



Growing Forward 2

A federal-provincial-territorial initiative

Yukon Agricultural Programming Guide

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Intent of the Framework

The intent of Growing Forward 2 is to achieve a profitable, sustainable, competitive and innovative agriculture, agri-food and agri-products industry that is market-responsive, anticipates and adapts to changing circumstances, and is a major contributor to the well-being of Canadians.

Policy Framework

The Growing Forward 2 Framework will constitute an integrated approach to agriculture, agri-food, and agri-processing policies by focusing on two broad policy outcomes and two key drivers.

The two broad outcomes of the Growing Forward 2 Framework have the following objectives:

Competitiveness in Domestic and International Markets

A primary agriculture and processing sector that is competitive in domestic and international markets by:

- ▶ being cost competitive;
- ▶ meeting customer requirements for attributes;
- ▶ taking advantage of new market opportunities; and
- ▶ gaining and maintaining market access.

Adaptability and Sustainability for the Sector

A sector that is adaptable and sustainable, in that it maintains and improves its productive capacity by:

- ▶ making effective use of appropriate skills and knowledge;
- ▶ managing human, natural and financial resources;
- ▶ attracting young farmers and new investors to the sector;
- ▶ anticipating and adapting to changing external circumstances;
- ▶ managing risks effectively;
- ▶ contributing to key food policy objectives such as health or food safety; and
- ▶ recognizing and responding to society's demands.

The two policy drivers of the Growing Forward 2 Framework have the following objectives:

Innovation from Discovery to Adoption

A sector that continuously develops and adopts new products and practices to remain competitive and sustainable through:

- ▶ sustained commitment to public research and development (R&D);
- ▶ improved collaboration/partnerships among key institutions (governments, universities, industry, etc.); and
- ▶ increased private sector leadership and investment.

Institutional, Physical and Human Resource Infrastructure

A sector that is equipped with the modern infrastructure (institutional and human resource) needed to secure its long-term competitiveness and sustainability:

- ▶ through access to modern regulatory structures and institutions;
- ▶ by developing mechanisms and systems to enable the sector to respond to issues it faces; and
- ▶ by enhancing the capacity of the sector to further develop skills and knowledge.



Program Eligibility Requirements

Individuals

- ▶ must be recognized as a legal entity capable of entering into a contractual agreement;
- ▶ must be operating within Yukon; and
- ▶ must be an agricultural producer or processor and can be a company, corporation or partnership. Family members from the same farm, company, corporation or partnership shall be eligible as one individual and not as separate applicants.
- ▶ must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant, at least 19 years of age; and
- ▶ must be operating a farm or processing facility with commercial sales, or be able to demonstrate commercial viability by 2018. A business plan may be required to assess commercial viability.

Farm Groups and Cooperatives

- ▶ must be a group of three or more individuals operating an agricultural, agri-food or agri-based products business in Yukon.
- ▶ Cooperatives must be registered in Yukon.

Non-Profit Organizations and Governments

- ▶ Non-profit organizations: must be a Canadian registered non-profit society operating in Yukon, with a mandate related to the agriculture, agri-food or agri-based products industry.
- ▶ Governments: federal, territorial, municipal, First Nation and educational institutions.

Program Funding

Unless otherwise specified under individual programs:

- ▶ individuals are eligible for up to 50% of project costs when in-kind* contributions are claimed and up to 60% of project costs when only actual expenses are claimed, with a lifetime program maximum of \$100,000;**
- ▶ farm groups and cooperatives are eligible for up to 75% of project costs, with a lifetime program maximum of \$250,000;** and
- ▶ non-profit organizations and governments, including First Nation governments, are eligible for up to 100% project costs. Maximum program funding will be determined according to project evaluation and budget provisions.

* *In-kind contributions are a non-cash contribution that can be given a cash value for the project. Examples include applicant labour or use of your own equipment or materials.*

** *Applicants exceeding program maximums may still submit applications for review by the project evaluation committee; these applications will be reviewed subject to available funding.*

Eligible Funding

- ▶ In-kind resources may be eligible as part of the project cost-sharing, but are not eligible for reimbursement.
- ▶ This program does not fund the purchase of commonly available agricultural equipment for individuals.

