



Overview of Indigenous Initiatives at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Atlantic Links to Learning November 15, 2018

Canadian Agricultural Partnership



Strengthening the agriculture and agri-food sector – a key area of economic growth and job creation – to deliver the greatest benefits for farmers, food processors and Canadian families.



In addition, farmers continue to have access to a robust suite of Business Risk Management (BRM) programs to help manage significant risk that threaten the viability of their farm and are beyond their capacity to manage.

The Partnership: Federal Programs

Growing Trade and Expanding Markets

\$297 M

AgriMarketing

Focused on helping increase and diversify exports through industry-led promotional activities.

AgriCompetitiveness

Assist industry-led
efforts to provide
producers with the
information they need
to build capacity and
support the sector's
development.

Innovative and Sustainable Growth in the Sector

\$690 M

Agrilnnovate

Aims to help applicants get their innovative projects that increase competitiveness and sustainability to market.

AgriScience

Helps accelerate
the pace of innovation
by supporting
pre-commercialization
activities and investing
in cutting-edge
research.

Supporting Diversity and a Dynamic, Evolving Sector

\$166.5 M

AgriDiversity

Strengthens the sector by helping diverse groups build skills and take on leadership roles.

AgriAssurance

Supports industry in meeting consumer needs for Canada's high quality products.

Application forms and guides for federal programs are available now. Find out more at Canada.ca/Agri-Partnership

The Partnership: Priorities

Federal programs and activities focus on helping the sector:

- Grow trade and expand markets to seize key opportunities and address emerging needs.
- Advance science and innovation, with an emphasis on innovation and sustainable growth.
- Better reflect the diversity of our communities, enhance collaboration across different jurisdictions and secure and support public trust.
 - The Partnership recognizes and engages those who have been under-represented in the past: youth, women, Indigenous communities/groups and persons with disabilities.



Indigenous Pathfinder Service



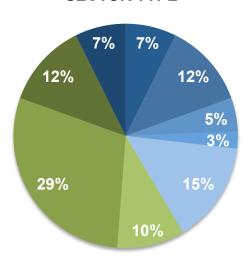
- Launched October 9, 2018.
- A one-stop shop for program advice and referrals to help Indigenous
 Peoples navigate AAFC programs and services that are available to start or
 expand activities in the agriculture and agri-food sector.
- The Pathfinder Service will connect Indigenous clients with a personal advisor who will:
 - Listen to your project idea or plan and offer suggestions for next steps.
 - Inform you of AAFC funding programs and services.
 - Find and refer you to the right AAFC expert.
 - Help you connect with other federal support available.
 - Follow your progress.
 - Track trends in project co-development.

What has the Pathfinder shown us so far?

- 21 project ideas in co-development.
- 41 inquiries.



SECTOR TYPE



- Fish and Seafood 3 inquiries, 7%
- Crops (Includes Hemp and Cannabis) 5 inquiries, 12%
- Red meat and Livestock 2 inquiries, 5%
- Country Food (Includes hunting and harvesting) - 1 inquiries, 3%
- Horticulture (Includes Greenhouses,
 Vertical Farms and Community Gardens) 6 inquiries, 15%
- Food Security 4 inquiries, 10%
- General Primary Agriculture 12 inquiries, 29%

AgriDiversity

Program Description:

 To help under-represented groups in Canadian agriculture, including youth, women, Indigenous Peoples, and persons with disabilities, to fully participate in the sector through education and training.

Eligible Applicants/Recipients:

Not-for-profit organizations.

Eligible Activities:

- Facilitating the sharing and expansion of skills and knowledge.
- Developing, sharing, accessing and disseminating financial management and business management training, and best practices information through: events, conferences, workshops, training, tools, web sites, newsletters, etc.
- Activities supporting the involvement in the agriculture sector and develop leadership skills through industry specific training and mentorship.
- Creating and disseminating agricultural material to increase education and awareness.
- Undertaking activities for needs and gap analysis identifying areas where tools and support are required for under-represented groups.

Maximum Funding:

- \$200,000 per year per recipient up to a maximum of \$1 million over 5 years.
- Experimental use of micro grants (\$1,000 or under) for individuals to facilitate the participation of youth.

