

**NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION / AUTHORIZATION AND SETTLEMENT APPROVAL  
HEARINGS IN THE MATTER OF THE BEEF PRICE-FIXING  
CLASS ACTIONS**

**TO: All persons in Canada who purchased Beef (as defined below) for resale or personal use after January 1, 2015. Beef is the raw portion of cattle carcasses intended for human consumption, excluding certain products that contain Beef as well as Beef purchased from the food service industry.**

**PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY AS IT MAY AFFECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS.**

**1. WHAT IS A CLASS ACTION?**

A class action is a lawsuit filed by one or more persons on behalf of a large group of people that has been “certified” or “authorized” by a Canadian court and determines “common issues” for the group of people, known as the “class”.

**2. WHAT ARE THESE CLASS ACTIONS ABOUT?**

In 2022, class proceedings (the “Class Actions”) were initiated in British Columbia by CFM Lawyers LLP and Strosberg Wingfield Sasso LLP, and in Québec by Belleau Lapointe LLP (collectively “Class Counsel”) on behalf of all persons in Canada who purchased Beef for resale or personal use after January 1, 2015, excluding Beef Products and Beef purchased from the food service industry.

“Beef” means the raw portion of cattle carcasses intended for human consumption, not purchased from the food service industry. “Beef Products” means those products not purchased from the food service industry that contain Beef as one ingredient among others, except where all non-Beef ingredients have been introduced through the process of mechanical blade/needle tenderizing, brine injection, massaging, aging, chemical/enzyme tenderizing, vacuum tumbling, marination and/or seasoning.

These Class Actions claim that the companies that sell Beef were involved in an unlawful conspiracy regarding the supply and/or price of Beef sold in Canada. The Class Actions ask the courts to order the defendants to return any extra money that they have received due to this alleged conspiracy. While the Class Actions were started in British Columbia and Québec, they include Canadian residents in all provinces and territories.

**3. WHAT IS A SETTLEMENT AND WHAT SETTLEMENTS HAVE BEEN REACHED IN THESE CLASS ACTIONS?**

A settlement is when a defendant agrees to pay money to the members of a class action in exchange for having the case against it dismissed or terminated.

In the Class Actions, settlements have been reached with JBS USA Company, Swift Beef Company, JBS Packerland Inc., and JBS Canada ULC (“JBS”) and National Beef Packing Company, LLC (“National Beef”).

The Class Actions will continue against two other defendant groups.

JBS has agreed to pay CAD \$7,498,700 (the “JBS Settlement Amount”) for the benefit of the Settlement Class Members (defined below). JBS has also agreed to provide co-operation to the plaintiffs in pursuing their claims against the non-settling defendants in the Class Actions. In exchange, JBS will be provided with a full release of the claims against them in these Class Actions.

National Beef has agreed to pay CAD \$495,000 (the “National Settlement Amount”, and collectively with the JBS Settlement Amount, the “Settlement Amounts”) for the benefit of the Settlement Class Members (defined below). National Beef has also agreed to provide co-operation to the plaintiffs in pursuing their claims against the non-settling defendants in the Class Actions. In exchange, National Beef will be provided with a full release of the claims against it in these Class Actions.

The settlements are not an admission by JBS or National Beef of liability, fault, or wrongdoing, but are compromises of disputed claims.

The settlements are subject to court approval. There will be settlement approval hearings in British Columbia and Québec. These hearings will be held:

- on September 10, 2026 at 10:00 am at 800 Smithe Street, Vancouver, British Columbia; and
- on December 1, 2026 at 9:15 am at 1, rue Notre-Dame Est, Montréal, Québec.

The courts will decide whether the settlements are fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of Settlement Class Members.

#### **4. WHO IS AFFECTED BY THIS SETTLEMENT?**

The Settlement Class Members are members of the BC Settlement Class and the Québec Settlement Class. The BC Settlement Class is all Persons in Canada, other than members of the Québec Settlement Class, who purchased for resale or personal use, between January 1, 2015 and the date the BC Action is certified for settlement approval, Beef excluding Beef Products and Beef purchased from the food service industry.

The Québec Settlement Class is all Persons who purchased Beef in Québec between January 1, 2015 and the date the BC Action is certified for settlement approval.

Settlement Class Members will have the opportunity to opt out of the class actions as described in Section 6 below.

#### **5. WHEN WILL THE SETTLEMENT AMOUNTS BE DISTRIBUTED?**

The Settlement Amounts, minus court-approved lawyers’ fees, disbursements and applicable taxes, will be held in an interest-bearing trust account for the benefit of the Settlement Class Members in the Class Actions (the “Settlement Funds”).

The Settlement Funds will not be distributed to Settlement Class Members at this time. The Class Actions may or may not result in further settlements or judgments. If there is further recovery, it will be added to the Settlement Funds.

At a later date yet to be determined, the courts will decide how the Settlement Funds will be distributed and how you can apply to receive a share of the Settlement Funds. Watch for another notice explaining how to claim money from the settlement.

## **6. WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO BE IN THE CLASS ACTIONS?**

If you do not want to be a member of these Class Actions, you must opt out by August 10, 2026 at the latest.

