

[View this email in your browser](#)

Ag Matters

June 4, 2026



In This Issue

- **New APAS Team Members**
- **Surface Rights Act Consultation During Seeding**
- **Next Policy Framework**
- **Crop Insurance Seeding Deadlines**
- **Research Capacity at Swift Current**

Welcoming New APAS Team Members

APAS's work is driven by people who understand agriculture from both the policy table and the field. We're pleased to welcome two new team members bringing strong experience and deep connections to Saskatchewan and Western Canadian agriculture.

Stuart Chutter, Policy Manager

Stuart brings hands-on farming experience and policy expertise. Based near Osage, SK, he has worked in goats, cattle, and now operates a saskatoon orchard.

A strong advocate for soil health and sustainable production, Stuart most recently served as a Senior Policy Analyst with AFSC, and previously with SCIC. He is committed to advancing practical, producer-focused policy that supports resilient farms and rural communities, while personally running ultra marathon races across the globe.



Nicole Sendziak, Communications and Marketing Manager

Nicole's experience in agricultural sales, marketing and communications through roles with Bayer Crop Science, SCIC and AMVAC brings a well-rounded understanding of the

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

near Thorsby, AB, Nicole now calls Melville, SK, home where she and her young family are building a commercial cattle herd using intensive rotational grazing practices. She is focused on ensuring APAS's work and advocacy are clearly communicated to producers and RM's across the province.



A Strong Working Partnership

Having collaborated previously, Stuart and Nicole are hitting the ground running with a strong working dynamic. They share values around diversity, environmental stewardship, and active involvement in farming and ranching, and are excited to contribute together as a part of the broader APAS team.



Surface Rights Act Consultation During Seeding

While producers are focused on spring seeding, the Government of Saskatchewan is advancing consultations on proposed changes to the **Surface Rights Acquisition and Compensation Act (SRACA)** — legislation that directly impacts landowners and agricultural operations.

Stakeholder feedback is open until June 5, 2026.

The proposed changes focus on three key areas:

- Administration: Changes to compensation review timelines and processes
- Procedural Fairness: Increased timelines for landowners to respond to right of entry applications
- Clarifications: Updates to definitions, notification requirements, and handling of damages

These changes may impact how compensation is reviewed, disputes are handled, and how landowners engage with surface access requests.

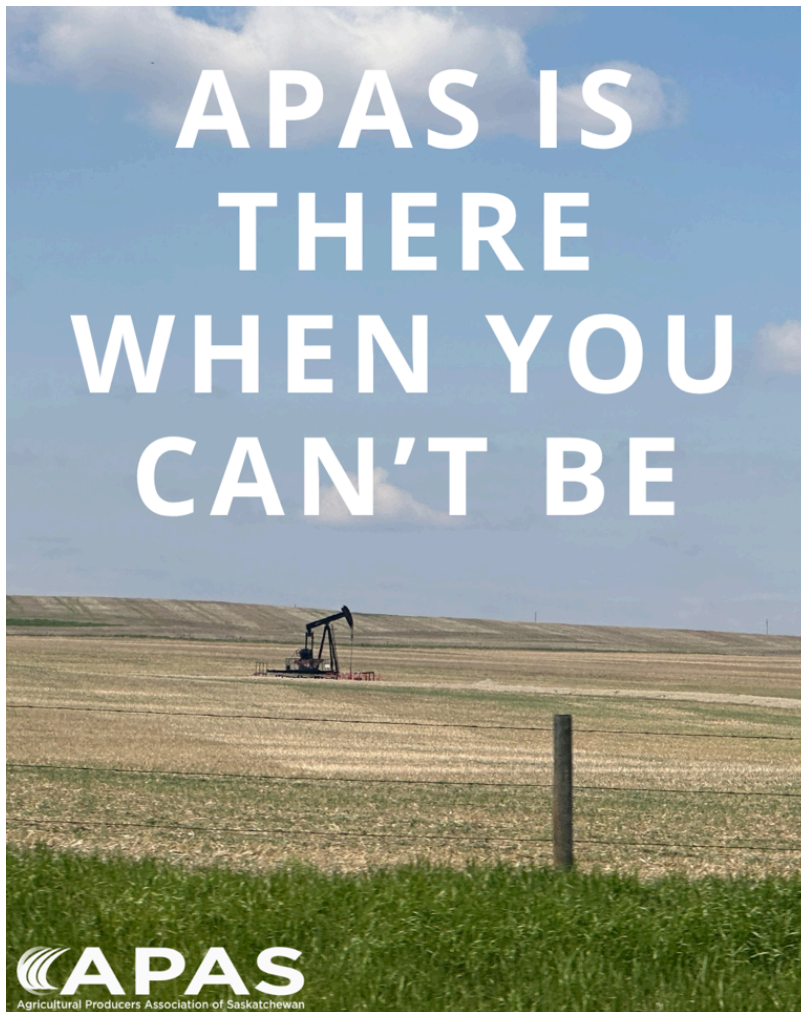
APAS recognizes that these consultations are taking place during the busiest times of year for producers. While many are in the field, decisions that impact their land continue to move forward.

