

## More beef in the North? Mike Commito thinks so

**Northern Policy Institute researcher says northern Ontario has plenty of land to make it happen**

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In a recent blog post, Commito argues that encouraging cattle farming in northern Ontario would be a boon to the local economy. (Northern Policy Institute)

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Northern Ontario might benefit from taking a bigger bite out of the beef industry.

That's the suggestion of one researcher.

Mike Commito, the research coordinator at the [Northern Policy Institute](#), wrote a blog post about the idea.

He said the environmental impacts of more cattle farming in the north would need to be considered, but the abundance of land in the region puts us in a good position to expand our beef industry.

"It is tremendous opportunity for northern Ontario for sure, but we also have to weigh those other factors," Commito said.



Mike Commito of the Northern Policy Institute said the time is right to bring beef farming back to northern Ontario. (CBC)

The provincial cattle inventory has been declining, Commito said, but according to the Beef Farmers of Ontario, the addition of 100,000 cows over the next ten years would be a significant boon to the province.

"The BFO suggests that this would add 4,500 jobs in the province and \$318 million in value added GDP per year."

[Click here to read Dr. Commito's blog post](#)

*With files from Amy Hadley. Edited/packaged by Casey Stranges*

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