

# Saskatchewan Agricultural Processing Incentive Programs



# Provincial PROGRAMS

## Agtech Growth Fund (AGF)

### Figures

Lead proponents can receive a maximum of \$450,000 in AGF grants over their lifetime.

### Advantages

Support industry-driven R&D projects that advance innovation in the agtech sector.

Accelerate commercialization and adoption of innovative technologies that will benefit the agricultural sector.

### Requirements

Proposed by a group of active private sector partners that represent the project's value

chain (researchers, those involved in the production/supply process, and customer/end users).

- Demonstrates how the technological innovation will solve a specific industry challenge and benefit the agriculture sector as a whole, not just individual companies.
- Technological solutions must be novel and innovative.
- Demonstrate a feasible path to commercialization and how the benefits of the project will be sustained over the long-term.

### Application Process

Intakes for the AGF are held twice per fiscal year. To be considered for funding, prospective applicants must submit an EOI and complete the Eligibility Questionnaire before the intake deadline. Only selected applicants will be invited to submit full proposals. Shortlist decisions made by IS' internal selection committee are final.

<https://innovationsask.ca/research/agf>

## Canada-Saskatchewan Job Grant

(Labour Focused)

### Figures

Up to \$10,000 in training resource assistance per trainee. Maximum of \$100,000 per company per year.

### Advantages

Help employers train workers to meet their specific workforce needs.

### Requirements

Reimburses Saskatchewan employers for training costs, such as tuition, mandatory fees, textbooks, software, exam fees.. Employer contributes 1/3 of training costs, remaining 2/3s is funded by the CSJG. Training is flexible but must be provided by a third party.

### Application Process

Administered by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Immigration and Career

Training. Detailed information, an application, and training quote can be found online.

<http://www.saskatchewan.ca/job-grant>

## Saskatchewan Value-Added Agriculture Incentive (SVAI)

(Tax Incentive)

### Figures

The SVAI is a non-refundable, non-transferable tax credit on capital expenditures valued at \$10 million or more for newly constructed or expanded value-added agriculture facilities in Saskatchewan.

The SVAI utilizes a graduated tax credit structure for rebates, as follows:

- 15 per cent tax credit on expenditures up to 400M;
- 30 per cent tax credit on expenditures between \$400M and \$600M; and
- 40 per cent tax credit on expenditures exceeding \$600M.

The total incentives to be claimed by any single project is \$250M.

Companies apply the credit against corporate income tax (CIT) paid and are able to claim the credit over a three- to 10-year period once the new or expanded facility is brought into operation.

### Advantages

Designed to encourage expansion of value-added agriculture sector in Saskatchewan.

### Requirements

Project must have \$10 million in eligible new capital expenditures for the purpose of undertaking an eligible value-added agriculture activity.

### Application Process

Two-step application process. administered by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Trade and Export Development.

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/investment-and-economic-development/business-incentives-and-tax-credits/saskatchewan-value-added-agriculture-incentive>

## Saskatchewan Commercial Innovation Incentive - Patent Box (SCII)

(Innovation Focused)

### Figures

Lowers the Corporate Income Tax (CIT) from 12% to 6% on income earned on the commercialization of patents and other intellectual property into new products by Saskatchewan companies.

### Advantages

Competitive/innovative investment reward.

### Requirements

Open to any company operating in any sector, from anywhere in the world, regardless where or when the research and development for the qualifying

intellectual property occurred or was licensed. Eligible commercialization must take place in Saskatchewan.

### Application Process

Two-step application process. administered by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Trade and Export Development.

Provided to innovative companies that contribute through job creation and new investment.

<http://www.saskatchewan.ca/innovation-incentive>

## Saskatchewan Manufacturing and Processing (M&P) Exporter Tax Incentive

(Tax Incentive)

### Figures

The incentive will offer an eligible business non-refundable tax credits for the 2015-2022 taxation years, equal to \$3,000 per each incremental full-time employee, or equal to \$10,000 per employee for head-office function employees.

### Advantages

A tax deduction per employee, making it easier to hire more people for increased production and other operational capacities.

### Requirements

Eligible businesses are those that derive at least 25% of revenues from the export to the rest of Canada or internationally of their manufactured goods each year. Must expand the number of full-time employees in Saskatchewan head offices.

### Application Process

Administered by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Finance.

