

Canada West Foundation

2021 Report Card

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2021 Report Card

Trade & Investment Centre

POLICY GOAL

The West's relations with its largest trade partners

What we promised

The United States

We continued work started in 2020 to develop and test a rationale and agenda for Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba to solve common problems directly with states in the U.S. Mountain West. We promised to convene a workshop of regional and private sector leaders including representatives from other border regions to produce a final report of recommendations for the Prairie premiers to take to their U.S. counterparts. This included a Canadian Prairie agenda for approaching U.S. governors and mechanisms for engagement.

We set out to increase general advocacy for the Cascadia Innovation Corridor between British Columbia, Washington and Oregon, and to include Calgary in the initiative.

China

Our goal was to translate experience from Australia and Brazil into policy recommendations for the Canadian government to engage China on non-tariff barrier issues in agricultural trade. We also committed to publishing the *China Brief* to provide news of major issues in Western Canada's relations with China.

What we delivered

The United States

As anticipated, the Biden administration and a divided U.S. Congress and Senate have not substantially reduced trade irritants. Alarming for the West, Country of Origin Labelling for beef has returned. This occurred in an environment where agenda-setting for North American relations still rests largely in the hands of Ottawa and Washington, D.C. with little input from western states and provinces.

Research for the planned report is being used to prepare a *Roadmap for a renewed western partnership for North America*. CWF is working with the Western Governors Association (WGA) to host a breakfast for western Premiers at an in-person WGA summer meeting in Idaho this summer.

- Advocacy for greater inclusion of Calgary in the Cascadia Corridor was unsuccessful and dropped. Time and effort, including advance media outreach and advocacy, were instead devoted to successful media outreach in response to the sudden re-emergence of Country of Origin Labelling (COOL) bills in the U.S. Senate.
- The Centre hosted two webinars with U.S. and Canadian experts and politicians on border relations post-COVID: *Crossing That Bridge Now That We've Come to It: COVID-19, the border and what we've learned* and *Talking to the Neighbours Over the Fence Post-COVID: The renewal of province-state engagement*.
- We monitored political, economic and trade-specific events in the U.S. that impact western Canadian interests and delivered media commentary, public speaking and briefings for industry and elected officials.

China

Despite continued deterioration of the political relationship, trade with China continued to grow, including exports. This was a rarity in the continued COVID-based decline of Canadian exports.

- Published 20 issues of the *China Brief* newsletter. In addition to our regular publication, we adapted and expanded to include tracking of China's Belt and Road Initiative and implementation of China's Five-Year Plans making the *China Brief* the only regular, Canadian source of such information.
- Convened a week-long symposium of in-depth conversations, *China's Latest Five-Year Plan: Insights for Western Canadian Trade*, with international experts and Canadian stakeholders on areas of China's national Five-year Plan that impact western interests – agriculture, energy, and services.
- Published a blog providing an analysis and framework for understanding and evaluating what China's application to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreements for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) trade agreement means for Western Canada.
- Published two blogs on Canada-China agricultural trade updates based on the Five-Year Plan.
- CWF hosted a talk by Canada's Ambassador to China, focused on western Canadian issues.
- CWF hosted three pop-up policies on understanding Canada's Indo-Pacific trade relations, the impact of China's fifth plenum on western Canadian trade, and the impact of global energy crises, such as in China, on western Canadian trade.
- Published additional commentary introducing western perspectives to academic and policy journals. Though this work was published under other staff affiliations the material was gleaned from CWF work and reflected western priorities.
- Monitored political, economic and trade-specific events in China that impact western Canadian interests. This work allowed CWF to deliver media commentary, present at conferences, podcasts, respond to short-notice requests to testify in parliament, government roundtables and be positioned to provide ongoing public speaking and briefings for industry and elected officials.

What it means for Canada's West

The United States

A rapid, proactive response to the return of COOL generated media coverage and raised awareness. The public conversations on COVID response brought western perspectives to issues dominated by concerns in other parts of the country. Work to develop a *Roadmap for a renewed western partnership for North America* and western participation in the 2022 WGA meeting will lay the basis for increased western influence in relations with the U.S.

