



PRESIDENT'S GREETING

I would like to begin by thanking all the speakers, organizers, moderators, and participants who generously volunteered their time and support to make the 15th Canadian Agri-Food Policy Conference (CAPC), held on January 23–24, 2025, at the Infinity Convention Centre in Ottawa. Centered around the theme Agricultural Policy Challenges in an Era of Instability, the conference addressed a range of timely and critical topics, including trade, risk, supply chain resilience, food security, and agricultural policy. We were pleased to welcome over 100 participants. Special thanks go to CAES Past President Tristan Skolrud for assembling an excellent program, as well as to the generous sponsors whose support made this event possible.

Looking ahead, the next CAES Annual Meeting is quickly approaching and will take place in Montreal, QC, from May 29–31, 2025. This year's meeting will be held jointly with the Canadian Economics Association (CEA) at L'Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), located in the heart of downtown Montreal. The joint format offers a great opportunity for connection and collaboration.



**CAES PRESIDENT,
DR. YU NA LEE**

The conference promises a wide array of engaging events, including the Graduate Student Paper Competition, six CAES-organized symposia, and 16 regular in-person paper sessions on a diverse range of topics. This year's Focus on Fellows session will examine Tariffs, Trump, and the Agri-Food Sector, featuring presentations by five CAES Fellows. We are also thrilled to welcome our distinguished plenary speakers: Marc Bellemare of the University of Minnesota, delivering the Keynote Address; Brady Deaton of the University of Guelph, presenting the Fellow's Address; and Warren Goodlet of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, delivering the Presidential Address. Don't forget to join us for the Online Day on May 23rd, held one week prior to the in-person events, featuring three virtual paper sessions. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Yang Yang, Program Committee Chair, for her outstanding efforts and invaluable contributions to this year's annual meeting program.

The Spring 2025 Newsletter includes a recap of the 15th CAPC, highlights CAES members featured in the news for their work on tariff-related issues, shares updates on a recent PhD graduate and new faculty appointments, and honors the memory of two esteemed CAES members—Dr. R.M.A. (Al) Loyns and Dr. John Stephen (Steve) Clark—who have recently passed away. I would also like to thank Laura Stortz, the Communications Committee Chair, for her hard work in putting together the Newsletter.

Thank you again for your continued support of CAES and its activities. I look forward to seeing you in Montreal at the Annual Meeting!

IN THIS ISSUE

CAPC Annual Meeting Recap	2
Awards	3
Annual meeting, CAPI Update	4
CAES in focus: Tariffs	5
New PhD and Faculty	6
Remembering Dr. Al Loyns	7
Remembering Dr. JS Clark	8
Connect with us	9

2025 CAES Agricultural Policy Conference

The 15th Canadian Agri-Food Policy Conference, hosted by the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society on January 23 and 24, brought together a diverse group of policymakers, academics, industry leaders, and representatives from non-governmental organizations to pressing issues in Canadian agriculture. Centered around the theme “Agricultural Policy Challenges in an Era of Instability,” the 2025 conference addressed a wide range of challenges—from shifting political landscapes and trade tensions to climate change and growing demands on agricultural producers.

Nick Paulson, from the University of Illinois, shared his perspective on the outlook for US Agriculture in Highly Uncertain times in the first keynote address. Joseph Balagtas, from Purdue University, presented on Diet Quality in the United States for the second keynote address. The conference included sessions, panel discussions, and lightning talks covering topics such as trade, risk management, food price inflation, and supply chain resilience. Graduate students shared their research at the poster competition. The event concluded with a foresighting exercise in the graduate student colloquium.



Dr. José Nuño-Ledesma, Dr. Jill Hobbs,
Dr. Mike von Massow, Scott Biden, Steve Duff

We extend our gratitude to all participants, presenters, and organizers of the Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food Policy Conference!

We hope to see everyone again in in Montreal at our next joint Annual Meeting with the Canadian Economics Association (CEA) on May 30–31, 2025!



William Kerr
The Fading Rules-based Trading System
The Risks for Canadian Agriculture

Presenters



Dr. Jill Hobbs

Dr. José Nuño-Ledesma

Laura Stortz

Dr. Mike Von Massow

AWARDS

Policy Brief Competition

1st place: Andrews Sai

**2nd place: Akwasi
Acheampong Amponsah**

Poster Competition

1st place: Julia Poissant

2nd place: Joren Johnson

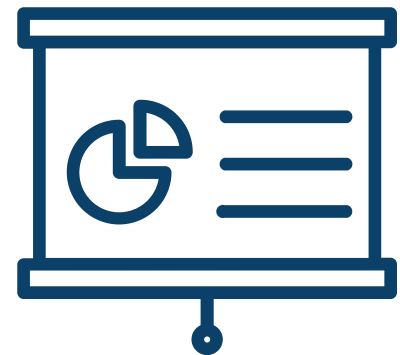
3rd place: Alex DesRochers



2025 Canadian Agricultural Economics Annual Meeting May 29th to May 31st, 2025, Montreal, QC

The CAES Annual Meeting Program Committee invites you to participate in the 2025 Canadian Agricultural Economics Society (CAES/SCAÉ) Annual Meeting, to be held in conjunction with the 59th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Economics Association (CEA). The event will take place at the Department of Economics at the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) from May 29th to May 31st, 2025.

There are many CAES sessions during the Canadian Economics Association Conference:
[CEA Programme](#)



CAES MEMBER UPDATES

Special Edition of The CAPI Connection: A Transition Binder for the Next Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

Like they did for the [2021 election](#), CAPI's team of Directors, Staff, and Distinguished Fellows came together again to offer insight and analysis for the next Minister of Agriculture through the second edition of their Transition Binder for the incoming AAFC minister.

