAME REGULATORY RECONCILIATION ITEM 29						
2	Transport	Testing of Automated and Connected Vehicles (AV/CVs)	REGULATORY COOPERATION ITEM COMPLETE				
3	Construction	Builders' Lien – Prompt Payment Legislation and Associated Regulations	REGULATORY COOPERATION ITEM COMPLETE				
4	Technical Safety / Labour Mobility	Building Officials/Inspectors Certification/Licensing	A patchwork of professional requirements across Canada inhibits labour mobility and professional development and opportunity, and potentially constrains business investment and mobility, while driving up costs for businesses and governments. The varying requirements negatively impact the quality and consistency of building code inspections and the enforcement of building code requirements.	TBC			
5	Temporary Labour Mobility	Temporary rapid registration for workers in times of urgent need (e.g., floods, epidemics)	The registration requirements and processes of regulatory authorities are seen as barriers to the quick deployment of workers to assist with managing a crisis. Allowing regulators to quickly issue temporary registration to needed workers would address this concern.	Medium Term By December 31, 2024			
6	Standards and Codes	Energy Using and Saving Products	Develop a framework to cooperate when developing or modifying energy efficiency standards or test procedures; and address regulatory differences to reduce significant obstacles, if any, to trade across provincial and territorial borders. Cooperation on energy performance of energy using products and products that affect the use of energy is desired to prevent unnecessary differences that could create burden for industry and create internal trade obstacles, but successful efforts at harmonization should not diminish the ability for each jurisdiction to make progress on their energy efficiency objectives.	Short Term By December 31, 2023			