Payment is based on receipts provided. Reimbursement of travel costs must be consistent with Yukon government travel expense guidelines (available at Yukon Agriculture Branch).



Application Process

Project applications can be submitted to the Yukon Agriculture Branch at any time. Applications are reviewed monthly either by a program manager and field inspector, or a Project Evaluation Committee, depending on the program area for which the application is received. The application intake cut-off date is the first day of each month for projects that go to the Project Evaluation Committee for review.

The Project Evaluation Committee reviews the majority of applications. The role of the Project Evaluation Committee is to:

- ▶ provide industry perspective on applications;
- ▶ ensure that applications are evaluated according to the Growing Forward 2 policy objectives;
- ▶ consider project impacts to producers and processors that have invested their own funds in areas eligible for program funding to ensure fairness and competitiveness as part of the evaluation of applications; and
- ▶ consider project benefits to the overall industry and the public.

The Project Evaluation Committee* is made up of:

- ▶ one industry representative from the Yukon Agricultural Association;
- ▶ one industry representative from Growers of Organic Food Yukon;
- ▶ the Yukon government program manager responsible for the application program area;
- ▶ the Yukon program manager for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; and
- ▶ the Yukon government Growing Forward 2 management co-chair.

* *Committee members appointed for the term of the agreement.*

Projects that are exempt from the Project Evaluation Committee are assessed for eligibility by the program manager and inspected at the end of the agreement to ensure that the project has been completed as per terms of the Transfer Payment Agreement.

All applications for funding are confidential. Once a project is approved for funding and a Transfer Payment Agreement is signed, the details of the agreement that are government funded become accessible to the public.

Applicants are encouraged to review their project proposal with the appropriate program manager at the Agriculture Branch before submitting the application to ensure that the application is eligible and complete before going through evaluation.

When consultants are proposed in an application for project funding, the applicant will submit the qualifications of the consultant with the application for evaluation.





Food Safety Program

This program provides for the development of food safety strategies for all agri-food commodities in Yukon. Strategies related to food safety education and training, food safety compliance, and livestock and agri-product traceability are included under this program.

Food safety education and training activities will allow for adaptation, development and implementation of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) or HACCP-based systems on farms and in the agri-food processing sector.

Food safety compliance activities will facilitate adoption of, and compliance with, food safety standards and regulations, as well as address health and safety issues associated with agribusiness activities.

Traceability activities will contribute to the adoption and implementation of national traceability systems that will allow Yukon to participate in enhanced tracking systems for food-safe outcomes. The main focuses will be agricultural and agri-food producer and processor premise identification and support for participation in the national livestock identification program.

Eligible Activities

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ presentation of and participation in food safety and HACCP training courses, workshops, seminars and conferences;
- ▶ activities that create and support partnerships with governments and national producer organizations in the adoption of food safety strategies and standards;
- ▶ activities that facilitate the adoption of Good Manufacturing Practices and international standards such as HACCP or ISO 22000 in food processing plants; and
- ▶ professional technical and analytical advice that facilitates compliance with food safety standards and regulations and that implement traceability systems;

Eligible Applicants

Individuals, farm groups, cooperatives, non-profit organizations and governments.

Eligible Funding

Assistance may be provided for up to 50% of the project costs for individuals if in-kind contributions are included in the application, and up to 60% if there are no in-kind contributions, up to 75% of the project costs for farm groups and cooperatives, and up to 100% of the project costs for governments and non-profit organizations.



Biosecurity Risk Prevention and Mitigation Program

This program provides for the implementation of systems and programs that will allow the territory to identify, manage and mitigate emerging risks to animal and plant health, with a focus on prevention or mitigation of identified risks. This program will also provide support for the continuation of the chronic wasting disease monitoring program.