China

Policy debates in Canada on China have focused on political and security issues. CWF work focused on producing intelligence and to understand trade issues has been critical to assure data and information to enable the country, and particularly western stakeholders, to manage the growing trade relationship. The *China Brief* is the only publication focused on western Canadian issues with Canada's second-largest trading partner. The brief not only digests information for western Canadian businesses and policymakers but also helps to inform other parts of Canada and foreign audiences on issues important for the West. The addition of tracking of China's Belt and Road Initiative and implementation of its Five-Year Plan will help western stakeholders avoid, or at least anticipate, changes in China's management of its economy and how they might impact other markets important to the West.

CWF work has been instrumental in reshaping policy debates in Canada to reflect the reality that the impact of China's economic rise goes beyond the bi-lateral trade relationship and potentially affects Canada's wider trade ambitions.

Still to come

The United States

If western premiers attend the summer 2022 WGA meeting, CWF will organize and host a breakfast for premiers and, in conjunction, release the *Roadmap for a renewed western partnership for North America*. CWF will continue to monitor developments in the U.S. so we can assure that western interests are reflected in media coverage and policy development in Canada.

China

CWF will publish a report on China's latest Five-Year Plan and what recent trade and development directions mean for Western Canada's trade future. CWF will model China's ascension to the CPTPP to provide a quantitative grounding for conversations in Canada and will also publish the *China Brief*. CWF will monitor and analyze economic and political developments in China to assure that western interests are reflected in media coverage and policy development in Canada.

POLICY GOAL

Rediscovering other markets

What we promised

We said we would update 2017 modelling of the CPTPP agreement's impact on Canada to include the affects of the COVID-19 pandemic and take into consideration the potential addition of the U.K. to the agreement and a U.S. return. We also promised to provide ongoing analysis on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and other global trade developments for western stakeholders and national media.

As anticipated, all levels of the Canadian government increased their focus on trade diversification to reduce overdependence on its two largest markets.

What we delivered

- Published a blog providing an analysis of the impact of the COVID pandemic on the Global Middle Class.
- Provided commentary on RCEP as the issue was overtaken by other developments but continued monitoring of developments in that trade bloc.
- In 2022, published an analysis and thought piece on how major changes to the global trade environment might impact Alberta's future. This was a supporting report for the Business Council of Alberta's *Define the Decade* project.

- Wrote and published op-eds and commentary on U.K.'s accession to the CPTPP.
- Updating CPTPP modelling was delayed due to data and contracting issues. Modelling will likely be moved in-house for completion.
- Hosted a webinar on Western Canada and the developing Indo-Pacific policy framework.
- Launched, with the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, a new, on-line CPTPP Competitiveness Tracker tool to allow businesses and export support agencies to find tariff rates, expected export gains and major competitors.
- In partnership with Export Development Canada, the World Trade Centre Winnipeg, the Saskatchewan Trade Export Partnership, Edmonton Global and Calgary Economic Development, CWF developed and led a four-part speaker series that provided an advance look at upcoming foreign trade and investment challenges and opportunities in 2021 for western Canadian business policymakers. Talks included: *The Rest of Asia: From ASEAN to CPTPP and RCEP*, *Beyond Brexit, Moving goods: Will this little piggy get to market?* and *Mexico – The Other NAFTA Partner*.
- Monitored political, economic and trade-specific events in key global markets that impact western Canadian interests. This work allowed CWF to deliver media commentary, respond to short-notice requests to testify in parliament and position itself to provide ongoing public speaking and briefings for industry and elected officials.

What it means for Canada's West

- As the country and businesses in the West look beyond U.S. and Chinese markets, it is critical they have access to better and more relevant information. CWF has played a major role in providing this information.

Still to come

CWF will continue as a leading source of information and analysis on how China's economic rise impacts Canada's trade ambitions in global markets.

CWF will continue to partner with national and western export promotion agencies to develop unique information products that winnow analysis focused or dominated by the needs of other parts of Canada, to bring relevant, practical information targeted to western Canadian interests.

POLICY GOAL

Getting to market Improving Canada's trade infrastructure

What we promised

We promised to model the impact of the CPTPP trade agreement on Canada's trade infrastructure to enable western provinces and stakeholders to more effectively engage the federal government and demonstrate to foreign markets that work is being done in Canada. The modelling will include pre- and post-COVID analysis.

We also said we would finish a strategic framework to guide trade infrastructure planning and prioritization in Canada including translating elements of Infrastructure Australia and other global best practices. These efforts include an aggressive public education campaign to raise awareness around the importance of improving trade infrastructure and turn policy recommendations from research into action.

