



Canadian Grain Commission
Commission canadienne
des grains



Quarterly Financial Report

Canadian Grain Commission
Statement Outlining Results, Risks, and Significant Changes in Operations,
Personnel, and Programs (Unaudited)

For the quarter ended June 30, 2022

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1.0 Introduction

This quarterly financial report should be read in conjunction with the [Main Estimates](#) and [Supplementary Estimates](#). It has been prepared by Canadian Grain Commission (CGC) management as required by section 65.1 of the [Financial Administration Act](#) and is in the form and manner prescribed by the Treasury Board. This quarterly report has not been subject to an external audit or review.

1.1 Authority, Mandate and Program Activities

The CGC was established in 1912 and is the federal government department responsible for administering the provisions of the [Canada Grain Act](#) (CGA).

The CGC's mandate as set out in the act is to, "in the interests of the grain producers, establish and maintain standards of quality for Canadian grain and regulate grain handling in Canada, to ensure a dependable commodity for domestic and export markets".

The CGC's vision is "To be a world class, science-based quality assurance provider". The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food is responsible for the CGC.

The CGC's Core Responsibility is Grain Regulation, or, to regulate grain handling in Canada and to establish and maintain science based standards for Canadian grain. The Commission regulates the handling of 21 grains¹ grown in Canada to protect producer rights and to ensure the integrity of grain transactions.

The CGC's Departmental Results are that domestic and international markets regard Canadian grain as dependable and safe, and that farmers are fairly compensated for their grain. The CGC has three programs: Grain Quality, Grain Research and Safeguards for Grain Farmers. Internal Services supports these programs.

Further details on the CGC's authority, mandate, and programs may be found in the [Departmental Plan](#), the [Departmental Results Report](#), and the [Main Estimates](#).

1.2 Basis of Presentation

This quarterly report has been prepared by management using an expenditure basis of accounting (modified cash) and a special purpose financial reporting framework designed to meet financial information needs with respect to the use of spending authorities. The accompanying [Statement of Budgetary Authorities](#) compares the department's spending authorities granted by Parliament to those used by the department. Information in the Statement of Authorities is consistent with that in the [Main Estimates](#) and [Supplementary Estimates](#).

¹ Grain refers to any seed designated by regulation as a grain for the purposes of the *Canada Grain Act*. This includes barley, beans, buckwheat, canaryseed, canola, chickpeas, corn, fababeans, flaxseed, lentils, mixed grain, mustard seed, oats, peas, rapeseed, rye, safflower seed, soybeans, sunflower seed, triticale, and wheat.

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The authority of Parliament is required before moneys can be spent by the Government. Approvals are given in the form of annually approved limits through [Appropriations Acts](#) or through legislation in the form of statutory spending for specific purposes.

As part of the Parliamentary business of supply, the Main Estimates must be tabled in Parliament on or before March 1 preceding the new fiscal year.

The CGC uses the full accrual method of accounting to prepare and present its annual departmental financial statements included in the [Departmental Results Report](#). However, the spending authorities voted by Parliament are on an expenditure basis (modified cash) of accounting.

1.3 CGC Financial Structure

CGC programs and activities are funded through a combination of revolving fund (based on service fees) and appropriation sources. Approximately 90 percent of CGC costs are funded through its service fees. The CGC funding structure is based on budgetary authorities that are comprised of both statutory and voted (non-statutory) authorities. The statutory authorities include employee benefit plan authority for appropriation-funded personnel costs and CGC revolving fund authority, which allows the CGC to re-spend fees that it has collected. The voted authority is Vote 1 – Program Expenditures, which includes annual appropriation authority and any one-time ad hoc appropriation authority for the fiscal year.

The baseline for existing service and licence fees was established in 2017-18 for the five-year period ending March 2023 and was based on a \$62.5 million budget and an annual average official inspection and weighing volume of 34.4 million metric tonnes (MMT). The expenditures for inspection services can vary from year to year according to the quality and volume of the crop. Since fees were implemented in 2017-18, costs have remained relatively stable, but unprecedented increases in grain production and export volumes, and major private sector infrastructure investments in the grain handling system, resulted in increased revenue and continued accumulation of revolving fund surplus.

