



# CBAN

## ANNUAL REPORT 2022

[CBAN.CA](http://CBAN.CA)



RESEARCH. EDUCATE. MOBILIZE.

In 2022, we continued our critical campaign to stop the government from removing regulation of many new genetically engineered foods and crops. We also contributed research on other important issues, which was used around the world.



Protesters greeted the start of the industry “Public Trust Summit” October 25, 2022, Toronto.

## PUBLICATIONS

### PUBLICATIONS ON DEREGULATION:

**REPORT:** Unintended effects caused by techniques of new genetic engineering create a new quality of hazards and risk with Testbiotech, Germany



**REPORT:** New Proposals Would Eliminate Transparency on GMOs in Canada. (Eng & Fr)



**MP BRIEFING:** GMO regulatory changes jeopardize safety and remove transparency (Eng & Fr)

**MP BRIEFING:** Proposals on GMO regulation jeopardize safety and remove transparency (Eng & Fr)

**FACTSHEET:** Responding to Health Canada’s Public Relations on GMO regulation

### Other publications:

**FACTSHEET:** GM Wheat Update

**FACTSHEET:** GM Contamination Update: Animals (Eng & Fr)

**REPORT:** Patents on Genome Editing in Canada (Eng & Fr)

**REPORT:** The Global Status of Genetically Engineered Trees: A Growing Threat (Eng, Spanish & Portuguese) – with The Campaign to STOP GE Trees





“Thank you again for your truly incredible work on the GE patent factsheet - honestly the quality of research is sooo good.”

On May 18, Health Canada announced that it will allow companies to **sell some new gene-edited foods without any government safety checks** and without telling the government about them. We responded with a rebuttal to Health Canada’s arguments, in English and French: [Responding to Health Canada’s Public Relations on GMO regulation](#).

[cban.ca/NoExemptions](http://cban.ca/NoExemptions)

## PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY

In April, CBAN commissioned a [public opinion poll](#) which found that Canadians oppose, by a margin of nearly 2 to 1 (46% to 24%), the proposals to let companies conduct their own safety assessments of some GM foods produced through gene editing (those with no foreign DNA) rather than require independent regulators at Health Canada to assess safety.

## PUBLIC MEETING

In June, 90 people participated in an online public meeting we organized, in English and French, to provide information and updates.

*“I found the conversation informative and useful. I know I can find well developed campaign materials on your site to help share these concerns with others. And, I intend to.”*

## PUBLIC INFORMATION

Throughout the year, CBAN updated the public through our newsletter and asked people to take action. Thousands of protest letters were sent from our website.

*“This is an amazing newsletter! Complex issues communicated in a way that makes them very understandable :-)”*

## GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

We continued to meet with regulators and policy decision-makers in Health Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. We also met with staff in both Ministers’ offices, and with some Members of Parliament.





# STOP UNDISCLOSED GM SEEDS



**WARNING:**  
THIS SEED PACKET COULD SOON  
BE FULL OF UNDISCLOSED  
GENETICALLY MODIFIED  
(GM) SEEDS.

**TAKE  
ACTION** →

## ENSURE SAFETY & TRANSPARENCY

[cban.ca/NoExemptions](http://cban.ca/NoExemptions)

### GMO regulatory exemptions will jeopardize safety & transparency

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is proposing to exempt some genetically modified (GM or genetically engineered) seeds from regulation. Health Canada says it will not regulate some new GM foods produced with gene editing (those with no foreign DNA).

### Please ensure government oversight:

- Don't let companies sell new seeds without disclosing that they are genetically modified.
- Don't let companies decide the safety of their own GM seeds & foods, without any government safety checks.

### These changes will mean:

- No independent government food safety and environmental assessments of many new genetically modified organisms (GMOs).
- Companies can put some new GM seeds on the market without telling the government, or farmers that the seeds are GM.
- Companies can sell some GM foods without notifying Health Canada.

### Why it matters:

- Farmers need to know what seeds they're buying.
- Organic farmers need to know if seeds have been gene edited because all GMOs are prohibited under the Canada Organic Standards.
- Most Canadians want GMOs labelled.

## NEW ACTION

CBAN worked closely with the National Farmers Union and the Organic Agriculture Protection Fund (OAPF) of the farmer group SaskOrganics. In November, we prepared a seed packet info-flyer for the *Organic Connections* farmer conference in Saskatoon, as well as for the National Farmers Union convention. Farmers at these conferences sent the seed packets with personalized notes to the Minister. The seed packet was also sent to all Members of Parliament.

