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The Honourable Nancy Greene Raine

# NEWS RELEASE

L'honorable Nancy Greene Raine

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*Immediate release*

## **SENATOR NANCY GREENE RAINE CALLS ON THE GOVERNMENT TO AMEND THE MAPLE PRODUCTS REGULATIONS**

**OTTAWA, January 31, 2012** – The Honourable Nancy Greene Raine, today tabled a motion in the Senate calling on the Government of Canada to amend the *Maple Products Regulations* which would benefit consumers, industry and business alike.

"Maple syrup is a unique Canadian product that is both healthy and delicious. To market to the world our producers need new regulations that will make it easier for consumers to understand the different types of pure maple syrup and for international consumers to be assured that it comes from Canada. The industry is to be commended for proposing such common sense solutions and I hope the motion is passed quickly and that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency implements the changes as fast as possible," said British Columbia Senator Nancy Greene Raine.

Based on the recommendations of the International Maple Syrup Institute and supported by industry, the proposed amendments seek to achieve a uniform definition of maple syrup. As well, all pure maple syrup sold in retail markets would be labeled "Grade A Maple Syrup." Four distinct classes of maple syrup would be created to describe colour and taste making it easier for consumers to choose their preference. Products found to be below "Grade A Maple Syrup" would be removed from retail shelves, strengthening consumer confidence in the purity of the maple syrup they purchase. Furthermore, a requirement for product labels to include province, state or country of origin is being put forward.

*For more information, please contact:*

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