To address the continued accumulation of revolving fund surplus, in 2020-21 the CGC updated its model for forecasting the volume of grain that it expects to officially inspect and weigh upon discharge from terminal elevators. The CGC projected that the organization would officially inspect and weigh approximately 48.1 MMT of grain annually for the following three fiscal years (2021-22 to 2023-24). In May 2021, the CGC proposed a realignment of four fees for official inspection and official weighing services with the adjusted grain volume forecast. These 29% fee reductions were effective August 1, 2021. Due to drought conditions, CGC officially inspected and weighed 32.6 million metric tonnes (MMT) for fiscal 2021-22. This was a significant decrease over the original forecasted volumes of 43.5 MMT.

Under the current five-year cycle, all fees were to be reviewed and amended, as required on April 1, 2023. However, this comprehensive review is now targeted to be complete for April 1, 2025 to allow for the *Canada Grain Act* review process to advance and inform future work.

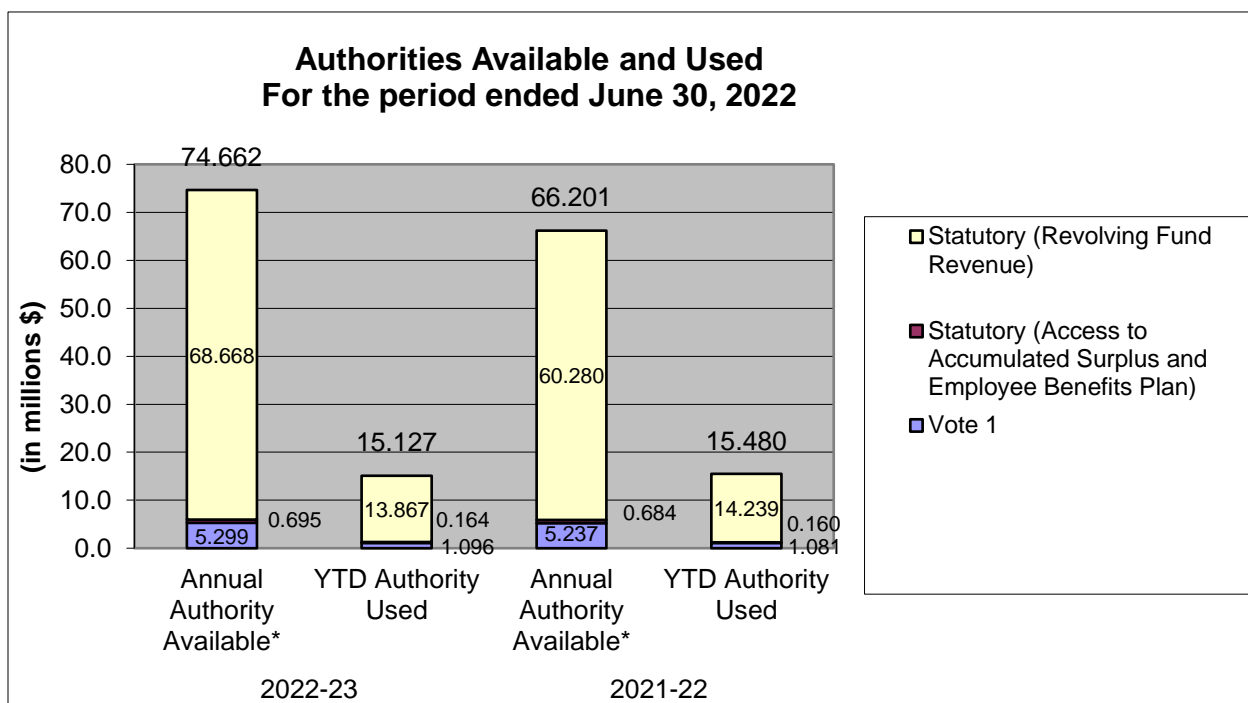
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The CGC's revenue projections for 2021-22 and beyond are based on the funding model identified in the [2017 User Fees Consultation and Pre-Proposal Notification](#), fees published in the [Canada Gazette, Part II](#) in March 2018, and updated fees published in the [Canada Gazette, Part II](#) in July 2021. This includes a revised annual grain volume projection of 48.1 MMT and fees as set out in [Schedule I of the Canada Grain Regulations](#). Beginning in 2019-20, the CGC started adjusting fees annually for inflation each year on April 1 to be consistent with the *Service Fees Act* (SFA) and to limit the need for fee amendments going forward. The 2021-22 adjustment is based on the April All-Items Consumer Index for Canada of negative 0.2 percent. Current fee amounts are located on the [CGC website](#).