Full-time employees

<http://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/taxes-licensing-and-reporting/tax-incentives/manufacturing-and-processing-tax-credits>

## Saskatchewan Manufacturing and Processing Investment Tax Credit (ITC)

(Tax Incentive)

### Figures

This is a refundable income tax credit applied to total capital costs on new/used machinery/equipment per year. This tax credit's rate is equivalent to the provincial sales tax (PST) rate, currently at 6%.

### Advantages

Designed to encourage plant and equipment investment.

### Requirements

Eligible equipment to be used in manufacturing and processing activities.

## Application Process

Filed as part of the federal T2 corporate income tax return for new equipment purchases. Saskatchewan Ministry of Finance administers claims for used equipment purchases.

Sustaining capital and expansion capital investments qualify, as well as new and used equipment investments.

<http://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/taxes-licensing-and-reporting/tax-incentives/manufacturing-and-processing-tax-credits>

## Saskatchewan Manufacturing and Processing (M&P) Profits Tax Reduction

*(Tax Incentive)*

### Figures

An opportunity to reduce the CIT rate from 12% to as low as 10%.

### Advantages

Reducing the amount of profit subject to taxation, which allows the firm more flexibility and stability for future decisions.

### Requirements

Saskatchewan-based firms with a high allocation of income to Saskatchewan receive a larger tax reduction than firms with a low allocation of income.

### Application Process

Filed as part of the federal T2 corporate income tax return.

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/taxes-licensing-and-reporting/tax-incentives/manufacturing-and-processing-tax-credits>

## Saskatchewan Advantage Innovation Fund (SAIF)

### Requirements

Must benefit a sector, address technically challenging issues, display benefits, have funding from other sources.

### Application Process

Administered by Innovation Saskatchewan.

<https://www.innovationsask.ca/research/saskatchewan-advantage-innovation-fund>

## Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP)

*(Labour Focused)*

### Figures

Approx. 10,000 immigrants arrive through the SINP each year.

### Advantages

Allows businesses greater access to skilled workers to fill labour shortages/needs.

### Requirements

Skilled and experienced workers.

### Application Process

Administered by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Immigration and Career

Training. Create an online account and upload the necessary documents.

Applicable fees to the applying person range from 0 to \$2,500

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/sinp>

## SINP Entrepreneur and Farm Owner/Operator Program

### Figures

Up to 500 entrepreneurs and farm owners per year.

### Advantages

Allows entrepreneurs and farmers with relevant qualifications and assets to immigrate to Saskatchewan to operate a business or farm. If requirements are met, can obtain permanent residency.

### Requirements

Entrepreneurs must own 1/3 or more of the Saskatchewan business or make an equity investment of at least \$1 million; live in the province and provide ongoing management of the business; have relevant experience and invest \$200,000-\$300,000; minimum net worth of \$500,000. Farmers must meet separate criteria for the farmer/owner category or young farmer stream.

### Application Process

Administered by Saskatchewan Ministry of Immigration and Training. Create an online account and upload necessary documents.

Application fees are \$2,500.

## Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP) Program

*(Market Access)*

### Figures

Must be a member; 50% reimbursement of travel costs up to \$5,000.

### Advantages

STEP supports the domestic and international marketing efforts of its members in entering new markets and assists with "export readiness".

### Requirements

Become a STEP member, supply to markets outside of Saskatchewan, produce products that have at least 50% Saskatchewan content (labour/materials).

### Application Process

Apply online. STEP is supported by Saskatchewan Ministry of Trade and Export Development and administers itself to serve member companies.

<https://www.sasktrade.com>

## Saskatchewan Research and Development Tax Credit – R&D

*(Research Tax Assistance)*

### Figures

For Canadian Controlled Private Corporations (CCPCs) - a refundable credit equal to 10% of qualifying expenditures up to a maximum of \$1

million (or \$100,000). For all other corporations (and for CCPC claims greater than \$100,000) - a 10% non-refundable tax credit of up to \$1million. Claim amounts greater than \$1million to be carried forward.

### Advantages

Reduces total tax due and designed to encourage further private investment.

### Requirements

Qualifying R&D (engineering/design/computer programming, etc.) expenditures incurred in Saskatchewan.

### Application Process

Administered by Canada Revenue Agency.

Scientific research and experimental development incurred in Saskatchewan  
<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/taxes-licensing-and-reporting/tax-incentives/research-and-development-tax-credit>

Term loans up to \$2.5M, with no fees and an 18-month interest-only option available over a 10-year amortization. These funds can be used for working capital and to modify production due to the impacts of COVID-19.