A summit of New West Partnership premiers was planned for Winnipeg, Manitoba. We planned to wage an aggressive public education campaign to raise awareness around the importance of improving trade infrastructure and turn policy recommendations from research into action.

What we delivered

The importance of trade infrastructure has risen to public prominence because of COVID supply and production chain disruptions as well as flooding in B.C. The need for comprehensive solutions has not. This has made CWF work timely and important.

- Modelling was finished but not released. It is being held for new, post-COVID CPTPP modelling which was delayed.
- Over 2021, CWF Senior Fellow John Law, author of the strategic framework paper, conducted extensive consultations with shippers, transporters, and government officials including provincial ministers.
- We submitted evidence for Canada's National Infrastructure Assessment. Language and analysis from the submission has been echoed in federal government materials and reports.
- The framework report, *From Shovel Ready to Shovel Worthy: The Path to a National Plan for the Next Generation of Economic Growth* was released in Q2 of 2022 accompanied by an ongoing national advocacy campaign.

What it means for Canada's West

Western Canada depends on exports even more than the rest of the country. Recent flooding in B.C. and the harm to global supply and production chains coupled with border blockades, have made the importance of trade infrastructure clear to the public. While the problems are understood the solutions are not. Western Canada's trade success hinges on ensuring that proper solutions are developed by the federal and provincial governments.

Still to come

In 2022 CTI will focus on advocacy for recommendations in the *Shovel Ready to Shovel Worthy* report. This will include extensive public speaking as well as continued meeting with government and industry.

CTI will model the economic impacts of China's ascension to the CPTPP agreement for Canada and North America and will also test a North America version of the *China Brief*.

2021 Report Card

Human Capital Centre

There was cause for excitement in the Human Capital Centre in Q1 of 2021. The early stages of the pandemic were over, adjustments to virtual work and learning had been made, the economy was in recovery and governments were interested in learning more about how the recent past would change the future of work and learning.

At the end of that quarter, the Centre received funding for two major, one-year projects: Alberta Young Talent Attraction and Retention, and Capacity and Collaboration in Civil Society. The necessary focus on these two important pieces of work slowed but did not stop progress on projects already underway.

POLICY GOAL

Skills, competencies and workforce development

Labour market transition

What we promised

A critical aspect of a successful economy and investment attraction is a workforce with the right combination of skills and competencies. To achieve this goal, an adaptive pathway to connect labour market information, the verified competencies of the current workforce, and education and training is required. We promised to show how competency frameworks help government, post-secondary institutions and employers match today's workforce to tomorrow's jobs. The intent was to develop a project that would demonstrate this approach to investment attraction for communities that are in transition from one main industry sector to another – to ensure the local workforce can stay in place and access quality work opportunities.

What we delivered

- To replace a demonstration project, a paper, currently titled *Competency as Currency*, illustrating the form and function of the components of a competency-based system of workforce development has been written and reviewed. It will be updated and published in Q2 2022.
- A *submission*, prepared jointly with the Natural Resources Centre, was made to Natural Resources Canada's *People-centred Just Transition* discussion paper. Our submission emphasized the need for individuals to receive support to transition to new high-quality, well-paying jobs located close to their homes. We also wrote an op-ed for JWN's Daily Oil Bulletin on the topic.
- We published 13 *Future of Work and Learning* briefs that contributed to the public discourse on shifts within labour markets by providing news focused on training, education and evolving jobs.

What it means for Canada's West

Canadian employers have begun to ask for competencies rather than credentials to take the risk out of hiring new employees and manage their workforce. However, Canada does not have a competency-based system that is understood by all the stakeholders in workforce development. Our forthcoming paper meets this need and discusses what is needed to build this system. Ultimately, the West and Canada will have a better approach to development of the workforce. This approach will be especially important in the reattachment to the workforce of individuals whose jobs are displaced by energy transformation. These workers must not be left behind as the economy shifts.

Competency frameworks

What we promised

A follow-up paper to our 2017 publication, *Matchup: A case for pan-Canadian competency frameworks*, was in the works for 2021. This paper adds to our research about the desired architecture for these frameworks, which are the basis of a competency-based system of workforce development, and discusses how to engage employers to ensure frameworks are accurate, relevant and useful tools that assist firms to better match people with jobs.