Planned revenue projections and full time equivalents (FTEs) for 2022-23 and beyond are available in the CGC's [2022-23 Departmental Plan](#).

2.0 Highlights of Fiscal Year to Date

This section highlights any significant items that affected the year-to-date results and/or contributed to the net change in resources available for the year and actual expenditures. It should be read in conjunction with the [Statement of Budgetary Authorities](#) and the [Departmental Budgetary Expenditures by Standard Object](#), which can be found at the end of this report.



* Authority available based on amounts requested through the Estimates process. Amounts detailed in Statement of Authorities.

2.1 Authority Available Analysis

As reflected in the [Statement of Budgetary Authorities](#), the department's total authority available for use (net of Revolving Fund revenue) in the fiscal year as at June 30, 2022 is \$13.210 million, as compared to \$6.769 million as at June 30, 2021. The increase in authority of \$6.441 million is primarily the result of a planned spending increase on strategic initiatives to be funded by the accumulated surplus.

2.2 Authority Used Analysis

As reflected in the [Departmental Budgetary Expenditures by Standard Object](#), the department's total budgetary authority used in the quarter ended June 30, 2022 is \$9.132 million, as compared to (\$0.723 million) as at the quarter ended June 30, 2021. The change of \$9.855 million in total budgetary authority used can be attributed to:

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1. The overall decrease of \$10.207 million in revenues received in the quarter ended June 30, 2022 is due to a significant decrease in grain volumes the CGC inspected and weighed as a result the ongoing impacts of the 2021 drought as well as reduced outward inspection and weighing fees that came into effect August 1, 2021.
2. The overall decrease of \$0.353 million in expenditures, primarily a result of the following variances:
 - a. Personnel expenditures decreased by \$0.549 million as compared to the same quarter last year, primarily due to the reduction in overtime required resulting from inspecting and weighing lower than forecasted grain volumes. Also, there were no retroactive payments made in first quarter of 2022-23 as compared to retroactive payments made in the first quarter of 2021-22.
 - b. Transportation and communication expenditures increased by \$0.176 million as compared to the same period last year, primarily due to the resumption of travel required for inspection and weighing services after COVID-19.

3.0 Risks and Uncertainties

Risk management is an essential part of strategic planning and decision making at the CGC. The CGC has an established process to identify, monitor, mitigate and manage corporate level risk. As identified in the 2022-23 Departmental plan, the top corporate risks that could affect achieving planned results under the CGC's Core Responsibility are:

- ensuring Canadian grain is dependable and safe while balancing rapidly evolving grain sector needs and managing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- the CGC's aging grain research laboratory infrastructure and facilities; and
- the capacity to respond to opportunities while delivering upon the core mandate.

To mitigate program risk and ensure long-term success in delivering the departmental results, the CGC will work to deliver on its strategic plan which is described in detail in the "Plans at a glance" and the "Core responsibilities: planned results and resources, and key risks" section of CGC's [2022-23 Departmental Plan](#).

A significant risk to the CGC's financial plan for fiscal year 2022-23 is revenue uncertainty due to grain volumes which are not fully known prior to the commencement of the fiscal year. While 2022-23 financial risks associated with the *Canada Grain Act* review and the CGC's accumulated surplus are minimal, uncertainties are included as they have potential to impact the CGC's financial plan in future fiscal years.

3.1 Revenue Uncertainty

CGC fee revenue is largely based on grain volumes, which fluctuate from year to year. In addition, grain volumes are not fully known prior to commencement of the fiscal year. This can result in significant variances between CGC projected revenues and actual

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revenues. Because actual grain volumes vary from year to year, in years with higher-than-average grain volumes, revenues may exceed costs and the CGC could accumulate surpluses (shown as unused authority carried forward in Public Accounts). In years with lower-than-average grain volumes, revenues could be less than costs and the CGC would be required to draw on its surpluses.