Eligible Activities

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

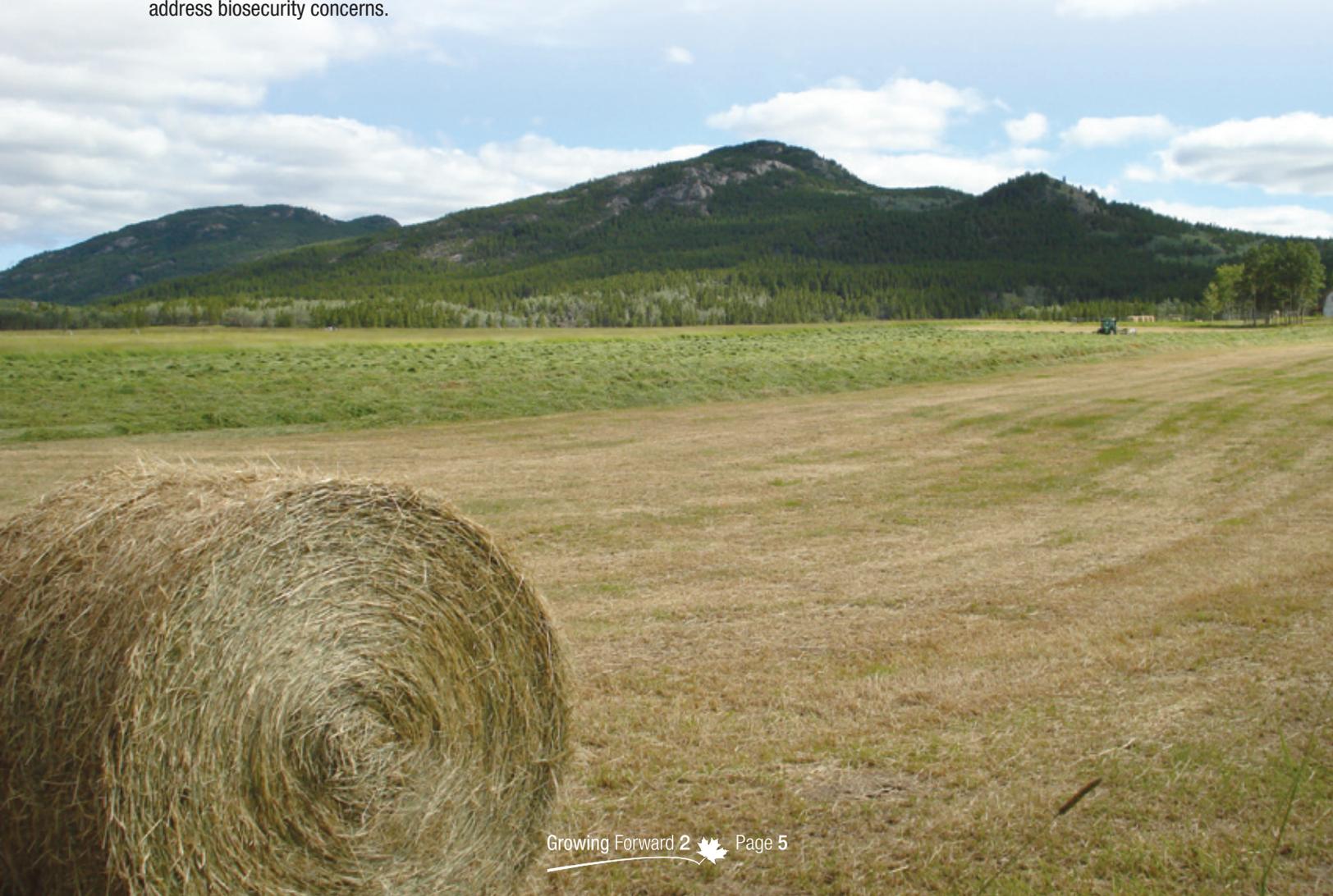
- ▶ adoption of national biosecurity measures that support Yukon livestock and game farm industries;
- ▶ activities related to surveillance, prevention and control of plant and animal diseases, as well as invasive species;
- ▶ activities related to the communication of plant and animal health information;
- ▶ travel to meetings, workshops or conferences related to animal and plant health risks; and
- ▶ participation on local or national committees established to address biosecurity concerns.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals, farm groups, cooperatives, non-profit organizations and governments.

Eligible Funding

Assistance may be provided for up to 50% of the project costs for individuals if in-kind contributions are included in the application, and up to 60% if there are no in-kind contributions, up to 75% of the project costs for farm groups and cooperatives, and up to 100% of the project costs for governments and non-profit organizations.





Yukon Livestock Health Program

The objective of this program is to monitor, support and improve the health and welfare of Yukon livestock including poultry, swine, cattle, small ruminants (goats and sheep), horses and game farmed species.