### Advantages

The purpose of FCC's lending options is to ensure producers, agribusinesses, and food processors have access to the cash flow to manage through this challenging time.

### Requirements

FCC customers and non-customers are eligible to apply for FCC lending products. Businesses applying for FCC lending products are subject to normal lending due diligence, which considers business viability, credit history, and management integrity and experience.

### Application Process

Contact [local FCC office](#) or the Customer Service Centre at 1-888-332-3301.

<https://www.fcc-fac.ca/en/covid-19/program-details.html>

# Federal PROGRAMS

## AgriAssurance

(Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Component)

### Figures

Cost-shared funding up to \$50,000 (a maximum of 50% AAFC and a minimum of 50% applicant). The program provides targeted support to companies to help implement third-party assurance certification projects that address international market requirements, thus helping expand export opportunities for Canadian agricultural and agri-food products.

### Advantages

Helps Canadian agricultural and agri-food sector SMEs get a third-party certification for the first time required to meet a specific export opportunity.

### Requirements

Eligible applicants include for-profit organizations operating in the agriculture, agri-food and agri-based industry, including the fish and seafood industry. Applicants may have up to 250 employees and no more than \$50 million in annual revenue.

### Application Process

Administered by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. Applications will be accepted from March 6, 2023 until September 30, 2027; however, the application period may close sooner if funding has been fully committed or otherwise announced here. The program ends March 31, 2028.

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/agriassurance-small-medium-sized-enterprises-component>

### Requirements

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/agriassurance-small-medium-sized-enterprise-component/step-2-eligibility>

### Application Process

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/agristability/step-3-how-apply>

## AgriCommunication Program

### Figures

The AgriCommunication Program is a 3-year, up to \$8 million federal initiative that will focus specifically on supporting activities which increase appreciation and pride in the contributions of farmers and the food industry and enhance public trust. The activities will help strengthen public trust about the origin of the food Canadians eat and how it is produced.

### Advantages

The program will provide non-repayable contributions to projects that focus on one or more of the following priorities:

- Consumer awareness of Canadian agriculture
- Sector awareness of consumer perceptions
- Industry's efforts to endorse environmentally sustainable best practices

Total funding for this program is up to \$8 million over 3 fiscal years (2021-2022 to 2023-2024). Applicants may apply for funding up to 70% of total eligible costs. Total government funding (including federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments or their agencies) won't typically exceed 85% of total eligible costs.

### Requirements

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/agricommunication/step-2-who-eligible>

### Application Process

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/agricommunication/step-3-how-apply>

## AgriDiversity

### Figures

The maximum AAFC contribution towards a project will normally not exceed \$200,000 per year or a maximum of \$1 million over 5 years. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) reserves the right to prioritize activities submitted. The program provides non-repayable contributions to support activities that strengthen Canada's agriculture sector. Cost-sharing, contributions toward eligible costs will normally be shared between AAFC and applicant as follows: AAFC – a maximum of 70%; applicant – a minimum of 30%.

### Advantages

Support projects aimed at helping Indigenous Peoples and other underrepresented and marginalized groups in Canadian agriculture — including women, youth, persons with disabilities, racialized persons, visible minorities, 2SLGBTQI+ communities, and official language minority communities — to fully participate in the sector by helping these groups address the key issues and barriers they often face for sector participation.

### Requirements

Eligible applicants include not-for-profit organizations, academia. Associations should operate on a national basis.

### Application Process

Administered by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Applications will be accepted from March 6, 2023 until September 30, 2027; however, the application period may close sooner if funding has been fully committed or otherwise announced here.

The program ends March 31, 2028.

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/agridiversity>

## AgriInnovate Program

(Innovation)

### Figures

The maximum Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) contribution toward a project will normally not exceed \$5,000,000. Cost-sharing, the program may provide an additional 10% on the cost-share ratio (AAFC-60%: Applicant-40%) where the majority of the organization (more than 50%) is owned or led by one or more under-represented groups.

### Advantages

The program provides repayable contributions to incent targeted commercialization, demonstration and/or adoption of commercial-ready innovative technologies and processes that increase agricultural and agri-food sector competitiveness and sustainability benefits.

### Requirements

Applicants must meet all of the following criteria to be eligible: applicants are for-profit organizations that are incorporated in Canada; applicants are legal entities capable of entering into legal binding agreements.

### Application Process

Administered by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis until the end of the program on March 31, 2028, or until funding has been fully committed or otherwise announced by the program.

All the projects must be completed by March 31, 2028.

