

PEOPLE FOR  
THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT  
OF ANIMALS

November 8, 2021

The Honorable Lana Popham, British Columbia Minister of  
Agriculture  
The Honorable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Federal Minister of  
Agriculture

Dear Ministers:

I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) about recently released footage by Animal Justice that shows extreme abuse of cows and calves at Cedar Valley Farms, an organic dairy farm in Abbotsford, British Columbia. [Video footage](#) shows workers kicking cows and beating them with canes, wrenches, and pitchforks; mother cows bellowing for their newborns after they've been torn away from them and tossed into wheelbarrows; and more. In light of this exposé, we're urging you to shut down this farm immediately.

Workers showed little regard for the animals, many of whom were emaciated and had mobility issues. Some were even pushed or dragged around with heavy machinery while they were unable to move. The gentle giants, who can feel pain and suffer just as dogs, cats, and other animals, were traumatized. Workers have also shot cows multiple times, which is illegal in slaughterhouses, as victims of botched stunning attempts can suffer from tremendous physical pain and psychological terror between the first and final shots. Clearly, nothing has changed since 2014, when seven workers were convicted for abusing animals on a Chilliwack farm, one of whom is shown working in the Cedar Valley Farms footage taken between May and October 2021.

The BC Milk Marketing Board suspended Cedar Valley Farms' license, and the BC SPCA is recommending criminal charges for the serious abuse documented on the farm, which, like conventional dairy farms, treats cows as mere milk machines instead of the complex, feeling beings they actually are.

We hope you'll agree, as all kind and decent people do, that Cedar Valley Farms should be closed permanently to prevent further abuse and neglect. With all the vegan milk products that exist today—including plant-based milks, yogurts, cheeses, and ice creams—there

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are many delicious and humane products that people can choose from instead of supporting cruelty to animals.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tracy Reiman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tracy Reiman  
Executive Vice President