What we delivered

- A draft of this paper has been written and will be further updated for publication in summer 2022.

What it means for Canada's West

Employers want a competent workforce – people who can do the tasks of the jobs for which they are hired. Unfortunately, employers have difficulty articulating the competencies they require and the level of skill needed. Competency frameworks provide employers with a common foundation from which to customize requirements of company specific jobs.

Collaborative competencies for Civil Society

What we promised

Canada has more than 170,000 charitable and non-profit organizations which account for roughly 10 per cent of GDP and employ more than two million workers. We promised that if funding permitted, we would build competency frameworks and look at capacity issues related to collaborative competencies for this vital pillar of the Alberta economy.

What we delivered

- In late Q1 of 2021, we were awarded funding from Alberta Community and Social Services' Civil Society Fund to examine collaborative capacity within Alberta's non-profit social services sector. To date we have identified a continuum of collaborative capacity, developed a series of case studies that illustrate this continuum and created a matrix that outlines how organizations can determine their next best collaborative engagement.
- In addition, work has begun to help organizations in the youth serving sub-sector assess their capacity to collaborate and to build competency frameworks that will help guide their hiring and human resource management across a city-wide collaborative effort to improve outcomes for Opportunity Youth (young people not currently in school or employed).

- One of the most persistent barriers to collaboration and successful long-term outcomes for the social services sector is the constant competition for funding. A paper that discusses a new way to finance social solutions was written in 2021 and was published in April 2022, *Financing Social Solutions through Outcomes Procurement*.

What it means for Canada's West

An understanding of the capacity of, and competencies required for, social service sector non-profit organizations to collaborate will assist the sector to improve outcomes for the clients they serve. Our work in Alberta will resonate with the civil society sector in other provinces across the West.

POLICY GOAL

Effective and efficient workforce development

Micro credentials

What we promised

Micro credentials are touted as one way to ensure that new hires have the exact skills that employers need. We promised to discuss the work that must go into the development of micro credentials and ways to ensure that employers can recognize the specific micro credentials that meet their needs.

What we delivered

- *Micro Credentials: Small qualifications, big deal* was published in September 2021. This What Now? brief discusses 10 actions needed to ensure that micro credentials meet the needs of employers and create value for their holders and the institutions and other organizations that award them.

What it means for Canada's West

Governments across the West and the country have budgeted millions of dollars for post-secondary institutions to develop micro credentials. Many of these small qualifications are not tied directly to the needs of employers, nor do they provide assurance that the holder can actually perform the associated tasks. The actions outlined in the *What Now?* brief make very clear what needs to be done to ensure budgets are not wasted and that micro credentials become a valuable component of the workforce development system.

Youth attraction and retention

What we promised

The continued exodus of young people from Alberta became a noticeable problem in 2020. We promised, if funding permitted, to take a closer look at numbers across the West to determine what this might mean for the western economy in the future and how stakeholders might work together to make the province more attractive for young people. In early 2021, we were awarded funding from Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan) to research and analyze the social and environmental challenges and opportunities Alberta faces in retaining and attracting young talent to the province.

What we delivered

- This project combined both primary and secondary research. First, we established that youth were leaving and, just as concerning, not coming to Alberta. The trend was alarming, especially since Alberta has experienced net average in-migration of 8,000 youth annually over the last 50 years. While examining these numbers, we also looked at migration trends for all the West and the economics that might drive this migration. The results of the migration and economics research will be published in early 2022 as *The Young are Restless: Western youth migration*.

Primary research on what drives the migration besides economic factors included 12 focus groups and a survey totalling 2,000 young adults in Alberta (1,100), Vancouver (400), Toronto (400) and Kitchener-Waterloo (100). Social media sentiment analysis and segmentation analysis of the survey results completed the research.

Our findings showed that when young adults choose a place to live, they consider their individual values as much as economic factors including job opportunities. There is a pervasive perception among young people in Alberta, and also in Toronto and Vancouver where many youth are not very familiar with Alberta, that the province does not offer a diversity of job opportunities or career pathways. As well, youth perceive that Alberta lacks vibrancy – a personal combination of outdoor experiences, arts and culture and other quality of life factors – and that the province is not welcoming and inclusive of diversity.

The report makes recommendations designed to overcome these perception issues and to ensure that youth build the competencies and networks that help them feel they have a future in Alberta.

