



**Ontario Federation of Agriculture**

**Ontario AgriCentre**

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September 6, 2017

The Honourable Jeff Leal, M.P.P.  
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
11th Floor, 77 Grenville Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 1B3

Dear Minister Leal,

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) supports greater clarity and consistency in the use of the term “organic” in Ontario. We support a legislated system that is fair for all Ontario organic producers.

More specifically, OFA supports a stronger definition to validate an organic claim. We also encourage consultation with farmers, producers, and consumers to develop effective strategies for growing the sector to meet increased demand for organic products.

OFA believes greater clarity is in the best interests of Ontario farmers as it would help ensure the integrity of the organic brand. This, in turn will help Ontario’s growing organic market by ensuring that local organic supply is a preferred choice of Ontario retailers and consumers.

Minister, we appreciate your commitment to Ontario farming and your interests in growing market opportunities. This initiative will help to secure additional market share for Ontario organic growers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Currie', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Keith Currie,  
President

c: The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier  
The Organic Council of Ontario