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/agriinnovate>

## AgriMarketing Program

### Figures

The AgriMarketing Program is a \$129.97-million program under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP).

### Advantages

The program will:

- Support national agricultural sectors to increase and diversify exports to international markets and seize domestic market opportunities.
- Grow the economy by increasing and diversifying Canadian exports of agriculture, agri-food, agri-based products, including fish and seafood, by increasing the visibility of Canadian products and increasing the capacity of exporting producers to identify and seize market development opportunities in targeted markets.

The program aims to:

- Increase and diversify exports to markets where Canada has free trade agreements in place.

The objectives of the program are broadly linked to Government initiatives, such as the Indo-Pacific Strategy, Trade and Investment Strategy, the Results Agenda, and the Government's commitment to grow agricultural exports to \$85 billion annually by 2025.

#### Funding

The maximum AAFC contribution toward a project will normally not exceed \$2 million per year.

If you have multiple projects funded under this program, the total of all projects cannot exceed \$2 million per year or a maximum of \$10 million over 5 years.

Funding under the program isn't available for costs to participate in tradeshows covered under the Canada Pavilion Program (CPP). Please visit Canada Pavilion Program for more information about the CPP's list of flagship trade shows around the world. Consideration may be given to those applicants who wish to exhibit within a special sector hall.

#### Cost-sharing

Contributions toward eligible costs will normally be shared between AAFC and you as follows:

- AAFC - a maximum of 50%
- You - a minimum of 50%

Your portion of the cost-share must be cash contributions. In-kind contributions are ineligible.

#### Cost share of 70:30

A cost share of 70:30 (AAFC: You) may be considered by the program with funding available to support eligible project activities for:

- Underrepresented groups such as Indigenous-led and women-owned organizations in the agriculture, agri-food agri-based products sector, including fish and seafood, that can deliver a project from a national perspective
- Market diversification efforts targeting emerging markets in the Indo-Pacific Regions
  - For the Indo-Pacific Region, this special focus on market diversification to new and emerging markets aligns with AAFC and the Government of Canada's international trade and market development priorities such as the Indo-Pacific Strategy.

#### Requirements

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/agrimarketing/step-2-eligibility>

#### Application Process

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/agrimarketing/step-4-how-apply>

#### Agricultural Clean Technology Program: Research and Innovation Stream

##### Figures

As part of the Government of Canada's strengthened climate plan, A Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy, the new Agricultural Clean Technology (ACT) Program aims to create an enabling environment for the development and adoption of clean technology that will help drive the changes required to achieve a low-carbon economy and promote sustainable growth in Canada's agriculture and agri-food sector.

##### Advantages

The ACT Program offers support under 2 streams:

1. Research and Innovation Stream
2. Adoption Stream

##### Research and Innovation Stream

The Research and Innovation Stream will support pre-market innovation, including research, development, demonstration, and commercialization activities, to develop transformative clean technologies and enable the expansion of current technologies, in 3 priority areas:

- Green energy and energy efficiency
- Precision agriculture
- Bioeconomy

Eligible activities under the Research and Innovation Stream are of the following nature and type:

- Applied research and development of clean technologies
- Piloting and evaluating clean technologies
- Demonstration and knowledge and technology transfer activities
- Commercializing and scaling up clean technologies
- Other activities that support the Research and Innovation Stream as determined by the program

Support is available in the form of repayable and non-repayable contributions from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Requirements

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/agricultural-clean-technology-research-innovation-stream/step-2-who-eligible>

#### Application Process

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/agricultural-clean-technology-research-innovation-stream/step-3-how-apply>

#### Business Scale-up and Productivity (BSP) in the Prairie provinces

##### Figures

Provides repayable contributions of up to 50% of total eligible costs for each project, to a maximum of \$5 million per project and \$10 million per recipient over the life of the program.

##### Advantages

Assistance to support late-stage technology commercialization, as well as productivity improvement and business scale-up activities.

##### Requirements

Available to incorporated high-growth businesses that have been operating in the Prairie Provinces for a minimum of 2 years. Preference may be given to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with less than 500 full-time employees (FTEs).

Project must support one of the following priorities: Clean Technology, Clean Resources, Digital Technology, Advanced Manufacturing, Value-added Agriculture, Life Sciences.

##### Application Process

The BSP program uses a 2-stage continuous intake approach to which applicants may apply at any time: Expression of interest (EOI): This abbreviated on-line application form lets applicants describe the proposed project purpose, rationale, eligibility, activities and budget. We use it to determine if a project should advance to a full application.

