

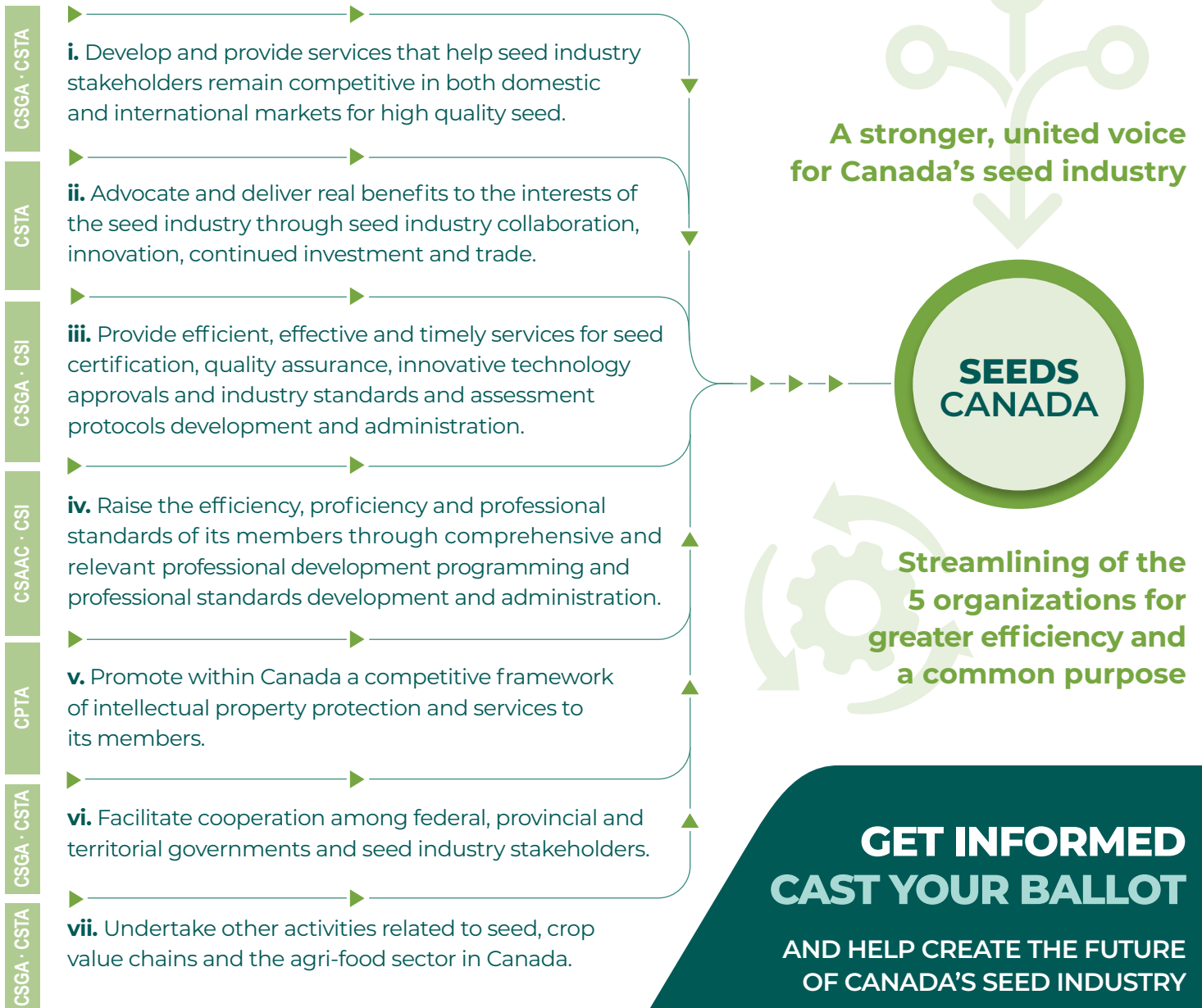
SEEDS CANADA

Ratification Package Overview

Subject to member approval, the Canadian Seed Growers' Association (CSGA), the Canadian Seed Trade Association (CSTA), the Canadian Seed Institute (CSI), the Commercial Seed Analysts Association of Canada (CSAAC), the Canadian Plant Technology Agency (CPTA) will amalgamate to create Seeds Canada – the next generation seed organization that's been **nearly ten years in the making.**

This document is your guide to the Seeds Canada ratification package.
START HERE TO GET INFORMED BEFORE YOU VOTE.

Seeds Canada's Purpose



MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE

The new Seeds Canada membership structure will be voluntary and offered in three classes:





SEED INDUSTRY BUSINESS CLASS

(Voting rights)

Business entities (including sole proprietorships) that derive revenue from activities along the seed sector value chain.

This will include:

- seed growers 
- registered seed establishments
- seed companies
- provincial seed grower associations 



SEED INDUSTRY AFFILIATE CLASS

(No voting rights except in limited circumstance)

Business entities that do not own an asset that supports the seed sector value chain, but may be engaged in other seed industry activities. Affiliated organizations, international partners and suppliers will fit into this category.