- The final report for this project was submitted to PrairiesCan in November 2021 and the public report, *Work to Live: Alberta Youth Mobility*, was published in 2022.

What it means for Canada's West

These two reports make clear that the Prairie provinces have a problem keeping youth at home, while B.C. attracts many young adults. This demographic perceives that choice of place reflects their values and identity. The Prairies must work to break traditional stereotypes and overcome perception issues that do not reflect the reality that these provinces are vibrant, affordable and economically attractive places to build a life.

2021 Report Card

Natural Resources Centre

POLICY GOAL

Carbon and climate policies that benefit the West

What we promised

As home to many energy-intensive, high-emissions industries, Western Canada is particularly sensitive to the effects of carbon and climate policies. While a well-designed policy environment can enhance the West's ability to achieve emissions reduction goals, we need to be wary of policy approaches that create confusion, increase costs, reduce competitiveness and undermine climate outcomes. In 2021, we promised to continue to focus on what works and what doesn't when it comes to climate policy in the West.

What we delivered

- We published a brief to explain the federal government's changes to the proposed Clean Fuel Standard. The brief is an update to our 2020 report, [A Citizen's Guide to the Clean Fuel Standard](#), and provides an explanation of the proposed changes and of the government's economic analysis of the proposed legislation.
- We started to analyze what a just transition looks like for Western Canada. In collaboration with CWF's Human Capital Centre, we submitted [comments](#) to Natural Resources Canada's *People-centred Just Transition* discussion paper, and we wrote an op-ed for the *Daily Oil Bulletin* on the topic.
- We delivered four presentations summarizing Canadian environmental and climate legislation for a variety of industry groups, one presentation on the effects of U.S. policy on the environment and energy sector, one presentation on the impact of Canadian policy on carbon capture and storage (CCS) development, and one presentation on the usefulness of Canada's *Impact Assessment Act* in making decisions regarding climate change.
- We hosted an Arthur J.E. Child Pop-up Policy event on [The Global Energy Crisis: What's going on and what does it mean for Canada?](#) We hosted a panel of four experts who discussed the impacts of Europe's energy shortages on the Canadian energy and resource sectors, and on Canadian consumers of natural gas. This event was attended by 132 people and resulted in additional media interviews on the topic.

- We started work on a project to examine how to boost Indigenous groups' participation in carbon offset projects as a way to both reduce emissions and contribute to economic reconciliation and self-governance.
- Through the Energy Futures Policy Collaborative, we helped advance the concept of future-fit hydrocarbons and define the role of public policy for attracting investment into this novel set of industries that are built on the assets and expertise of hydrocarbon sectors that provide new offerings, feed new commodity markets and are compatible with climate change targets.

What it means for Canada's West

Western Canada's industry mix makes it disproportionately sensitive to the impacts of climate and carbon policy when compared to the rest of Canada. Our research and recommendations to government encourage a balanced approach that considers environmental performance objectives alongside economic prosperity.

Still to come

In 2022 we will continue our work on offsets and their potential to contribute to economic reconciliation among Canada's Indigenous peoples. We will also continue to create an understanding of what a just transition looks like for Western Canada and the potential impacts of energy system transformation on communities and regions. And we will produce a briefing on federal and provincial methane reduction commitments and how likely we are to meet those emissions reduction targets.

POLICY GOAL

Responsible energy for the future

What we promised

The energy sector is rapidly transforming to one that promises to be cleaner, greener and more efficient. In 2021, we promised to help Canadians understand what responsible energy development should look like and to advocate for choices that make sense both locally and globally.

What we delivered

- We continued our work in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) by publishing a first-of-its-kind report titled *ESG and the Canadian Energy Sector*. The report comprised a benchmarking analysis of the ESG practices in four energy subsectors (oil and gas, pipelines, electric utilities and renewables) and provided recommendations for energy companies and governments as they move into this area. The report garnered a lot of positive attention and results were shared through seven roundtables and presentations to audiences in energy and non-energy industries.
- We provided an analysis for the Canadian Energy Regulator (CER) on how ESG intersects with the agency's regulatory mandate and strategic priorities.
- The *Energy Innovation Brief (EIB)* entered its second year. The brief highlights innovations in the energy sector and broadens subscriber understanding of sustainable energy. Eight issues of the *EIB* were published in 2021 — including special issues on hydrogen, carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS), and our first takeover issue hosted by the organization Young Women in Energy. The *EIB* received a positive response for the second year in a row and our subscriber base grew from about 300 in 2020 to over 450 in 2021.