Full application: If a project advances to the second stage, we invite the applicant to provide more details about their project through our online portal. We encourage you to [contact us](#) prior to submitting an EOI. A PrairiesCan officer would be happy to answer your questions.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/prairies-economic-development/services/funding/business-scale-up-productivity.html>

## Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) Trade Incentive Programs

### Figures

Per application.

### Advantages

Opportunity to lower tax and allow for free flow of goods.

### Requirements

Check program links.

### Application Process

Administered by CBSA.

<http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/trade-commerce/tip-pec-eng.html docs/nrc/2018-11-21-en-html>

## CanExport Innovation

### Figures

Up to \$75,000 to help Canadian innovators to commercialize, validate or adapt their technologies to bring them to market and meet with foreign collaborators.

Funding is to assist with research and development (R&D) for a single technology and costs to pursue and signed collaborative R&D agreements with international partners and investors

<http://tradecommissioner.gc.ca/funding-financement/ggi-vmi/index.aspx?lang=eng>

## CanExport SMEs Program

### Figures

Apply online for up to \$75,000 in CanExport small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) funding to cover up to 75% of international market development activities.

### Advantages

CanExport SMEs provides financial assistance to SMEs) registered in Canada to help them develop export opportunities for their product or service in new international markets.

### Requirements

The CanExport SMEs program is open to all industry sectors, including agriculture and agri-food. To be considered for funding, the applicant must satisfy all of the following criteria:

- Be a for-profit company
- Be an incorporated legal entity or a limited liability partnership (LLP) in Canada
- Have a Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)

business number

- Have no more than 500 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees
- Have no less than \$100,000 and no more than \$100 million in annual revenue declared in Canada during its last complete tax reporting year (or during the last 12 months for monthly and quarterly filers).

The CanExport SMEs program reserves the right to validate the information provided through the company's financial statements.

### Application Process

Applications are accepted year-round through the online platform. Applicants can expect to receive a decision within 60 business days of submitting a complete application; plan your application accordingly, as the program will not reimburse expenses incurred prior to the approval of an application. Applicants can only have one active project at a time.

<https://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/funding-financement/canexport/sme-pme/index.aspx?lang=eng>

## Canada Innovation Corporation (CIC) - (NRC/IRAP)

(Innovation)

### Figures

Can cover up to \$1 million.

### Advantages

Assistance to take on technology innovation.

### Requirements

Available to small- to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

### Application Process

The NRC's Outreach Initiative provides grant funding to support non-profit organizations or charities for a variety of science- or innovation-based initiatives or projects.

Eligible activities, projects or initiatives include support for science- or innovation-based conferences, workshops, symposia, or other outreach activities aimed at better promoting outreach to, and engagement with, Canadians, including those from under-represented groups interested in STEM.

<https://nrc.canada.ca/en/support-technology-innovation/outreach-initiative-grants-contributions-program>

## Canada Pavilion Program

### Figures

The Canada Pavilion Program is aimed at making trade show participation easier at the world's premier food and beverage events, "where the world shops". With trade shows being an integral marketing technique used by industry when entering new regions, the Canada Pavilion Program will allow companies to take advantage of opportunities arising from market access gains.

## Advantages

Program funding is used to offset the direct cost of exhibiting (booth prices). Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) will no longer provide separate funding to exhibitors for individual elements around Flagship events (travel, hotel, per diem and booth costs). However, under the program booth prices will be offset at such a level to comfortably allow participants to individualize their travel and accommodation needs. This will maintain support and reduce the administrative burden of participating.

Booth pricing will be set on a show-by-show basis to ensure that funding levels are appropriate.

Pavilion Program, other key trade events and how to apply, visit [Agriculture and Food Trade Show Service](#) or e-mail [aafc.mas-sam.aac@agr.gc.ca](mailto:aafc.mas-sam.aac@agr.gc.ca).

The program is a five-year initiative under the [Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership](#).

## Canada Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Program

(R&D Tax Assistance)

### Figures

Offering up to 35% refundable tax credit of qualifying expenses (wages, materials, contract expenditures, lease, overhead, capital); up to maximum of \$3 million.

### Advantages

Reduces total tax due and designed to encourage further investment.

### Requirements

Complements and likely to be combined with the Saskatchewan Research and Development Tax Credit and based on the same criteria.

### Application Process

Administered by Canada Revenue Agency.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/scientific-research-experimental-development-tax-incentive-program.html>

## EDC's Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP) Guarantee

### Figures

The BCAP Guarantee Program has a maximum loan amount of \$6.25M. Maturity date is up to 5 years with 100% due at maturity.

