



PRESS RELEASE

The Beagle Alliance Invites Premier Ford and Canada's Federal Parliamentarians to a Special Screening of *The New Gold Standard*

An invitation to explore the future of science, support non-animal research methods, and help eligible research animals move from LAB TO LOVE



MANITOBA, CANADA | August 21, 2026 — The Beagle Alliance is inviting Ontario Premier Doug Ford and federal parliamentarians to the Canadian inaugural screening of *The New Gold Standard*, a feature documentary on human-based research technologies and the future of biomedical science.

The free screening will take place **Saturday, October 3, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at Scotiabank Theatre in Toronto**; RSVP is required.

Directed by Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Steven Latham, *The New Gold Standard* takes audiences inside leading research institutions, where scientists are developing innovative human-based technologies that have the potential to change how medicines are discovered, tested and approved.

The Beagle Alliance is featured in the film, with Founder and Executive Director **Lori Cohen** sharing the perspective of an organization working to create pathways for former research animals to find loving homes.

Through the screening, The Beagle Alliance is asking elected representatives to support the advancement of **non-animal methods in scientific research** and clearer **pathways for the release and rehoming of eligible companion animals after scientific activities have concluded**.

“It is our mission to see animals go from LAB TO LOVE, and if signing a non-disclosure agreement means that we see animals and animal care workers made safe, then we do it. Moving toward non-animal methods in research does not mean job loss. It means job transformation, innovation, and job security. It means Canada can be a leader in both science and compassion, for both humans and animals.”

Lori Cohen, Founder & Executive Director, The Beagle Alliance

The Beagle Alliance believes that meaningful change does not require an adversarial relationship between animal advocates, researchers, government or regulatory bodies. In fact, the organization has built its work around collaboration and good-faith relationships.

“Real progress happens when advocates, researchers, regulators, and government are willing to sit at the same table. Our work is not about blame; it is about building respectful pathways that allow science to advance while giving animals the chance to experience life beyond the laboratory.”

Lori Cohen, Founder & Executive Director, The Beagle Alliance

The documentary also features the work of **Animal Justice** and Ontario Premier **Doug Ford's response after learning that dogs were being used in testing**. The inclusion of this Canadian story makes the premiere particularly relevant to the ongoing conversation about research animals and the future of science in Canada.

The Beagle Alliance is encouraging policymakers to consider **dedicated funding for qualified rescue organizations** and **investment in the development and adoption of non-animal research methods**, including emerging human-relevant technologies. The Beagle Alliance also

encourages clearer, consistent pathways for companion animals to be released from research facilities and placed into appropriate homes or sanctuaries when scientifically and ethically appropriate.

For The Beagle Alliance, these two issues are connected by a shared vision: better outcomes for both humans and animals.

Weekend Events

Lori Cohen and producer Steven Latham will attend the screening, and guests will have an opportunity to continue the conversation at an after-party celebration following the October 3 event.

On **Sunday, October 4 at 3:00 p.m.**, The Beagle Alliance will host a **Former Research Beagle Meet-Up at Allan Gardens Dog Park**, bringing together adopters and former research beagles who have transitioned from laboratory life into loving homes.

These dogs offer a tangible reminder of what is possible when pathways exist for animals to leave research and begin a new chapter.

Allan Gardens Dog Park

121 Carlton St.

Toronto, ON M5A 2K5

Sunday, October 4, 2026 | 3:00 p.m.

No RSVP is necessary for the meet-up. Members of the public, policymakers, media and animal advocates are welcome to attend.

The Beagle Alliance hopes the weekend will serve as a catalyst for continued public and policy conversations about how Canada can advance science and compassion together.

Canada has an opportunity to lead in both scientific innovation and compassion. The Beagle Alliance believes we can do both.

About The Beagle Alliance

The Beagle Alliance is a Canadian registered charity dedicated to placing former research animals into loving homes and sanctuaries, and to advocating for the release of eligible animals after scientific activities through collaborative, good-faith relationships. Its work is grounded in the belief that science and compassion can move forward together and that more animals can have the opportunity to go from **LAB TO LOVE**.

Co-Hosted by The Beagle Alliance and The New Gold Standard.