

# The Next Agricultural Policy Framework (Growing Forward 3)

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## Key Points:

- The Next Agricultural Policy Framework (NPF) will replace Growing Forward 2 April 1, 2018.
- The development of NPF began with the Calgary Statement in July 2016 and will continue with a national framework agreement, and then will move to a provincial agreement later in 2017 that will focus on programs and activities tailored for Alberta's industry.
- The six key priority areas identified in the Calgary Statement and endorsed by Ministers of Agriculture across Canada last July, will guide the development of the next framework.
- Stakeholder input and consultation will help shape the next Agreement.
- Stay informed about NPF and upcoming national or provincial consultation opportunities by visiting Alberta's Growing Forward 2 website and subscribing to receive notifications of updates.  
. [www.growingforward.alberta.ca](http://www.growingforward.alberta.ca)

## What is the Next Policy Framework?

Federal, provincial and territorial (FPT) governments are currently working together to develop the next agricultural policy framework which will launch on April 1, 2018. Last July 2016 when FPT Ministers of Agriculture endorsed the Calgary Statement at their annual meeting it signaled the start of the development of the Next Policy Framework (NPF).

The NPF has three layers of agreements; the Calgary Statement, The Multilateral Framework Agreement and the Bilateral Agreement.

- The Calgary Statement is a directional document that outlines the intent to develop the NPF and highlights areas of importance to the agriculture, agri-processing, and agri-products industry across Canada.
- The Multilateral Framework Agreement is built on the intentions of the Calgary Statement and is a formal signed agreement between the FPT governments to jointly address key issues, and the strategic details of the next agricultural policy framework.
- The Bilateral Agreement is a formal signed agreement between Alberta and Canada which outlines the programs offered within the province; the administrative and operational details; and funding allocations that Canada and Alberta are required to adhere to during the implementation period.

Agricultural frameworks have proven to be an effective way to coordinate Canada's federal, provincial and territorial policies and programs for over 15 years.

## How will the Next Policy Framework be developed?

The development process moves through various stages over a period of approximately two years and involves industry consultations at a national and provincial level, multilateral and bilateral negotiations between governments and program development at the provincial level.

Currently, Agriculture and Forestry (AF) officials are in the process of seeking authority to begin the provincial consultation process that will complement the national initiatives, and help refine and focus the six national priority areas to the needs of the Alberta industry.

### **What are the Key Areas of Focus for the Next Policy Framework?**

The Calgary Statement highlights that FPT governments and industry share a collective vision of creating the most modern, sustainable and prosperous sector in the world.

The Calgary Statement identifies the following six key priority areas that will guide the development of the next agricultural policy framework.

1. Markets & Trade
2. Science, Research & Innovation
3. Risk Management
4. Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change
5. Value-Added Agriculture & Agri-Food Processing
6. Public Trust

### **How can I stay informed?**

Stay informed about the NPF by visiting the new tab on Alberta's Growing Forward 2 website and subscribing to receive notification of updates. [www.growingforward.alberta.ca](http://www.growingforward.alberta.ca).