The program will provide support for educational publications and workshops related to livestock health, biosecurity, and food safety based on recognized national animal care codes of practice. This program will also ensure access to livestock health services for individual producers through private veterinarians (offset the cost of veterinary services) to support production of healthy livestock.

Please contact the Animal Health Unit 867-667-8663 for further details and enrollment.

Eligible Activities

This program will be directed from the Animal Health Unit.

Activities may include:

- ▶ education for veterinarians, producers and the general public;
- ▶ livestock health/veterinary support for producers including a herd or flock “health visit” by a veterinarian to the farm to assess the farm and livestock and a follow-up visit; and
- ▶ development of a Yukon Livestock Health Database.

Eligible Applicants

Individual producers can access the veterinary support component of the program by enrolling in the Yukon Premises ID Program. Livestock health information shared with private veterinarians will be kept confidential between the veterinarian and the producer. Animal health data may be compiled (with no link to the farm(s) of origin) to monitor livestock health trends over time and provide an annual summary to the Animal Health Unit.

Private Yukon veterinarians benefit from the program through education provided by the program. Veterinarians also work as partners with the Animal Health Unit and Agriculture Branch to provide veterinary care and herd/flock health support, funded through the Livestock Health Program.

Eligible Funding

Producers participating in this program may receive up to two veterinary visits per year. There is no cost to the producer for these visits. The program will not provide funds for drugs or biologics for preventative medicine or treatment.

Producers and veterinarians participating in the program will receive educational resources in the form of seminars, presentations and printed materials or web-based resources on a variety of livestock health and disease issues.





Food Safety Beneficial Management Practices

This program provides funding to address food safety, traceability and regulatory requirements in meat slaughter and processing, egg production, dairy and market garden operations.

Eligible Beneficial Management Practices

Purchasing temperature control equipment.....	\$10,000
<i>freezers, walk-in coolers, displays, and coolers for transportation</i>	
Purchasing stainless steel platforms for food processing	\$5,000
Purchasing egg grading equipment.....	\$5,000
Water treatment for crop washing and irrigation of crops that are eaten raw	\$10,000
Purchasing impermeable wall panels.....	\$5,000
Acquisition of specialized equipment required to implement food safety systems, food traceability initiatives and regulatory standards on farms and in food processing facilities.	\$5,000

Eligible Applicants

Individuals who would like to access funding to implement beneficial management practices for slaughter and meat processing equipment must enroll in the Yukon Premise ID program. Please include on the application form how this equipment will help implement a food safety system in your operation.

Eligible Funding

Assistance is provided up to 50% of project costs for individuals if in-kind contributions are included and up to 60% if there are no in-kind contributions. An additional 5% funding is available when combined with an application to complete food safety training.*

** Food Safe 1, Food Safe 2, or HACCP based courses. Some courses are offered through Yukon College.*





Agri-Environmental Baseline Indicators (Data Collection)

The objective of this program is to create new, and reinforce existing, datasets of information for vegetation, soil, feed and water quality in agricultural areas and to determine the best areas to develop agriculture lands based on soil capability, arability and irrigability assessment.

This program also funds third-party scientific assessment of soils, habitat, hydrological and water quality functions for the purposes of having a project assessed under the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA) or to assist in obtaining required permits for an agricultural or agri-foods activity.

Eligible Activities

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ field work and associated data collection for vegetation, soil, water and feed surveillance and accredited third-party testing and analysis;
- ▶ scientific assessments of soils, habitat, hydrological and water quality functions by a qualified third party for an agri-based project requiring an assessment under YESAA, or for an agri-based activity requiring a permit such as a water license for irrigation; and
- ▶ Irrigation suitability mapping for future irrigation of farm land and analysis of water source options for irrigation.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals, farm groups, cooperatives, non-profit organizations and governments entering into a government permitting process for an agricultural or agri-food activity that requires scientific study and data collection.

Eligible Funding

For data collection projects, assistance may be provided for up to 50% of project costs for individuals if in-kind contributions are included in the application and up to 60% if there are no in-kind contributions, up to 75% of project costs for farm groups or cooperatives, and up to 100% of project costs for non-profit organizations and governments.

In most cases, the Yukon government will oversee the data collection.

For projects subject to assessment under YESAA or a government permitting process, assistance may be provided for up to 50% of the cost of contracted environmental work to a maximum of \$50,000 per project.