### Advantages

EDC BCAP Guarantee is for new operating lines of credit or new term loans to support your cash flow needs (working capital to cover operational costs) as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Requirements

Canadian business directly or indirectly impacted by COVID-19

Borrowers must have been financially viable, in good standing as of March 1, 2020.

## Application Process

EDC provides a guarantee to your financial institution for the majority of the money you borrow, encouraging them to increase your company's access to credit.

<https://www.edc.ca/en/solutions/working-capital/bcap-guarantee.html>

## Farm Credit Canada (FCC) Young Entrepreneur Loan Program

### Figures

Qualify up to \$1 million, low interest rates.

### Advantages

Purchase or improvement of an agriculture-related business; purchase shares in an agriculture-related business. No loan processing fees. **Application Process**

Contact an FCC official to apply.

<https://www.fcc-fac.ca/en/financing/young-entrepreneur-loan.html>

### Mitacs

### Figures

Mitacs [Accelerate](#) and Business Strategy Internship ([BSI](#)) programs can cover 50% of the cost of research and innovation projects and up to 75% of project cost through joint applications with other programs. No upper limit of funding: the partner organization's contribution starts at \$5000 for a project of minimum four months in length and can be scaled to multi-year, large projects.

### Advantages

[Mitacs](#), a large Canadian not-for-profit organization, supports industry-driven innovation projects through effective partnerships with post-secondary institutions. Mitacs-funded projects create growth opportunities, attract and retain talent, and enhance competitiveness.

### Requirements

Companies of any size in any sector that have staff and premises in Canada are eligible. Intake is held continuously.

### Application Process

Mitacs provides one-to-one support to companies to find collaborators and talent to solve their business challenges. We help companies navigate the application process to ensure success. For more information on the application process, access: <https://www.mitacs.ca/en/industry>.

## Natural Products Canada Proof of Concept Program

### Figures

The Proof of Concept Program helps establish the commercial feasibility of innovative natural products and technologies in order to attract and de-risk subsequent investment.

The Program is open to Canadian research institutes, SMEs and start-up companies. Applicants can receive up to 50% of the cost of the proof of concept plan to a maximum of \$250,000 during the project period (not to exceed 12 months). The applicant will be required to contribute 50% of the cost over the project period.

The Program does not support basic research or preliminary product/technology development. It supports animal, field, demonstration, or human trials that are intended to demonstrate the commercial potential of the product or technology.

For research institutes, the Program is intended to move a product or technology from intellectual property disclosure to near term spin-out and/or licensing opportunities. The NPC contribution will be in the form of a 50% non-repayable grant and a 50% conditionally repayable loan.

For companies, the Program is intended to demonstrate commercial feasibility of products and technologies. The NPC contribution will be in the form of a 50% non-repayable grant and a 50% repayable loan.

Applicants interested in applying to the Program are strongly encouraged to contact the NPC Program Director [kim@naturalproductscanada.com](mailto:kim@naturalproductscanada.com), prior to submitting an application.

<https://www.naturalproductscanada.com/en/programs/proof-of-concept/>

## Natural Products Canada Fast-Track to Financing Program

### Figures

The Fast-Track to Financing Program helps to create strong business or commercialization plans to attract public financing or private investment to help natural products, technologies or services get to market.

This Program is open to Canadian companies (SMEs or start-ups) and research institutes.

**SMEs or start-ups:** The intent of the Program is to develop strong business or commercialization plans that demonstrate the market and/or growth potential necessary to attract private capital or public funding.

**Research Institutes:** The intent of the Program is to develop strong commercialization plans to attract public funding, secure industry partnerships, licensing opportunities, and/or create

start-up companies.

The Program supports the costs of engaging one or more expert(s) (external consultant(s) or other service provider(s)) to assist in strengthening or revising the business or commercialization plan.

This could include all or a subset of the following components:

- Market, Customer, & Competitive Analysis
- Value Proposition
- Marketing Plan
- Sales Plan
- Regulatory Plan
- IP Plan
- Financial Plan/Evaluation/Revenue Stream
- Branding
- Pricing Plan
- Production Plan

Successful applicants will receive a conditionally repayable loan of up to 50% of the costs of the project, to a maximum of \$25,000. The applicant is required to contribute at least 50% of the cost over the project period.