### ***THIS IS YOUR ONLY CHANCE TO EXCLUDE YOURSELF OR OPT OUT OF THE CLASS ACTIONS.***

You can opt out by sending a signed written election to Class Counsel, by prepaid mail, courier, fax, or email at the addresses listed below. All opt-outs must contain the following information:

- your full name, current address, email address and telephone number;
- if you are writing on behalf of a company, the name of the company and your position at the company; and
- a statement saying that you (or the company) want to opt out of the Class Actions.

Your opt-out must be received **no later than August 10, 2026**.

If you exclude yourself or opt-out:

- you will not be eligible to participate in the Class Actions;
- you will not receive any money from the Class Actions; but
- you will be able to start or continue your own case against the defendants regarding the claims at issue in the Class Actions.

If you do nothing, and so do not exclude yourself or opt-out:

- you will be eligible to participate in the Class Actions,
- you may receive money from the Class Actions, and
- you will be bound by any judgment or result in the Class Actions as against the other defendants, if the Class Actions are certified against them; but
- you will not be able to start or continue your own case against the defendants regarding the claims at issue in the Class Actions.

If you have any questions about the opt-out process or settlement agreements, you are encouraged to contact Class Counsel using the information below.

## **7. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO AT THIS TIME?**

If you do not oppose the proposed settlements (and do not wish to opt out), you do not need to do anything.

If you want to tell the court what you think about the proposed settlements or speak to the court at the applicable hearing mentioned above, you must send your written submissions to the lawyers working on these Class Actions. Contact information for the lawyers can be found below. The lawyers will file all such submissions with the appropriate court. You may also attend an approval hearing in person. If you wish to attend, please contact Class Counsel for more details.

## **8. WHAT DO I HAVE TO PAY?**

You do not have to pay the lawyers working on these Class Actions any money. The lawyers working on the Class Actions will be paid from the money collected in these Class Actions. The courts will be asked to decide how much the lawyers will be paid. Class Counsel will collectively be asking at the settlement approval hearings that the courts approve legal fees of 25% of the Settlement Amounts, plus disbursements and applicable taxes. Any approved lawyers' fees, disbursements and applicable taxes will be paid out of the Settlement Amounts.

If you wish to comment on or object to the lawyers' fees, a written submission must be delivered to the appropriate lawyers at the addresses listed below before the settlement approval hearings at the latest. The lawyers will forward all such submissions to the appropriate court. You may also attend the settlement approval hearings in person. If you wish to attend, please contact Class Counsel for more details.

## **9. WHAT IF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS ARE NOT APPROVED?**

The certification and authorization orders and the associated opt-out process are only valid if the settlements are approved by the courts. If the JBS and National Beef settlements are not approved or if they otherwise fail to take effect, the certification and authorization orders will be ineffective, and the litigation will continue against JBS and National Beef.

## **10. WHO ARE THE LAWYERS WORKING ON THESE CLASS ACTIONS?**

- CFM Lawyers <sup>LLP</sup> represents Settlement Class Members in all provinces and territories across Canada, excluding Québec. CFM Lawyers <sup>LLP</sup> can be reached:

Toll-free at 1-800-689-2322, by fax at 1-604-689-7554, by email at [info@cfmlawyers.ca](mailto:info@cfmlawyers.ca) or by mail at Suite 400, 856 Homer Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 2W5, Attention: Sahar Majidi

- Strosberg Wingfield Sasso <sup>LLP</sup> represents Settlement Class Members in all provinces and territories across Canada, excluding Québec. Strosberg Wingfield Sasso <sup>LLP</sup> can be reached:

Toll-free at 1-800-229-5323, by fax at 1-866-316-5308, by email at [beef.classaction@swslitigation.com](mailto:beef.classaction@swslitigation.com) or by mail at 1561 Ouellette Avenue Windsor, Ontario N8X 1K5, Attention: Heather Rumble Peterson

- Québec: Belleau Lapointe <sup>LLP</sup> represents Settlement Class Members in Québec. Belleau Lapointe <sup>LLP</sup> can be reached:

Toll-free at 1-888-987-6701, by fax at 1-514-987-6886, by email at [info@belleaulapointe.com](mailto:info@belleaulapointe.com) or by mail at 300, Place d'Youville, Suite B-10, Montréal, Québec H2Y 2B6, Attention: Jean-Philippe Lincourt

## **11. WHERE CAN I ASK MORE QUESTIONS?**

This notice contains only a summary of the JBS and National Beef settlements and Settlement Class Members are encouraged to review the complete settlement agreements. Copies of the settlement agreements can be downloaded from the settlement website at

www.beefclassaction.ca. If you would like a copy of either of the settlement agreements or have questions that are not answered online, please contact the appropriate lawyers identified above. **Inquiries should not be directed to the courts.**

## **12. INTERPRETATION**

This notice contains a summary of some of the terms of the JBS and National Beef settlement agreements. If there is a conflict between the provisions of this notice and the settlement agreements, the terms of the settlement agreements shall prevail.