Strategic Partnerships Initiative (SPI)

- Also known as the Indigenous Agriculture Food Systems Initiative.
- Indigenous groups are seeking support for community-led, culturally appropriate and flexible approaches to advance Indigenous agriculture.
 - Economic development, food security, social and cultural dimensions.
- Indigenous Peoples are eligible applicants under CAP (federal only and cost-shared), and AgriDiversity targets underrepresented groups, yet there are still gaps.
- Indigenous involvement in the sector and participation in AAFC programs is limited, but there is demonstrated interest across the country.

Objective and Results (2018 - 2023)

AAFC's SPI programming

will support Indigenous communities and entrepreneurs to become "opportunity-ready" in agriculture, supporting Indigenous value chains and realization of economic development opportunities in the sector.





Year One Building the Foundation

- Identification of agricultural assets, mapping Indigenous economic/business opportunities in sector
- · Development of supporting partnerships.
- Ready-to-go Indigenous agriculture projects are funded.

Years Two to Five Implementation

- Increased organizational capacity of Indigenous partners to develop/launch/sustain initiatives in sector.
- Indigenous communities realize agriculture-based community economic development opportunities.
- Investments and partnerships in the sector.

AAFC SPI Program Parameters

Eligible Recipients Include:

- ✓ Indigenous communities (First Nations, Métis, Inuit, women, urban Indigenous, non-status).
- ✓ Indigenous not-for-profit corporations, including associations and charitable organizations.
- ✓ Indigenous-controlled for-profit corporations, including businesses, partnerships and joint ventures.

Eligible Activities Include:

- ✓ Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies.
- ✓ Development/Implementation of Indigenous agricultural strategies in community development plans.
- ✓ Food hubs, food business incubators.
- ✓ Strengthening local food systems, Indigenous value chains.
- ✓ Technical training, organizational capacity, financial management.
- ✓ Establishment, expansion or modernization of an Indigenous business or joint venture (e.g. partnerships in primary agriculture).

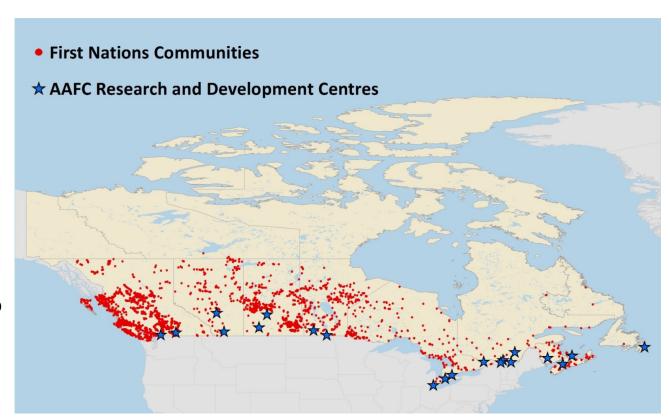
Indigenous Student Recruitment Initiative

- 1. To increase the hiring of Indigenous students.
- To enable Indigenous students to gain experience and knowledge of various careers available in Agriculture, the Public Service, and STEM.
- 3. To bridge Indigenous students into permanent jobs at AAFC upon completion of education.

AAFC Research Facilities and Indigenous Communities

AAFC currently has 20 research facilities across Canada.

Many of these facilities are in close proximity to First Nation communities.



Experience and Education

- Experience: Students gain experience and knowledge of various careers available in Agricultural Science and Technology.
- Education: Students would be exposed to the various fields over a period of time



Current Status

- **65** students hired for summer 2018
- 24 Champions in place
- AAFC Elder, Mervin Traverse hired September 2016
- New Indigenous Support and Awareness Office – formalized October 26, 2017
- Led by a team in STB, reporting to ADM Champion



Career Focus Program

Receive funding to hire a postsecondary grad or Indigenous intern.



Applications accepted between November 1 and November 30, 2018 on a first come, first served basis.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's **CAREER FOCUS PROGRAM** helps fund approximately **65 agricultural internships** for Canadian graduates aged 30 years or younger every year.

