



# The Regulatory Reconciliation and Cooperation Table (RCT)



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# What regulatory cooperation means to Canada

## Why

- Aligning requirements and eliminating duplication saves industry time and money which supports growth and competitiveness.
- Increases choice and reduces costs for consumers.
- Increases information available to regulators and saves resources.
- Protection for public health & safety and environment is maintained or strengthened

## Where

- Focus on areas where there is willingness to align and cooperate
- Regulatory areas involved: pharmaceuticals, medical, food, environmental standards, chemicals, cosmetics, transportation safety, dangerous goods, agriculture, energy efficiency, and aquaculture

## How

- Aim to create regulations that eliminate duplication such as:
  - equivalency, incorporating international standards by reference, mutual recognition agreements.
  - Include initiatives like joint inspections, testing and product approvals; data sharing, and mutual recognition of certification.
- Maintains sovereign decision making

# Canada's Regulatory Cooperation Fora

## Canada-United States Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC)



Established in 2011 by U.S. President Obama and Canadian Prime Minister Harper to enhance economic competitiveness while maintaining high levels of protection for health, safety and the environment

## Canadian Free Trade Agreement - Regulatory Reconciliation and Cooperation Table (RCT)



Established in 2017 to reduce domestic barriers to trade, facilitate investment and labour, and encourage common processes among Parties

## Canada - European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement - Regulatory Cooperation Forum (RCF)



Currently being established with the aim of identifying potential areas for cooperation, facilitating discussions between regulatory authorities, sharing information

# RCT and Reducing Internal Barriers to Trade

## What?

- A mechanism to address regulatory differences between Canadian jurisdictions as a means of reducing inter-provincial barriers to trade, investment and labour mobility

## Who?

- Central coordination and oversight by RCT Chair (QC; rotates to NS in 2019) supported by Secretariat (ISED). TBS - federal lead on domestic regulatory reconciliation and cooperation

## Sectors?

- Transportation, occupational health and safety, agriculture, energy efficiency, aquaculture, standards harmonization, etc.

## How?

- Barriers are submitted for reconciliation, participating CFTA governments and their regulators negotiate towards reconciliation agreements
- 23 work plan items published in 2018-2019 with work underway

## RCT case study – Inspection requirements for Produce

