



The Next Framework is Coming – What Should Agriculture Expect?

Q&A Responses

A CAPI & RealAg Policy Exchange
July 23rd, 2026 | 12:30pm-2:00pm ET

Question
1. From the beef sector’s perspective, where are the most important gaps in economic research and decision-support tools needed to improve producer productivity, profitability, competitiveness, and resilience? Response: Tyler: I encourage you to look at the Beef Cattle Research Council to understand the projects they are working on, which I think speak to where they see the gaps in research. https://www.beefresearch.ca/research/research-priorities/
2. What role could we see for regulatory accountability and regulatory modernization in the future NPF, while putting forward a whole government approach to agriculture (ag sits at the culprit of various ministries/departments that impact act daily) (Quentin, CropLife Canada) Response: Tyler: The lack of language around regulatory modernization in the Halifax Statement is a significant gap. Minister MacDonald in his interview spoke to how reducing regulatory burden is a priority, but it is not reflected in the Halifax Statement itself. That is a contrast to the National Food Security Strategy (FSS) that has regulatory modernization as one of its priorities. The FSS includes new funding and actions to reduce backlogs, speed up approvals, recognize foreign product approvals and then sets out two performance indicators (reducing the backlog at CFIA and PRD and reducing approval time by a third) to measure progress.
3. So, is the Halifax statement sufficiently to set the stage, or set the framework, for important work to be done in speeding up innovation, productivity growth and food system resilience? Or, it does it fail in that regard? Response: Tyler: In my opinion the Halifax Statement does not provide sufficient detail to set meaningful direction. For example, “Advancing science, research and innovation through strategic investment and coordinated action” is a priority, with 5 focus areas underneath it, but they do not articulate a clear direction that enables someone outside government to understand what changes or direction they going to pursue as they shift to implementation.

That said, officials receive direction outside of the publicly released statement, so hopefully they have more clarity over what they need to do over the next year.

4. Speaking about market growth and diversification, did you find a connection between the agricultural policy framework and the Trade Development Nexus approach from Global Affairs Canada?

Response:

Tyler: No, there does not appear to be a direct link, although some of the language on trade does appear to mirror what GAC is trying to accomplish. I think there is more opportunity to strengthen the ag trade agenda with the Trade Development Nexus as it is further developed by GAC.

5. As a country with 15% of the world's arable land and 2% of the global population could/should there be a bigger focus on the economic opportunity to be a global powerhouse in sustainable agrifood production?

Response:

Tyler: I think that is what governments are trying to aim for with their vision of "A world-leading agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector that is competitive, innovative, resilient, and drives economic growth" but I think the priorities and focus areas could go much further in outlining what governments think is necessary for Canada to be a powerhouse in sustainable agri-food production. Part of the challenge is that many probably think we are that already, not recognizing how Canada continues to slide from the leadership position it held in the past.

6. A question for Greg Meredith from the wool industry: Would you have any comments on the "big-picture" opportunities in processing, valued-added ag products, as well as engagement with other Gov agencies and priorities (i.e. defence)? Our sector is very much a niche in Canada, but the opportunity is see is enormous.

Response:

Tyler: You can hear more of Greg's thoughts here <https://www.realagriculture.com/2026/07/the-halifax-statement-lacks-urgency-and-context-says-greg-meredith-but-its-not-too-late/>

7. Can Agriculture ministers drive change that is outside their mandate. Examples is in regulations, CFIA, export development. Most of ag current holdbacks is not under the direct influence of Agriculture.

Response:

Tyler: Yes, there are many examples of Ministers having strong influence on the actions of departments outside their mandate. During the webinar Greg Meredith spoke to his experience working for a Minister that really leaned into the mandate of the Minister of Transport.

I think today there are examples where Minister MacDonald is working closely with Minister Michel at Health to ensure she understand ag and food priorities and dynamics as she advances her regulatory modernization agenda.

8. The Competition Bureau's supply chain examination reports in 2027, mid-framework. How should NPF be designed to be robust to those findings, and where is producer share of the food dollar heading over the framework period?

Response:

Tyler: I think there is a recognition that the framework needs to become more adaptable so that it can respond to events that will happen over its 5 years. The work of the Competition Bureau is an example of something that governments will need to be prepared to react to.

It is not clear to me that the government has made any analysis about the producer's share of the farm dollar. There is nothing available publicly beyond what Statistics Canada releases at their [food price data hub](#).

9. Innovation is interesting. Often measured by the adoption of new production tech, which is important, yet some of the things that need to happen aren't innovative, although they are necessary - supporting on-farm capacity building for tech/bmp adoption, adaptability, and successful farm transition, for example. Is there a way to reconcile these often-disparate yet interdependent paths?

Response:

Tyler: The best way to approach this is through an agriculture and food innovation strategy that looks at the variety of issues that impact the innovation continuum. This ranges from supporting fundamental R&D to helping producers with adoption at the end. Australia's [National Agriculture Innovation Agenda](#) is an example of how to reconcile these different dynamics.

10. Leveraging DND funding to support ag innovation seems like an easy win. what does the sector need to do in order to seize this potential leverage?

Response:

Tyler: A lot more can be done to leverage the potential for dual use technologies in agriculture. The potential for dual use (developed for defense, but with potential in other sectors) is a driving force of the new Defense Industrial Strategy, but it does appear like agriculture has been slow to understand the true



potential for defense spending to impact the sector. It is something that CAPI is looking to do more work on.

CAPI's Senior Policy Analyst co-wrote an editorial on this in October 2025.

<https://sciencepolicy.ca/posts/leveraging-defence-spending-to-strengthen-canadas-rd/>