

## **Government of Canada invests in Ontario Farming Association**

**Niagara Falls, Ontario October 9th, 2013**

The Harper Government is advancing Ontario's greenhouse vegetable sector by investing in research and innovation. Parliamentary Secretary Pierre Lemieux, on behalf of Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz, announced today an investment of \$2.7 million to the Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers (OGVG) during the Canadian Greenhouse Conference in Niagara Falls.

"The greenhouse sector provides Canadians with fresh, locally grown produce year-round and our government is proud to support this key industry," said PS Lemieux. "This investment will contribute to the health and sustainability of the sector by helping to improve production capacity and product quality." OGVG is a not-for-profit organization that represents all greenhouse tomato, pepper, and cucumber growers in Ontario-approximately 220 in total.

This investment will help to develop new products and practices to enhance the competitiveness of the greenhouse sector. Research will focus on improving the year-round production of greenhouse cucumber, pepper, and tomato crops, including improvements to yield and produce quality. The project will also enhance the environmentally sustainable practices of greenhouse production.

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