

## Ontario Priorities for 2017

### Harmonization of Pesticide Labels

- Pesticide registration requirements should be harmonized between Canada and the U.S. to minimize product availability challenges growers in either country may face.

### Neonicotinoids

- Regulations developed for neonicotinoids use should be amended and must be science-based, focus on agricultural productivity, and improve pollinator health. Science continues to show neonicotinoid pesticides protect crops from insect damage, increase agricultural productivity, and are safe to use. Agriculture is committed to protecting pollinators while using the body of science on neonicotinoids to guide future use.

### Water Quality

GROWMARK is focused on farmer-level, science-based, voluntary practices that improve nutrient management on members farms.

- We support the “4Rs” framework that provides nutrient stewardship by incorporating the right fertilizer source at the right rate at the right time and in the right place.
- We support “N-WATCH,” a program to inventory and track residual nitrogen (N) in the soil by estimating plant available N at a point-in-time at a specific field location.

Combining our efforts to address the myriad of proposed nutrient management and water quality rules, regulations, and laws will be critical in finding the balance between stewardship, science, and profitability.

### Agricultural Cooperatives – Tax Deferred Patronage Dividends – Federal

- A tax deferral on patronage dividends paid to cooperative members in form of shares was enacted in Canada in 2005 and sunsets in 2016. The tax deferral option for dividends is offered to members if the coop is headquartered in Canada. If the provision is extended, all members of any cooperative operating in Canada should be eligible for the tax deferral option of dividends from a cooperative.