- We hosted an Arthur J.E. Child POP UP POLICY event — *Lessons from the North Sea: A just transition plan for a low-carbon future*. Our panelists shared the U.K.'s plans for increasing low-carbon energy production and boosting economic output while reducing oil and gas production from the North Sea.
- We spoke to a wide variety of audiences on various aspects of responsible energy development, including a panel presentation at the Canada Energy Dialogues on the present and future of the energy industry in Canada, an appearance on the Canadian Heavy Oil Association's *Over a Barrel* podcast to discuss future-fit hydrocarbons, and a panel discussing the possibilities open to Alberta as we transition to cleaner forms of energy.
- We wrote an op-ed titled *When shutting down the world isn't enough to fight climate change. Why nuclear? Why now?* that discussed the value that could be provided by nuclear power and small modular reactors in achieving Canada's climate change goals.
- In 2021 we planned and in 2022 delivered, *Energy Jobs of the Future: Exploring careers in a changing sector*, a major webinar which brought together a broad cast of energy industry experts to support the younger generation as it prepares to be part of the energy workforce in an environmentally sustainable world. Participating in the event were 32 speakers representing industry, SMEs and post-secondary and training organizations and 261 attendees.

What it means for Canada's West

As the world turns its attention to increasing sustainable energy practices, it is important to understand all aspects of responsible energy development including renewables, low carbon fossil fuels, nuclear, carbon management, and more. In the West we have an opportunity to change the narrative surrounding our resource and fossil fuel development and become world leaders in low carbon energy. The Canada West Foundation's work continues to highlight the advancements made in Western Canada and ensures new policy is implemented in a way that fosters further responsible development.

Still to come

In 2022 we will continue to focus on the rapid development of ESG with a paper looking at how federal, provincial and municipal governments can respond and take action with an ESG lens. And we will continue to produce policy recommendations for how the West and Canada can best capitalize on emerging opportunities with nuclear energy, hydrogen, a more integrated electricity grid, carbon capture and storage and other evolving technologies.

POLICY GOAL

Profiting from cleantech innovation

What we promised

Cleantech innovation is vital to Canada's transition to a more environmentally friendly and economically viable energy sector. Fortunately, Western Canada is a community rich with innovators. In 2021 we promised to focus on areas where policy decisions play a central role in either bolstering success or creating challenges for cleantech innovators.

What we delivered

- In collaboration with the Energy Futures Lab (EFL), we published a major report titled *The LEAD project: Leveraging our energy assets for diversification*. The project focused on amending legislation and regulations in Alberta that hinder the repurposing of inactive facilities, such as orphan wells, for new energy uses such as solar, geothermal or lithium extraction. The report presented proposed model legislation for the Alberta government. Momentum was maintained through op-eds published in the *Calgary Herald* and the *Edmonton Journal*, presentations with Energy Futures Lab, and a roundtable.
- We published a policy toolkit that presented a framework of actions and interventions that government can take to support the success of cleantech developments. The report, *Policy Levers Toolkit: Using government policy to help cleantech succeed*, describes potential government policy actions in areas that include economic tools, asset planning, market shaping, regulatory levers and providing technical standards. These actions can be used to shape the behaviour of consumers, markets, producers, investors and competing jurisdictions to help cleantech companies succeed. The toolkit is useful to organizations that advocate for policy changes in support of cleantech commercialization and by governments that want to review whether they are maximizing the value they provide.
- Our op-ed in the *Hill Times*, *A dose of optimism – and realism – to decarbonize Alberta*, highlighted recent advances in carbon capture, hydrogen development and the work being done by the Oil Sands Pathways to Net Zero collaboration.

What it means for Canada's West

Western Canadians are energy innovators. But success relies on a well-functioning ecosystem with a strong and supportive policy backbone. Our work strengthens that ecosystem to increase the likelihood that innovation will thrive.

Still to come

Innovation is critical to the development of Canada's natural resources and is embedded in all areas in which we work. It will continue to be an important part of the research we undertake in the NRC, but we will not follow it as a stand-alone line of inquiry for 2022.