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼

when timing limits the ability for direct participation.



Next Policy Framework: Positioning Agriculture as a Nation-Building Industry

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼



The **Next Policy Framework (NPF)** is an agreement between federal, provincial, and territorial governments that sets the direction for agriculture policy in Canada. It determines **how programs are funded and how risk management, innovation, and sustainability initiatives are delivered** on farm.

The next framework will replace the current Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership in 2028, making the decisions underway now critical to the future of Canadian agriculture.

APAS is calling for a bold shift — urging governments to move beyond incremental change and recognize agriculture as a driving force in Canada's economy.

A Shift Toward Growth and Competitiveness

In a June 1 news release, APAS emphasized that the next framework must serve as a nation-building strategy, focused on long-term growth, competitiveness, and unlocking the full economic potential of Canadian agriculture.

The organization is advocating for a transition from a compliance-focused approach toward a more coordinated, purpose-driven strategy that reflects the realities of modern farming.

Key priority areas identified by APAS include:

1. Economic growth and competitiveness
2. Innovation, technology, and business resilience
3. Supply chain efficiency, trade, and market diversification

6. Farm transition

Farm transition is a key focus, with APAS emphasizing that it is not just a succession issue, but a broader economic priority for Canada's future.

Building Momentum Toward Halifax

With federal-provincial-territorial (F/P/T) meetings set for July 16-17 in Halifax, APAS is reinforcing a clear message: **agriculture is a nation-building industry and a key driver of Canada's economy.**

APAS is calling on governments to reflect this reality by reframing the outcome of these discussions as the:

"Statement on the Economic Capacity of Canadian Agriculture"

The shift recognizes agriculture not just as a policy area — but as a cornerstone of Canada's economic growth and long-term prosperity and security.

[Read the Full APAS News Release](#)

Crop Insurance Seeding Deadlines: Clarity During a Delayed Spring

A cold, wet spring has significantly slowed seeding progress in parts of Saskatchewan, leaving many producers navigating important decisions around timelines and crop insurance coverage.

As of May 25th, seeding progress reached 52%, behind the 10-year average of 77%, increasing pressure as recommended seeding windows approach.

What Producers Need to Know

Recent clarification from SCIC confirms:

- Crops remain insurable up to the final seeding deadline of June 20.
- Seeding beyond recommended dates increases insurance risk.
- Late seeding may affect how losses are assessed, particularly if outcomes differ from area averages.
- Losses unrelated to seeding date (e.g. drought, disease, wind, hail) remain insured.

Making Informed Decisions

Every operation and region is different. APAS is encouraging producers to:

- Understand how seeding timing affects risk and coverage
- Use the SCIC Seeding Tool as a guide
- Contact their local SCIC Customer Service Office to review their individual situation

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

season.

[Read the Full APAS News Release](#)

Protecting Agricultural Research Capacity at Swift Current

APAS has joined industry partners in calling for the continuation of organic and regenerative research at the **Swift Current Research and Development Centre**.

While the facility itself remains open, the proposed loss of this program would reduce capacity in areas that support **soil health, resilience, and long-term productivity**.

Why This Matters

This long-standing program provides practical research on:

- Soil health and climate adaptation
- Crop diversification and rotation
- Weed, pest, and disease management
- Resilient, low-input production systems

The research outcomes benefit producers across all production systems — not just organic operations — especially as farms face increasing pressure from climate variability and rising input costs.

APAS is urging the federal government to pause any actions that could compromise long-term research trials, ensuring field work, data, and capacity are preserved while discussions continue.

Strong public research has supported decades of innovation in Saskatchewan agriculture. Maintaining this capacity ensures producers can continue to lead with practical, forward-looking solutions.

APAS supports continued investment in research that strengthens Saskatchewan agriculture across all production systems.

APAS in the News

[Swift Current Online - NPF - June 3](#)

[Farms.com - Rapid Seeding - June 2](#)

[Real Ag - Crop Insurance Deadline - May 29](#)

Subscribe

Past Issues



Translate ▼

For the best user experience please add communications@apas.ca to your address book or safe senders list.

Copyright (C) 2026 APAS. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

3401A Pasqua Street Regina, SK S4S 7K9

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)