See [here: CAPI CONNECTION](#)

CAES MEMBERS ON TARIFF IMPACTS



Dr. Mike von Massow, food economist at the University of Guelph, said the impact of Canada's expected retaliatory tariffs on the U.S. would be "immediate, but not substantial."

Ottawa's list of retaliatory tariffs has been designed to minimize the damage that Canadians will bear.

"It's your ability or your willingness to substitute that will really affect your ability to, to minimize the impact of these retaliatory tariffs," he said. [Global News](#)

"The cost of buying any food from the U.S. will be hit twice", said Prof. Vercammen, University of British Columbia. The first reason is the direct impact of Canada's counter-tariff on imported food, while the second is the weakening of the Canadian dollar as a result of U.S. tariffs.

[The Globe and Mail](#)



"Sugar and confectionary does stand out as one of those sectors, especially in the short term, that is very reliant on the U.S., and therefore could see big impacts from U.S. tariffs," said Farm Credit Canada senior economist Amanda Norris.

[CityNews](#)

Dr. Sylvanus Kwaku Afesorgbor, Naduni Uduwe Welage, and Promesse Essolema, research associate, University of Guelph, wrote a piece on the impact of tariffs on the agriculture sector: **"retaliatory tariffs on agricultural goods from the U.S. could have a substantial impact on food prices in Canada."**

[The Conversation](#)



NEW PhD GRADUATE

See job openings on the
CAES website:

[CAES Job Openings](#)



Erin graduated last summer from the Food and Resource Economics PhD program within the Faculty of Land and Food Systems at the University of British Columbia. She is an applied economist working at the intersection of environmental and development economics and policy. Erin is now an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas at Dallas in the School of Economic Political and Policy Sciences.

NEW FACULTY



Madeline Turland is an assistant professor in the Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology at the University of Alberta. She obtained her PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics from UC Davis in 2024. Her current research focuses on climate change, insurance, and the use of markets to manage water resources.



Devin Serfas is an Assistant Professor and RDAR Chair in Applied Agricultural Economics and Risk Management at the University of Alberta's Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology (REES) in Edmonton. He received his PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of California, Davis, in 2024. Raised on a grain farm in Saskatchewan, he has a strong interest in agricultural issues affecting farmers. His research focuses on agricultural production economics, marketing and price analysis, returns to R&D, and agri-environmental policy.

Remembering Dr. Al Loyns



Dr. R.M.A (Al) Loyns, retired professor in the Department of Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics, passed away on February 15, 2025.

Dr. Loyns contributed to the discipline in the areas of market regulation in the agricultural and food industry, especially in the Canadian grain sector. Al left the University of Manitoba in 1998 to farm and work as a consultant. He remained focused on policy issues and continued to contribute to our discipline for many years after retirement, writing a brief about the CWB for the CD Howe Institute in 2011. **In 2011 Al was named a Fellow of the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society.**
umanitoba

During this time of economic, political, and social uncertainty, we are highlighting Dr. Loyns' presidential address from 1996:

Agricultural Economics: Profession, Politics and Panhandling

Excerpt: *The background issues to which this address is directed are: 1) the pessimism that exists vis a vis the "market downturn" in agricultural economics; 2) forms of internal stress within the profession (and association) in Canada; and 3) significant, perhaps growing, external dissatisfaction with the public role played by agricultural economists. The market downturn is seen in job opportunities, downsizing in government and academic units, reduced funding available in the public sector for programs and research, and declining graduate enrollment in universities (often associated with increased undergraduate teaching loads)*

Loyns, R.M.A. (1996), Agricultural Economics: Profession, Politics and Panhandling. Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics/Revue canadienne d'agroeconomie, 44: 325-336.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1744-7976.1996.tb04427.x>

Remembering Dr. J Stephen Clark



Dr. Stephen Clark, of Dalhousie University's Faculty of Agriculture, passed away on March 28th, 2025.

Dr. Clark was not only a valued member of the Faculty of Agriculture team but also a kind and hardworking individual who will be greatly missed by all of us. Dr. Clark started with the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) in September 1992 as Professor of Economics and member of the Business and Social Science Department. Dr. Clark earned his Bachelor of Arts at Guelph, an MSc at the University of Saskatchewan and his PhD at North Carolina State University. During his time here, he made significant contributions to the field of agricultural production econometrics and became an expert in time series analysis applied to agriculture along with the quantification of climate change related to agriculture.

Dalhousie University

Dr. Clark published in journals across many disciplines. In honour of his contributions to the CAES, we are highlighting his 1995 article on the Canadian Wheat Board

Single Desk Selling by the Canadian Wheat Board: Does It Have an Impact?

"This study finds that single desk selling by the CWB has no impact on the North American feed barley market. This tends to support the Carter study, which assumed that the establishment of a continental market for feed barley would have no impact on prices. These results tend to show that the traditional argument put forth by the CWB to justify its marketing position in western Canada, that single desk selling increases the pooled price farmers can expect to receive, needs to be subject to greater public scrutiny"

(pg. 234)

Clark, J. S. (1995). Single desk selling by the Canadian Wheat Board: Does it have an impact?. Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics/Revue canadienne d'agroeconomie, 43(2), 225-236.



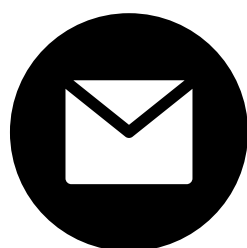
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