

# Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership

Competitive. Innovative. Resilient.

## Future Farmer Program GUIDELINES



Canada

## 4.2 FUTURE FARMER PROGRAM

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The **Future Farmer Program** will support business sector capacity growth and competitiveness by supporting new farmers to improve the probability that they establish or continue profitable and sustainable commercial farm businesses. The program will help new entrants identify and prioritize their business goals and will help them identify planning, management and technical skills that are needed to reach their goals.

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# PROGRAM GUIDELINES

## Eligible Recipients

- Mi'kmaq First Nations and other Indigenous groups; and
- Agricultural Producers.

### Eligible Recipients must:

- Be a new agricultural producer (Must not have reported farm income for more than 5 years);
- Have a business or succession plan;
- Indicate in their business or succession plan a projection of at least \$20,000 in annual gross farm sales;
- Indicate in their succession plan that the recipient owns at least 15% of the common voting shares or must be the beneficial owner of a 15% interest in the partnership (for farms with gross sales of \$1M or less) or owns at least 10% of the common voting shares or must be the beneficial owner of a 10% interest in the partnership (for farms with gross sales of more than \$1M);
- Be a Canadian citizen or a Permanent Resident; and
- Be a resident of Prince Edward Island.

### NOTE:

- Recipients who do not have a business or succession plan may be eligible for coaching support through the Future Farmer Program.

## Eligible Activities/Expenses

- Facilitation and coaching assistance by a program advisor;
- Development and implementation of continuous improvement on-farm projects<sup>1</sup>;
- Skills development and training assistance by a third-party<sup>2</sup>;
- Business or succession planning assistance;
- Analytical laboratory testing<sup>3</sup>; and
- Participation in the following Business Risk Management (BRM) Programs: AgriStability and AgriInsurance<sup>3</sup>.

### NOTES:

- Note<sup>1</sup>: Future Farmer Program recipients must demonstrate clear linkages to one of the Sustainable CAP Framework outcomes for all on-farm projects pursued under this eligible activity.
- Note<sup>2</sup>: Skill development and training must be pre-approved by the Program Manager.
- Note<sup>3</sup>: PEI Analytical Laboratory testing and participation in AgriStability and AgriInsurance are funded provincially through the Future Farmer Program.

## Ineligible Activities/Expenses

- Purchase of land and/or buildings;
- Certificate-based training (except short certificates, i.e., conflict resolution);
- BRM-type activities;
- Normal and on-going operating and maintenance activities;
- Activities that do not provide a direct benefit to the Sector;
- Activities related to aquaponic food production, or to aquaculture, seaweed, fish and seafood production and processing (except international marketing and traceability activities for fish and seafood);
- Activities which provide tax credits or rebates;
- Development and enforcement of regulations; and
- Expenses incurred prior to project application.

## Funding

- 50% of eligible expenses up to \$10,000 per project for continuous improvement on-farm projects expenses. Recipients are eligible for 3 continuous improvement projects over the life of the Sustainable CAP Framework Agreement (2023-2028)<sup>1</sup>;
- 75% of eligible expenses up to \$2,000 per project, up to \$3,000 per recipient for skill development and training expenses over the life of the Sustainable CAP Framework Agreement (2023-2028)<sup>2</sup>;
- 75% of eligible expenses up to \$3,000 per recipient for business plan expenses within the first year of being accepted into the program.
- 50% of eligible expenses up to \$1,000 per recipient for PEI Analytical Laboratory testing expenses; and
- 50% of eligible expenses up to \$2,000 per recipient for Business Risk Management<sup>3</sup> expenses over the life of the Sustainable CAP Framework Agreement (2023-2028).

### NOTES:

- Note<sup>1</sup>: Continuous improvement on-farm projects must:
  - Be reviewed by the 1) Program Manager **OR** 2) Review Committee prior to submission; and
  - Align with one of the Sustainable CAP outcomes.
- Note<sup>2</sup>: Eligible recipients must meet Business Risk Management Program entrance requirements to qualify for this funding



## CLAIMS PROCESS

Recipients shall maintain an accurate record of expenditures incurred and shall submit, upon completion of the project, the following:

- a claim form summarizing expenditures;
- copies of all paid invoices with verification of payment;
- a report on the project and its results in terms of project objectives; and
- copies of material produced (or when applicable, photos of material funded).



## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Approved projects must be completed within the timeframe outlined in the funding agreement;
- Recipients must meet the eligibility criteria and submit a complete application to the Department of Agriculture;
- If the project is not approved, all incurred costs are the responsibility of the recipient;
- Assistance will be available until funds are totally allocated within that year; and
- Projects may be funded below the maximum contribution rate upon assessment and availability of funding.

## HOW TO APPLY

Completed applications may be submitted to the attention of the Program Officer via regular mail or email.

### Email Applications:

Applications may be submitted via email to [futurefarmer@gov.pe.ca](mailto:futurefarmer@gov.pe.ca)

Please include the program name in the subject line.

### Regular Mail Applications:

Applications may be submitted via regular mail at:  
PEI Department of Agriculture  
11 Kent Street  
PO Box 2000  
Charlottetown PE C1A 7N8  
(902) 368-4880 (telephone)



## **PUBLIC TRUST**

Projects approved for funding under the Sustainable CAP which have demonstrable links to increasing public trust may be eligible for additional project funding.



## **EVALUATION AND CONTROL**

A complete evaluation of this program is planned to ensure that the objectives and results are achieved and to assess the relevance of its renewal. Program metrics are collected and reported on an on-going basis.



## **GUIDING PRINCIPLE**

Sustainable CAP programs are available to all Canadians who are eligible to participate in those programs. Wherever possible, the needs of under-represented groups, including Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, and persons with disabilities, were considered during program development.