The applicant may have a preferred expert(s) at the time of application or may begin their search after the application is submitted. A summary of the qualifications of the expert(s) and the statement of work(s) (SOW) must be submitted to NPC for review prior to final approval.

### Application Process

Applicants interested in applying to the Program are strongly encouraged to contact the NPC Program Director [kim@naturalproductscanada.com](mailto:kim@naturalproductscanada.com), prior to submitting an application.

<https://www.naturalproductscanada.com/en/programs/fast-track-to-financing/>

## Protein Industries Canada (PIC)

Protein Industries Canada is an industry-led, not-for-profit organization created to position Canada as a global source of high-quality plant protein and plant-based co-products. We are one of Canada's five Global Innovation Clusters. Protein Industries Canada will work with private sector industry partners to create co-investment projects that have the potential to transform the agriculture and food production sector, allowing Canada to secure our position as a global leader in the production of plant-based products and co-products.

<https://www.proteinindustriescanada.ca/>

## Strategic Innovation Fund

### Figures

- Stream 1: Encourage research and development that will accelerate technology transfer and commercialization of innovative products, processes and services.
- Stream 2: Facilitate the growth and expansion of firms in Canada.
- Stream 3: Attract and retain large-scale investments to Canada.
- Stream 4: Advance industrial research, development and technology demonstration through collaboration between academia, non-profit organizations and the private sector.

### Requirements

Must be for-profit corporation (of any size).

### Application Process

Administered by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada.

The application process of the Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF) focuses on project outcomes and benefits for Canadians

<https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/strategic-innovation-fund/en/how-to-apply>

## Supply Management Processing Investment Fund

### Figures

The Supply Management Processing Investment Fund (SMPPIF) helps processors of supply-managed commodities adapt to market changes resulting from the implementation of the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

### Advantages

The program provides non-repayable contributions to support investments in dairy, poultry, and egg processing facilities that improve productivity and/or efficiency through the purchase of new automated equipment and technology.

The overall program budget from April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2028, is \$292.5 million. How much you can receive.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada may contribute up to \$5 million in non-repayable contribution to an organization over the life of the program.

### Requirements

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/supply-management-processing-investment-fund/step-2-who-eligible>

### Application Process

<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/programs/supply-management-processing-investment-fund/step-3-how-apply>

## Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC)

*(Pre-commercialization)*

### Figures

Coverage, on average, is up to 40% of eligible costs.

### Advantages

Assistance with pre-commercial demonstration of emerging (clean) technologies.

### Requirements

Tech, natural gas, joint government projects, next-generation biofuels funding streams.

### Application Process

Contact an SDTC funding adviser  
<https://www.sdte.ca/en/get-funding/>

# Federal-Provincial PROGRAMS

## Agriculture Development Fund (ADF)

*(Assistance for Growth)*

### Figures

Project funding of nearly \$15 million per year; up to 100% of eligible costs; can leverage funds from other sources. To be used for applied research, no official project cap.

### Advantages

Create future growth opportunities and enhance competitiveness

### Requirements

Any person, business or organization with an idea of practical value to Saskatchewan's agriculture and food industry is encouraged to submit a Letter of Intent. The principal/lead investigator of the project must be a permanent full-time employee of an organization.

### Application Process

The ADF, is a two-stage application process. The first stage is to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI). Principal Investigators with accepted LOIs are then invited to develop their idea into a full proposal, as part of stage two.

Letters of Intent: You may submit Letters of Intent between March 1 and April 17. Completed forms must be submitted through the online system.

Full Proposal: Successful Letters of Intent will be invited to submit a full application proposal. Completed forms must be submitted through the online system

Visit the [online web portal](#). New applicants click "Register"; existing users click "Login".

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/agriculture-natural-resources-and-industry/agribusiness->

[farmers-and-ranchers/canadian-agricultural-partnership-cap/science-research-and-innovation/adf](#)

## Product Development Program (PDP)

*(Growth & Innovation)*

### Figures

A reimbursement up to 50 per cent of eligible project expenses, to a maximum of \$10,000 CAD, in a lump sum at the end of the funding agreement

### Advantages

Through financial assistance, the program seeks to catalyze the development of novel value-added products and processes that will significantly enhance the value of Canadian agricultural products in Saskatchewan.

