

Accelerating Agricultural Innovation Program

Program purpose statement

The purpose of this grant program is to stimulate investment in the demonstration, commercialization and adoption of innovative products, practices and processes that have the potential to provide **Sector Wide Impact** on the agriculture, agri-food and/or agri- product sectors.

What is Innovation?

Innovation is the creation of new or significantly improved products, processes, or business practices that result in **Transformational Change**.

What is Transformational Change?

It is the shift in the business culture of an organization resulting from a change in the underlying strategy and processes that the organization has used in the past.

Program Description

Under the *Growing Forward 2* Accelerating Agricultural Innovation Program two program streams are offered; Stream A: Collaborating Innovation and Stream B: Implementing Innovation.

The Collaborating Innovation Stream is targeted at agricultural groups registered under the Societies Act, Industry Organizations, Producer Groups, and other non-profit entities operating in Alberta. Its purpose is to assist these non-profit entities with the capital and non-capital costs of accelerating the Sector-Wide Impact of agriculture Innovation and collaboration through proof-of-concept and commercialization of new products, new processes, or new business practices in Alberta. Successful applicants are eligible for reimbursement of certain capital expenses up to 70% and certain non-capital expenses up to 90%.

The Implementing Innovation Stream is targeted at Primary Producers, Agri-Processors and other for-profit legal entities operating in Alberta. Its purpose is to assist these for-profit entities with the capital and non-capital costs of becoming Early Adopters of new technologies or practices that have the potential for Sector-Wide Impact as well as supporting the demonstration or adaptation of sector-impacting technical Innovations within their operations. Successful applicants are eligible for reimbursement of certain capital expenses up to 60% and certain non-capital expenses up to 80%.

Who is eligible to apply for Stream A Collaborating Innovation?

Not-For Profit Organizations operating in Alberta such as:

- Agricultural Groups registered under the Societies Act
- Industry Organizations
- Producer Groups

Who is eligible to apply for Stream B Implementing Innovation?

For-Profit legal entities operating in Alberta such as:

- Primary Producers
- Agri-Processors:
 - Food Processors
 - Bio Industrial Processors
 - Agri-Based Product Processors

How do I apply for this program?

Submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) by October 5, 2016 by 12:00 PM Alberta Time including:

- a. a completed Program Application Form signed by an authorized representative of the Applicant,
- b. a copy of the completed business case or feasibility study for the project, and
- c. ensuring that all items outlined in the **Application Guideline** document have been completed. Incomplete applications will not be assessed.

Complete applications may be submitted via email, fax, courier or mail.

- a. scan and email to: dana.gibson@gov.ab.ca
- b. fax to: 780-980-4237
- c. courier or mail to: Accelerating Agricultural Innovation Grant Manager
6547 Sparrow Drive
Leduc, AB, T9E 7C7

Documents must be received by the date and time stipulated. Late applications will not be accepted.

Prerequisite:

Completed business case or feasibility study must be submitted with the LOI.

Note:

Please refer to the Terms and Conditions regarding the Third Party Contracting Services stipulations (Section 6.3).

Invitation for Full Proposal

- Successful applicants will be invited to submit a Full Proposal by October 19, 2016.
- A guideline document for Full Proposal submission will be provided to successful applicants at this time.
- Full Proposals will be due by November 9, 2016 at 12:00 P.M. M.S.T.
- Late submissions of Full Proposals will not be reviewed.
- Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by December 15, 2016.

For more information

Dana Gibson
email: dana.gibson@gov.ab.ca
phone: 780-980-4220

You may also be interested in ...

[Food Safety Systems Producer](#)
[Livestock Welfare Producer](#)