As an employer, you can receive **up to \$14,000** in matching funds to pay interns for positions in agriculture, agri-food, agri-food science and veterinary medicine. Internships can range from four to 12 months.

Eligible employers are responsible for hiring and verifying the eligibility of participants for Career Focus activities.

TO BE AN ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER, YOU MUST:

- Offer projects that will give interns agriculture career-related work experiences in Canada
- Help interns gain new skills by mentoring and coaching them; and
- Be a farm business, industry, not-for-profit organization, provincial/municipal government, association, board, council, college or university.

Eligible employees:

- 30 years or younger when they started the internship
- unemployed or underemployed
- have graduated from a university, college, DEP or CEGEP
- have not participated in any other Youth Employment Strategy programs (that is, Agricultural Youth Green Job's Initiative and/or Career Focus Program), and
- a Canadian citizen or permanent resident

If you are an Indigenous youth applicant, you must be:

- between the ages of 15 and 30
- · unemployed or underemployed
- have not participated in any other Youth Employment Strategy programs (that is, Agricultural Youth Green Jobs Initiative and/or Career Focus Program), and
- a Canadian citizen or permanent resident

To learn more about the Career Focus Program or to apply http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/programs-and-services/career-focus-program



Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada



AAFC Presence in Atlantic Canada

| Branch | Number of Employees | Percent |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------|
| Science and Technology Branch | 230 | 65% |
| Market and Industry Services Branch | 16 | 5% |
| Information Systems Branch | 10 | 3% |
| Corporate Management Branch | 89 | 25% |
| Public Affairs Branch | 5 | 1% |
| Program Branch | 3 | 0.8% |
| Strategic Policy Branch | 1 | 0.2% |
| TOTAL | 354 | 100% |

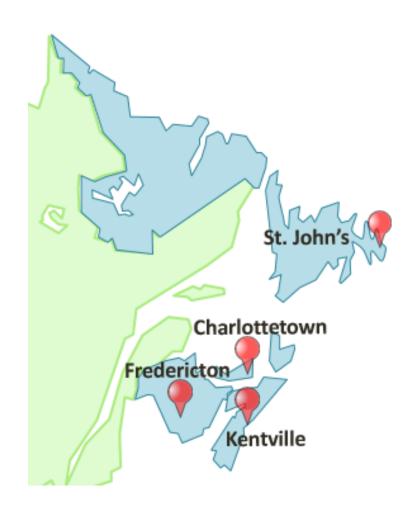
Atlantic Canada's Research and Development Centres (RDC)

Fredericton RDC:

Horticulture, Clean Technology, Biodiversity, Agro-Ecosystem Resilience

Charlottetown RDC:

Horticulture,
Cereals, Pulses,
Oilseeds, Food,
Clean Technology,
Agro-Ecosystem
Resilience



St. John's RDC:

Cereals, Pulses,
Horticulture,
Forages,
Biodiversity, AgroEcosystem
Resilience

Kentville RDC:

Horticulture, Forages, Food, Biodiversity, Agro-Ecosystem Resilience

MISB Regional Offices

Regional Offices Support & Link Departmental and Industry Priorities



Choices are so numerous it could be overwhelming...



So put the Why before the What and the How to narrow in on relevant ideas

How could AAFC be involved?

Marketing and Industry Services Branch?

- Help identify markets for commodities that can be grown in the community?
- Help identify value-added opportunities, and assist with contacts to figure out how to mount a project?

Programs Branch?

 May have programing to assist with opportunity development among indigenous communities and for women, along with regular programming

Science and Technology Branch?

- Knowledge and Tech Transfer (KTT specialists) help to make contacts with provincial extension specialists and agronomists with practical expertise.
- Helps identify knowledge gaps where a scientist could be brought in to share expertise, or to address a gap with science
 - May be able to develop technologies to help with a production system for a traditional food that has not been grown intensively before?
 - Or identify pest problems on that crop, and ecological methods to reduce the pest or disease?

Other ways...

- We have internal funds for research projects on indigenous and Northern agriculture
- We can partner to access other funds as well

The key to our success - Partnerships

»That's why we are all here today.

»To develop partnerships.



Questions?

Janet.Steele@canada.ca 902-426-7171