- Increase Value-Added Revenues
- Enhance Value-Added Processing of Canadian Agriculture Products
- Foster the Development of New Value-Added Products, Prototypes, and Processes
- Reduce By-Product Waste
- Expand and Nurture Value-Added Businesses

### Requirements

Applications from agriculture value-added processors who meet the following criteria:

- A value-added product is defined as the upgrading of a raw primary agricultural product(s), or further upgrading of a processed product or derivative (includes co-product, by-product) into a new product.
- Processors must use an identifiable portion of inputs originating from primary agricultural commodities grown or raised in Canada.
- The applicant's operations and tax payments must be within the Province of Saskatchewan.
- The proposal/product must demonstrate substantial use of Canadian-grown agricultural products.
- Applicants must be for-profit organizations.

### Eligible Activities:

The following activities are eligible for consideration:

- Technical service costs.
- Product development and demo costs.
- Test processing costs.
- Assessment and development of process & manufacturing technology costs.
- Specification development cost

### **Ineligible Activities Include But Not Limited To:**

- Activities already receiving funding from other Government of Saskatchewan sources or the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Agri-Marketing program.
- Training and wages/salaries for employees.
- Expenses for ongoing activities or other typical operating expenses.
- Per diems and meals domestically and internationally.
- Equipment purchases or other capital expenditures not explicitly identified as eligible.
- Administration costs and other activities not directly related specifically to the project.
- Cost of production for saleable products.
- Taxes, legal fees, and/or financing fees.
- Membership in trade organizations.

### **Application Process**

Administered by Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre.

<https://foodcentre.sk.ca/product-idea/product-development-program/>

### **Saskatchewan Lean Improvements in Manufacturing (SLIM)**

*(Efficiency Focused)*

#### **Figures**

A business analysis must be completed by a third-party contractor: 50 per cent of eligible costs to a maximum of \$20,000 over the lifetime of the Sustainable CAP SLIM program. A business analysis completed internally is not eligible for in-kind rebate.

- Efficiency Stream: 50 per cent of eligible expenditures.
- Emissions Reduction Stream: 60 per cent of eligible expenditures.
- Expansion Stream: 50 per cent of eligible expenditures.

Maximum funding: an applicant's maximum funding cap is determined by assessing the project size against the Tiered Funding Model.

- Project size of \$50,000 to \$1,000,000, maximum funding up to \$300,000
- Project size of \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000, maximum funding up to \$500,000
- Project size greater than \$5,000,000, maximum funding up to \$750,000

#### **Advantages**

The Saskatchewan Lean Improvements in Manufacturing (SLIM) program provides funding assistance to agri-businesses for the adoption of best practices, new state-of-the-art technologies and processes stimulating significant improvements in productivity efficiency and greenhouse gas emission reductions.

### **Requirements**

Eligible applicants are agri-businesses, First Nations or Abattoirs involved in value-added processing of Canadian agricultural products that are considered:

- A commercial enterprise located in Saskatchewan;
- Incorporated federally or in Saskatchewan and have filed income tax in Saskatchewan within the past year;
- An existing facility in operation undertaking value-added processing for a minimum of two years;
- Demonstrating a minimum of \$100,000 gross annual revenue relating to value-added processing
  - A value-added product is defined as the upgrading of a raw primary agricultural product(s), or further upgrading of a processed product or derivative (includes co-product, by-product) into a new product; and
- Using an identifiable portion of inputs originating from primary agricultural commodities grown or raised in Canada

### **Application Process**

Administered by Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture. Pre-approval must be received before a business analysis can be undertaken. Pre-approval applications must be received on or before October 31, 2027. The deadline to submit a completed business analysis is on or before December 31, 2027.

All approved projects must be fully completed with equipment paid for, installed and operational, and final claim submitted by the earlier of the date in the approval package or on or before March 31, 2028.

Encouraged to speak with an official to discuss project.

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/slim>

### **Canadian Agricultural Partnership Innovate. Grow. Prosper.**

Please note that many of the programs listed in this document apply to multiple sectors and are not dedicated to agri-value and agriculture alone.

## For more information, contact:

Saskatchewan Ministry of Trade and Export Development  
Email: [invest.sask@gov.sk.ca](mailto:invest.sask@gov.sk.ca)  
<http://www.saskatchewan.ca/invest>

## Additional Support References

Ag-West Bio Inc.  
University of Saskatchewan - Crop Development Centre (CDC)  
Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre Inc. (Food Centre)  
Canadian Light Source Inc.  
[Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Midwestern Regional Office – Saskatchewan](#)

Saskatchewan's Economic Overview Brochure:  
<http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/details.cfm?p=81817>

The Canadian Trade Commissioner Service - Saskatchewan  
<https://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/saskatchewan/index.aspx?lang=eng>

