



MEMBERSHIP IN THE CANADIAN SEED TRADE ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1923, the Canadian Seed Trade Association (CSTA) is a member organization of wholesalers, retailers and brokers involved in the multiplication, conditioning and merchandising of seed. Since that time, member companies have responded to the rapid growth of new technology with a substantial investment in research and development. The Association assists in dealing with the corresponding changes in regulatory issues.

In addition to the domestic market, CSTA members do business in an expanding global environment. CSTA provides a forum for this trading activity and the international policies and procedures.

CSTA consists of a Board of Directors, various committees and two primary membership categories. Active Members are individuals, firms and corporations made up of seed processors, seed brokers and others whose primary business is dealing in or selling seed (including licensing agreements). Associate Members are wholesalers and other companies marketing seed-related products or services.

Membership in CSTA provides a vital link to the Canadian and global seed industry.

Members benefit from:

-  Access to information on current industry trends; pending legislation and regulations; research developments; industry positions and rationale
-  Collective voice that has increased impact on various audiences
-  Greater number of domestic and international contacts with trade, professional, and public officials in areas of seed research, production and marketing
-  Participation in industry studies and utilization of arbitration services on disputes among members over business transactions
-  Fostering of professional and personal development
-  Work with government to build good relations and a suitable regulatory environment
-  Representation to other organizations
-  Conventions and meetings
-  Timely communication and a membership directory
-  Trade association services not available from other sources



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As a CSTA member, the Association is a valuable partner in the increasingly complex business of agriculture. The CSTA office provides a quick and efficient means of helping members solve specific seed-related problems. We can introduce you to the CSTA members best able to handle your needs and, when required, refer you to the appropriate federal ministry.

CSTA appoints qualified people to work with the government on behalf of the seed industry and to represent the Association in provincial, national and international organizations.

Timely communication to members is a priority for the CSTA. Regulatory changes, current industry trends, research developments and other issues affecting the seed industry are highlighted in Association communiqués

CSTA also acts as a liaison for export leads around the world, quickly referring them to members who handle the appropriate commodities. As an added feature, CSTA members automatically become members of the International Seed Federation (ISF). With its mandate to develop rules of international trade, ISF provides the forum for companies to participate in the global market.

CSTA conventions – held annually in July and November – give members an opportunity to meet with others in the seed trade, discuss current issues and establish industry positions. Working committees drive the Association's agenda in determining priorities and allocation of resources to address emerging issues.

Members of the Canadian Seed Trade Association benefit from the CSTA's nation-wide information network, helping the Canadian agri-food industry maintain its worldwide reputation of excellence.

