

Next Policy Framework for Canadian Agricultural Funding Programs

Discussion document on identifying agricultural priorities for development of next Canada-Yukon funding program

Introduction

The Government of Yukon is seeking your input to help guide the development of a new suite of funding programs that meet the priorities and needs of the local agricultural sector and its stakeholders. The new funding program currently referred to as the Next Policy Framework, will replace the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) program that is expiring in March 2023.

Use this discussion document as a way to formulate your feedback.

Your feedback will be used to identify the Government of Yukon's priorities as it negotiates the funding agreement known as the Bilateral Agreement with the Government of Canada in winter 2022-2023.

Discussion item 1: Your experience with Canadian Agricultural Partnership Program (CAP)

Identify your relationship to the agriculture industry in the Yukon (example: farmer, processor, chef, non-profit, association member, etc.).

Describe your experience with the [current CAP funding program](#). Example: I have never applied for CAP funding, or I have applied and received funding, or I have applied but was not approved for funding.

If you have never applied for CAP funding, please describe why.

Describe your experience with the CAP program. During the application process, what tools did you use? Example: CAP website, or the Yukon CAP programming guide, or the application form, or received support from Government of Yukon's Agriculture Branch during the application process. Were these tools or services useful and how can they be improved?

Are there parts of your experience with the CAP program that were challenging? What are your suggestions for improving these parts of the experience?



Background on Next Agricultural Policy Framework negotiations

The Government of Yukon is negotiating with the Government of Canada on a cost-shared funding agreement. Federal funding received by the Government of Yukon will contribute to new funding programs to support the local agriculture and agri-food sectors over the next five years from 2023 to 2028.

This is a national initiative. The negotiation underway between the federal, provincial and territorial governments is called the Next Policy Framework. A national-level Multilateral Framework Agreement between the federal government and all provinces and territories is expected to occur in summer 2022.

Then, the Government of Yukon will proceed with negotiating the Bilateral Agreement. Out of this agreement, a new funding program will be developed that will replace the current Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) program. The CAP program expires on March 31, 2023.

In November 2021, the Government of Canada and all provinces and territories signed [The Guelph Statement](#). This statement outlines five priorities and focus areas, and describes the guiding principles for the Next Policy Framework negotiations.

Priority areas for Next Policy Framework negotiations

All of the new funding programs that will be developed in the Yukon under the Next Policy Framework negotiations must align with one of the five Priority Areas identified in the Guelph Statement. These are:

Area 1: Building Sector Capacity, Growth & Competitiveness

- Support new or emerging primary, value-added and processing opportunities;
- Improve productivity through the development and adoption of technology, digitization and artificial intelligence;
- Enhance labour attraction and retention, training, and automation;
- Foster the next generation of farmers, considering economic, training and other barriers to entry; and
- Pursue economic opportunities through efficiency improvements, reducing and recovering food and other wastes, and growing the bio-economy.



Area 2: Climate Change and Environment

- Prepare for and respond to a changing climate by supporting Beneficial Management Practices and accelerating technological adoption;
- Reduce GHG emissions, and improve carbon sequestration;
- Protect and regenerate soil, water and air quality; and
- Improve biodiversity and protect sensitive habitats.

Area 3: Science, Research and Innovation

- Address challenges such as climate change and pursue opportunities such as new markets;
- Support research in primary agriculture, agronomy, and value-added;
- Accelerate the development and adoption of new technologies and finding energy efficiencies;
- Supporting pre-commercialization and start-ups in such areas as innovative labour solutions and bioproducts; and
- Enhance data collection, extension activities, performance measures, knowledge exchange and transfer.

Area 4: Resiliency and Public Trust

- Build the resiliency of the entire food chain;
- Provide BRM programs that are timely, equitable, and easy to understand;
- Encourage and support proactive risk management, including climate risk;
- Protect and enhance plant and animal health and animal welfare, through a “One Health” perspective;
- Support the sector to develop, adopt, and enhance assurance systems;
- Fostering awareness of sector commitment to the sustainable production of safe, high-quality food and building public trust while increasing sector awareness of the expectations of consumers;
- Support and empower producers and agri-food workers to take care of their mental health; and
- Support worker health and safety.



Area 5: Market Development and Trade

- Collaborate to pursue and defend Canadian trade interests and advance science-based trade rules;
- Support market diversification and efforts to remove barriers to interprovincial trade;
- Support export readiness and identify and pursue market development opportunities abroad and domestically such as buy local; and
- Meet domestic and international demand for sustainable primary production and processing practices.

Discussion item 2: Incorporating Priority Areas into the Yukon's funding program

Provide your comments and ideas to the following:

- Which priority area(s) do you feel is most important for the Yukon's agriculture and agri-food industry?
- What do you see as the key challenges for growth of the Yukon's agriculture sector?
- What do you see as opportunities for sector growth in the Yukon?
- Which programs do you think should be continued from the [current Canadian Agricultural Partnership \(CAP\) funding program](#)? Are there any changes you'd like to see to these programs?
- Which programs should **not** be continued?
- Do you have any suggestions for new funding programs for the agriculture industry?

Provide your feedback on these additional topics:

- How could the new funding programs support Yukon First Nation agricultural producers?
- Do you have any other comments to share about either the CAP program or how new funding programs will be developed under the Next Agricultural Policy Framework negotiations?