SEED INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL CLASS

(No voting rights except in limited circumstances)

Individual professionals who provide support and/or quality assurance services.

This can include:

- seed analysts
- graders
- operators
- licensed seed crop inspectors
- individuals consultants 
- select seed growers 
- plant breeders

Key Considerations for Members

Your Membership Continues on Day 1

of Seeds Canada – Existing members of the amalgamating seed organizations will all become members in Seeds Canada at amalgamation.

Grandfathered Fees – The initial fee structure will reflect what members are currently paying to amalgamating organizations. If a member is paying multiple organization fees, their fee will reflect the aggregate total of fees paid for the most recent fiscal year(s).

New Members and Fees – New members will be required to apply for membership and pay a fee set by the Seeds Canada Board of Directors, which has not yet been determined.

Professional Recognition – Requirements for professionals (e.g. seed analysts) who require professional training and development to gain or maintain recognition in that profession will be upheld and continue within Seeds Canada.



BUSINESS PLAN
PAGES 9, 11 & 25



FAQ
PAGES 16 & 17

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Seeds Canada governance has been developed through many discussions of the Oversight Committee and by all the organizations. The new structure is focused on including both provincial and value chain representation, policy and regulatory functions, and leading governance practices. It has four core components:



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Composed of **15 members** (moving to an elected 11 members over time).

The structure will ensure **ALL** segments of the seed value chain from across the country have a voice at the table.

→ **BUSINESS PLAN**
PAGES 12 -15

MINIMUM ONE REP FROM EACH OF SEED CANADA'S SEVEN REGIONS.



ONE REP FROM EACH OF THE VALUE CHAIN SEGMENTS.



DEVELOPERS



SEED TRADE



GROWERS



SEED TESTING

SEED CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Chaired by a Director and composed of individuals experienced in seed production and associated regulatory and certification matters. Updating Circular 6 procedures will be a key function of this Committee.

→ **BUSINESS PLAN**
PAGES 12, 16 & 17

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Composed of Board Directors and additional members with policy, advocacy, communications, and public affairs experience.

→ **BUSINESS PLAN**
PAGES 12, 18 & 19

SEED TESTING AND QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

Composed of individuals experienced in seed testing and quality assurance. The committee will identify, discuss and make recommendations on seed testing issues, continuing education and other matters.

→ **BUSINESS PLAN**
PAGES 12, 20 & 21

SERVICE STRUCTURE



The current organizations offer a wide range of “services” to the industry. **It is more than just seed certification and crop inspection.** Seeds Canada will continue to offer the 36 services that the amalgamating organizations currently provide. These services will all be delivered with a “single window” approach to enhance efficiency and make it more convenient for members.

The services will be separated into two groupings:

Member-based services – Services such as communications, advocacy, trade promotion and professional development programming will serve all members of **Seed** Canada.

Client-based services – Functions associated with regulations or operations such as seed crop certification, RSE accreditation, training for seed quality assurance, and other non-seed services (e.g., organic certification) will be available to anyone needing these services and will not be tied to **Membership**. In the future, you will not need to be a **Member** of Seeds Canada to continue to access any of these services.



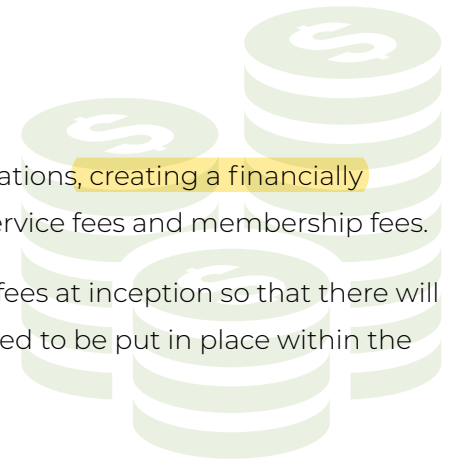
→ **BUSINESS PLAN**
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? **FAQ**
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FINANCES AND FEES

Seeds Canada will bring together the financial resources of the five associations, **creating a financially stronger organization.** It will be funded through a combination of client service fees and membership fees.

Members of the five amalgamating organizations will pay grandfathered fees at inception so that there will be no changes initially. A permanent and equitable fee structure is expected to be put in place within the first two years of Seeds Canada’s operations.



→ **BUSINESS PLAN**
PAGES 9 & 30

? **FAQ**
PAGES 18-20

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

If you are a member in good standing in one or more of the amalgamating organizations, you are eligible to cast a vote as a member in each one. Review the ratification package and reach out to your seed association/organization if you have questions about the voting process.

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

Visit www.seedsynergy.net or participate in an upcoming **webinar**.

GET INFORMED CAST YOUR BALLOT

AND HELP CREATE THE FUTURE
OF CANADA’S SEED INDUSTRY