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# Summary of the evaluation of the Centre for Regulatory Innovation

## About the Centre for Regulatory Innovation

The Centre for Regulatory Innovation (CRI) was established in late 2019 to help regulatory departments and agencies (RDAs):

- adopt innovative regulatory approaches that support regulatory competitiveness
- work with industry on bringing new technologies into the marketplace

We evaluated the impact of the CRI's activities from its inception to December 2022.

## Highlights

- There is an ongoing need to support regulatory innovation and experimentation given the demand for the CRI's services and funding, and the benefits that innovation brings to advance public policy.

- The CRI evolved to its current role of building RDA capacity and enabling innovative approaches for regulatory innovation.
- The CRI supported innovation to some extent. The CRI's guidance and best practices strengthened RDAs' experimentation capacity. **Time will tell whether this strengthening is sustainable.**
- The current design of the Regulators' Capacity Fund (RCF) is efficient, and RCF recipients applied the results of their projects to varying degrees.
- **RDAs faced challenges meeting Regulatory Experimentation Expense Fund (REEF) criteria**, and the REEF struggled to disburse funds. It is too early to say whether REEF recipients will apply the results of their projects.

## Recommendations

It is recommended that the CRI:

1. **focus on innovation** more broadly, with experimentation being only a component among many. This could be accomplished by developing a strategic framework for innovation and by creating a regulatory toolbox.
2. **improve awareness** of their products and services to enable more departments and agencies to engage in regulatory innovation and connect with RDAs already working in that space.
3. **strengthen its partnerships** with players in the innovation ecosystem, in and outside the Government of Canada, to inform the CRI's suite of services.

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