This ongoing campaign is critical to the future of our food system and the future of our democracy. CBAN continues to be the key group providing research and accessible information on the regulatory proposals to farmers and consumers, to support their strategic action.

**TAKE ACTION:  
SEND YOUR  
SEED PACKET  
MESSAGE TO  
THE MINISTER  
TODAY!**

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## SOME OTHER FEEDBACK FROM THE PUBLIC:

*We are fortunate that CBAN has been staying on top of the issues and keeping people like me informed.*

*Thank you and all the others who keep championing with research and actions for a GM-free world. Writing an email is not much compared to all that you do. Thanks for keeping me informed and encouraging me to participate for all these years. Your dedication is admirable.*

*We so greatly appreciate your courageous work.*

*Thank you for all of your continued advocacy efforts, they are appreciated and they matter.*

*Thanks for the consistent quality work you have contributed to our collective well-being over the last decades.*

*We are behind you all the way.*

*Thanks for your ongoing efforts, you've been putting in the hard yards on this file for years*

*Thank you for all your wise work; it gives me hope!*



# Thank You!

## TO OUR DONORS IN 2022

**The Edith and Bernard Ennis Foundation**

**Inter Pares**

[www.interpares.ca](http://www.interpares.ca)

**New Roots Herbal Inc.**

[www.newrootsherbal.com](http://www.newrootsherbal.com)

**Canadian Health Food Association**

[www.chfa.ca](http://www.chfa.ca)

**SaskOrganics**

[www.saskorganics.org](http://www.saskorganics.org)

**Julie Daniluk R.H.N., Daniluk Consulting**

[www.juliedaniluk.com](http://www.juliedaniluk.com)

**Shuswap Seed Savers**

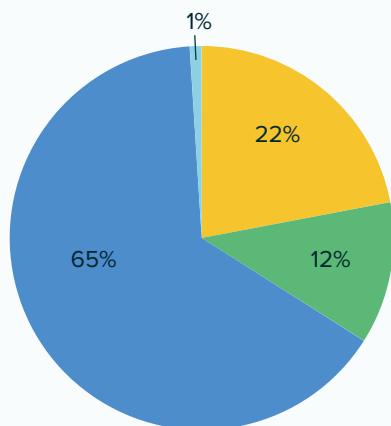
[www.shuswapseedsavers.ca](http://www.shuswapseedsavers.ca)

**Thank you to all the  
individuals who donated  
to support our work in 2022.**



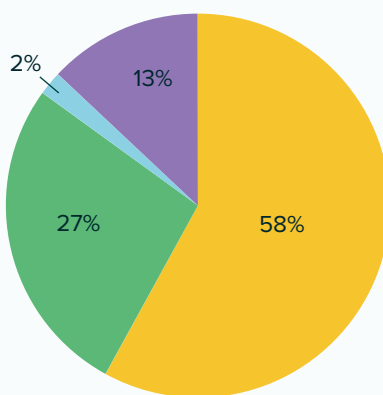
# FINANCES

## 2022 CBAN Revenue \$253,476



- Individuals
- Supporters (Businesses & Associations)
- Grants
- Member Fees

## 2022 CBAN Expenses \$218,270



- Staffing
- Program & Campaign Costs
- Office expenses
- MakeWay Core Supports Contribution\*

\*MakeWay Core Supports Contribution: CBAN is a project on MakeWay's shared platform, which provides governance, human resources, financial, and grant management. A portion of our revenue - 10% of revenue from individual donations, and 12% from grants - is allocated to overhead to support these costs. MakeWay has full fiduciary and governance responsibility for CBAN.

**The Canadian Biotechnology Action Network (CBAN)** brings together 15 groups to research, monitor, and raise awareness about issues relating to genetic engineering in food and farming. CBAN members include farmer associations, environmental and social justice organizations, and regional coalitions of grassroots groups.

**CBAN is a project of MakeWay's shared platform.** MakeWay Charitable Society (previously named Tides Canada) is a registered Canadian charity.

## CBAN MEMBERS

Canadian Organic Growers • Council of Canadians • Ecological Farmers Association of Ontario • Ecology Action Centre • GE Free BC • GMO Free PEI • Greenpeace Canada • Growers of Organic Food Yukon • Inter Pares • National Farmers Union • No More GMOs Toronto • Organic Agriculture Protection Fund of Saskatchewan • SeedChange • Union Paysanne • Vigilance OGM



@cban.canadian.biotechnology.action.network @biotechaction

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