Climate change and extreme weather events such as droughts and floods can significantly impact grain production, and consequently increase the CGC's revenue risk. In addition, the Canadian grain sector continually faces export volume uncertainty regarding access to international markets due to market sensitivity to actual or perceived grain quality and food-safety issues. Restricted market access has the potential to result in lower-than-expected grain volumes and revenues.

Excessively hot and dry growing conditions across most of the western Canadian grain production area in 2021 resulted in significantly decreased yields. This in turn resulted in reduced grain volumes at export position. This impacted the volume of grain inspected and weighed by the CGC in fiscal year 2021-22, contributing to a revenue shortfall of \$13.99 million, necessitating a draw down on the accumulated surplus from previous years. The impact of 2021 drought conditions on reduced export grain volumes continued in the first quarter of 2022-23. Revenue earned during the first quarter of 2022-23 is \$10.21 million less than revenue earned during the same period last year due to reduced grain volumes inspected and weighing and lower fees that came into effect on August 1, 2021.

The CGC forecasted increased total revenues for 2022-23 compared to 2021-22 in anticipation of a return to normal weather conditions in 2022. The CGC annual budget is reviewed throughout the year to accommodate shifting needs and priorities, including risk mitigation strategies that enable the CGC to accommodate up to a 20 percent variance in forecasted grain volumes. The CGC will continue to monitor and assess impacts and uncertainties associated with grain volumes and the potential impact on 2022-23 revenues. The CGC is targeting a comprehensive service fee and grain volume model review for adjustments effective April 1, 2025.

3.2 Surplus and *Canada Grain Act* Review

From 2013 to 2018, unprecedented increases in Canadian grain production and relatively stable operating costs led to an accumulated revolving fund surplus of approximately \$130 million as of March 31, 2018. In 2018 the CGC established an Investment Framework focused on strategic investments in three key areas:

- strengthening safeguards for producers,
- investing in grain quality assurance, and
- enhancing grain quality science and innovation.

The Investment Framework retains \$40 million of the accumulated surplus for a contingency operating reserve to mitigate risks associated with declines in revenues, while committing \$90 million for strategic investments. When the Investment Framework was announced in 2018, the CGC committed to consulting the sector on further surplus investment initiatives. At that time, the CGC envisioned rolling out investments over a two-year timeframe. However, this timeline was subsequently delayed because of

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Budget 2019's announcement of the *Canada Grain Act* review to ensure alignment between the two processes.

Since 2018, Canadian grain export volumes continued to grow, and some of the factors leading to recent increases were not anticipated by the current grain forecasting model. Combined with relatively stable operating costs, this led to further surplus growth in 2018 to 2021, the majority of which occurred in 2020-21 due to extraordinary grain export volumes. Prior to 2020-21, the CGC realized relatively small surpluses which are reasonable in a revolving fund environment. To address this situation and mitigate the risk of further surplus growth, the CGC updated its model for forecasting annual grain volumes and revenue projections. Effective August 1, 2021, the fees for official inspection and weighing that generate most of the surplus were reduced by 29 percent and realigned with an adjusted grain volume forecast of 48.10 million metric tonnes.

To date, the CGC has allocated \$4.0 million to fund enhancements to the Harvest Sample Program that began in 2018-19 crop year. Additionally, investments have been made in a pulse testing program, to strengthen research and innovation, for renewal of laboratory infrastructure, to develop a workplace for a post COVID-19 working environment, and to develop the MyCGC E-services platform, a suite of integrated program delivery systems to provide seamless digital service to CGC clients.

After being paused for much of 2020-21 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) formally relaunched the *Canada Grain Act* review in January 2021 with public consultations closing on April 30, 2021. A resulting "[What We Heard](#)" report was published in August 2021 detailing consultation feedback.

