

Minister  
of Agriculture and  
Agri-Food  
and Minister for the  
Canadian Wheat Board



Ministre  
de l'Agriculture et de  
l'Agroalimentaire  
et ministre de la  
Commission canadienne du blé

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0C5

Quote: 156546

**JAN 21 2011**

Mr. Garth Whyte  
President and CEO  
Canadian Restaurant and Foodservices Association  
316 Bloor Street West  
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1W5

Dear Mr. Whyte:

Thank you for your letter with which you enclosed a copy of the results of your public opinion study into the relationship between Canadians and Canada's restaurant industry. I applaud the Canadian Restaurant and Foodservices Association for this research and its ongoing efforts to ensure the industry's viability and growth.

As you noted, the study highlighted that Canadians recognize the importance of the restaurant industry for its contribution to employment and as a driver of economic activity. With Canada's restaurant and foodservices industry accounting for \$60 billion in annual sales, I also understand its contribution to a vibrant food value chain in Canada, in particular its role in the success of Canada's farmers and food processors.

Again, thank you for writing and for sharing your study.

Sincerely,

Gerry Ritz, PC, MP

Canada