



REGULATIONS: HELPING OR HINDERING

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Agenda

- What is Regulation?
- Is Regulation Necessary?
- Why Do We Need Change?
- Agricultural Examples of Why Change is Needed
- What Do We Need To Do?

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Is Regulation Necessary?

- Regulations are a key aspect of governing,
- Regulatory environment includes:
 - Scientific research and policy research influencing regulations,
 - Regulations flowing from government policy and legislation,
 - Enforcement of regulations,
- A well functioning regulatory system requires a close relationship between these aspects,
- This relationship is what simultaneously provides;
 - Provide safety to Canadians in food, water, and environment,
 - Public safety, and
 - Assurance of business and investment opportunities

Regulations required to maintain a civil country

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Why Do We Need Change? - II

- Policy Issues are becoming more complex as disciplines blur
 - (e.g., bio-products)
- There is an explosion of new technologies that can be used to by innovators to satisfy consumer demands,
- Consequently the regulatory system has to quickly adapt,
 - thousand of items in front of government agencies awaiting approval

Regulations that provide confidence for yesterday's demands may inhibit to-morrow's progress

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What is Regulation?

Aspects of Regulations (from Smart Regulations)

- Equated with governing,
- Governs behaviour of citizens and enterprises,
- Used to achieve public policy objectives,
- Key means to protect the health, safety, and well-being of Canadians,
- Key means to protect the natural environment,
- Ensures a fair and efficient marketplace,
- Has a role in providing market access,
- Creates a climate conducive to trade and investment.

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Why Do We Need Change? - I

- Current reality includes;
 - Higher expectations of government;
 - Conflict between citizens who;
 - want more freedom, versus,
 - those who want more regulation and more accountability, and
 - those who want the status quo to protect the current paradigm
 - Need for innovation:
 - CABI is currently reviewing the farm income situation with the intent of identifying solutions

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Examples of Why Change is Needed - I

- Functional foods & nutraceuticals**
 - Thousands of items awaiting Health Canada approval
- Access and cost of Pesticides and Insecticides**
 - Glyphosate - \$7.00 in Canada vs. \$3.75 in U.S.
 - Ivomec - \$250 in Canada vs. \$80 in U.S.
 - Horticulture needs access to same products as U.S. competitors
- Fisheries**
 - Enforcing fishery regulations on the prairies is very questionable,
 - Are drainage ditches fish habitats?
 - Are road bridges designed to navigatable?

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Examples of Why Change is Needed - II

- Environment**
 - Regulations to protect the environment can adversely target rural area when the political power is urban based
 - Hog barn expansion moratorium in Manitoba
 - Hog industry contributes 1% of phosphorous into Lake Winnipeg, but is treated as the main culprit
- Canadian Wheat Board**
 - Handles 5% of feed barley, but impact on price is 100%
 - Too high a price hinders value added,
 - Too low a price can affect viability of value added
- Inter-Provincial Harmonization**
 - Tandem with Pup Trailer Requires Class 3 license in one province, and requires Class 1 license in a neighbouring province

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Examples of Why Change is Needed - III

- Competitive Action on Bio-Fuels**
- Variety Licensing and KVD**
 - Limits ability to produce feedstocks for future opportunities
 - Examples - high starch wheat for ethanol and livestock feed,
 - The recent move to allow allow feed wheat class is still restrictive due to KVD requirement
 - Minimal tolerance for CWR5 look a likes in new varieties
 - Are we moving ahead?
- WGTA Change**
 - What are our prairie agriculture comparative advantages?
 - Eggs? Hogs? Cow-calf? Value added processing?
 - What regulations are still inhibiting us?
 - CWB?, Varietal licensing? PMRA? Supply Management?

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What Do We Need To Do? - I

Regulatory Design

- Develop policy for the 21st century,
- Revisit regulations implemented to support actions of the 20th century

Integration

- Explore means to integrate regulatory processes between Canada and the U.S.,
- Examine other countries systems with intent of adopting their standards if Canadian concerns are met

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What Do We Need To Do? - II

Environment

- Establish credible risk-reward standards for environmental protection

Regional Considerations

- Ensure regulations are suitable for all regions versus one policy fits all
- Provinces must realize that regulations must cross provincial borders

Rural Considerations

- Committee that looks at the impact of all regulations on rural areas

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What Do We Need To Do? - III

Timeliness

- Process to review, compile and implement regulations in a timely manner,
- As the world evolves – so must Canada in a timely way to capture opportunities

Comprehensiveness

- A comprehensive review of all regulations,
- Changing one regulation without assessing other regulations can impede the expected result – this is a huge mistake that has been made before

Be thankful we live in a country like Canada despite its shortcomings – Very few citizens of other countries enjoy the lifestyle that we do

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Regulations: Helping or Hindering

- Regulations are required to maintain the advantage we have today.....
- And we need to improve our international competitiveness
- But, we need to review the regulations that are preventing or slowing down our ability to move ahead;
- Furthermore, any new regulations need to be assessed with a risk reward process in a timely manner
 - Except regulations on security and safety, where there can be no

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