The CGC continues to work with AAFC to analyse the various options presented through the consultation and determine how best to move forward with the modernization of the Canadian grain regulatory framework to ensure it meets the needs of the evolving grain sector. Any future initiatives under the Investment Framework will be informed by, and align with, the outcomes of this process. It is too early to assess and determine potential impacts of the *Canada Grain Act* review on the CGC's funding model and accumulated surplus. Going forward, the CGC will consider investment initiatives within the broader context of the *Canada Grain Act* Review outcomes and any ongoing drought impacts on grain volumes and fee revenue.

4.0 Significant Changes to Operations, Personnel, and Programs

In September 2021, the CGC established its strategic plan for the 2022-23 through 2024-25 planning horizon. While most CGC resources will continue to be dedicated to day-to-day delivery of programs and services, the remainder will be dedicated to modernizing the CGC through four areas of focus:

1. Modernize the CGC's regulatory framework, programs, and services.
2. Position the CGC as a global leader in grain science.
3. Strengthen the CGC's stakeholder relationships, with a focus on Canadian producer.
4. Establish the CGC as an employer of choice.

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For additional information on the CGC's 2022-23 strategic plan, see the "Plans at a glance" and the "Core responsibilities: planned results and resources, and key risks" section of CGC's [2022-23 Departmental Plan](#).

To continue to make progress on its strategic plan, the CGC will work in close collaboration with grain sector stakeholders, agriculture portfolio partners, and counterparts abroad.

During the first quarter of 2022-23, there were no significant changes in relation to operations, personnel, and programs.

Approval by Senior Official

Approved by:

Doug Chorney
Chief Commissioner
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Cheryl Blahey
Chief Financial Officer
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Statements of Budgetary Authorities (Unaudited)

For the quarter ended June 30, 2022

(in thousands of dollars)	Fiscal Year 2022-23			Fiscal Year 2021-22		
	Total available for use for the year ending March 31, 2023	Used during the quarter ended June 30, 2022	Year-to date used at quarter end	Total available for use for the year ending March 31, 2022	Used during the quarter ended June 30, 2021	Year-to date used at quarter end
Vote 1						
Appropriation including Ad hoc	\$ 5,299	1,096	1,096	\$ 5,237	1,081	1,081
Statutory Authorities:						
Revolving Fund Gross Expenditures	68,668	13,867	13,867	60,280	14,239	14,239
Revolving Fund Gross Revenues	(61,452)	(5,995)	(5,995)	(59,432)	(16,202)	(16,202)
Revolving Fund Net Expenditures	\$ 7,215	7,872	7,872	\$ 848	(1,963)	(1,963)
Employee Benefit Plan	695	164	164	684	160	160
Total Statutory Authorities	7,911	8,036	8,036	1,532	(1,803)	(1,803)
Total Budgetary Authorities	\$ 13,210	9,132	9,132	\$ 6,769	(723)	(723)

Due to rounding, totals may not add to totals shown.

Departmental Budgetary Expenditures by Standard Object (Unaudited)

For the quarter ended June 30, 2022

	Fiscal Year 2022-23			Fiscal Year 2021-22		
	Planned Expenditures for the year ending March 31, 2023	Expended during the quarter ended June 30, 2022	Year-to date used at quarter end	Planned Expenditures for the year ending March 31, 2022	Expended during the quarter ended June 30, 2021	Year-to date used at quarter end
(in thousands of dollars)						
Expenditures:						
Personnel	\$46,460	11,565	11,565	\$45,148	12,114	12,114
Transportation and communications	2,478	401	401	2,093	225	225
Information	619	78	78	366	60	60
Professional and special services	6,244	378	378	3,526	312	312
Rentals	7,220	1,505	1,505	5,392	1,479	1,479
Repair and Maintenance	2,684	202	202	1,803	154	154
Utilities, materials and supplies	2,065	316	316	1,507	348	348
Acquisition of machinery and equipment	6,893	706	706	6,366	785	785
Other Subsidies and payments	0	(24)	(24)	0	2	2
Total Gross Budgetary Expenditures	74,662	15,127	15,127	66,201	15,480	15,480
Revolving Fund Revenue (To be credited to Vote)	(61,452)	(5,995)	(5,995)	(59,432)	(16,202)	(16,202)
Total Net Budgetary Expenditures	\$ 13,210	9,132	9,132	\$ 6,769	(723)	(723)

Due to rounding, totals may not add to totals shown.