Reclamation of Yukon Land

The objective of this program is the reclamation of Yukon land that has been impacted through agricultural activity and that poses a hazard to the environment or wildlife.

Eligible Activities

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ removal of abandoned fences, vehicles, debris and garbage piles on agriculture titles and grazing leases. Removal or piling of organic materials is ineligible.

Eligible Funding

Assistance may be provided up to 50% of project costs for individuals if in-kind contributions are included in the application and up to 60% if there are no in-kind contributions, up to 75% of project costs for cooperatives or farm groups, and up to 100% of project costs for non-profit organizations and governments.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals, farm groups, cooperatives, non-profit organizations and governments.





Underutilized Land Program

This program is designed to improve the utilization of existing titled farm land that was developed for agricultural use prior to April 1, 2003, and has not been used for agriculture in several years.

Eligible Activities

Land in forest regrowth that was once cleared for agricultural use can be redeveloped following the Agriculture Land Development Guidelines.* Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ removal of tree and shrub re-growth, rocks and roots;
- ▶ discing and root raking, or rototilling;
- ▶ seed bed preparation, fertilizer and seed; and
- ▶ fencing of pasture land with good grazing/browsing that either requires a fence or major fence repairs in order for livestock to use the land. The fence must be constructed of a minimum of three wires and with permanent posts (pressure treated or metal).

* Available at the Agriculture Branch

Eligible Applicants

Individuals who hold title to agricultural land in Yukon that was cleared for agriculture prior to April 1, 2003, but is now in forest re-growth, or fencing is in disrepair.

Leased agriculture land and Grazing Agreements may qualify for fencing where a beneficial management practice is adopted to improve utilization or the environment.

Eligible Funding

Funding for land redevelopment assistance is provided for up to 50% of project costs for individuals if in-kind contributions are included in the application and up to 60% if there are no in-kind contributions to a maximum of \$250 per hectare. This program will not fund land that was previously improved with assistance from other federal or territorial programs.

Funding to build or rebuild fencing is available up to \$0.50 per linear foot.





Wildlife Damage Prevention and Compensation Program

This program provides assistance for the protection of crops, market gardens, orchards and improved pasture lands from damage by wildlife and compensation for wildlife damage to crops and fences.

Eligible Activities

Eligible prevention activities include:

- ▶ installation of game fencing materials (posts and wire) that stand at minimum 7 feet (2.1 metres) high;
- ▶ wildlife proofing for crop storage facilities;
- ▶ purchasing crop protection measures; and
- ▶ purchasing a guardian dog.

Eligible compensation includes:

- ▶ compensation for crop and improved-pasture losses that occur because of wild elk, deer, moose, bison, or waterfowl. Eligible damage is limited to cultivated forage crops currently in production. Assistance will not cover protecting feed crops not brought in from the field that could have been harvested or crops that are stored in a manner such that they cannot be protected.
- ▶ compensation for fence damage caused by wild elk, deer, moose and bison.

Eligible Applicants

An individual who resides in a documented high-risk area or has suffered wildlife damage to crops or improved pasture is eligible for assistance. Applicants must show a firm commitment to preventing and/or reducing the amount of damage caused by wildlife.

Eligible Funding

Individual producers are eligible for 50% to 60% of costs to a maximum of \$15,000 during the life of the program:

- ▶ for installation of game fencing to a maximum of \$3/linear foot for a minimum 7-foot tall game fence to protect titled crop lands from wildlife damage;
- ▶ for wildlife-proofing crop storage facilities, up to 60% of the additional cost to build wildlife proof storage buildings;
- ▶ for crop protection measures, including fencing, netting, alarms and repellents up to 60% of the cost of materials;
- ▶ for guardian dogs, individuals are eligible for 50% funding to a maximum of \$500 towards the purchase of a pedigreed livestock guardian dog to address problems associated with wildlife predation on either crops or livestock; and
- ▶ for compensation, a maximum of 80% of the verified crop losses or 100% of fence damage are paid, with a minimum eligible claim of \$250. Contact the Agriculture Branch immediately if damage is about to occur or has already occurred to initiate a compensation claim.



Environmental Farm Plan Program

This plan provides support to implement initiatives aimed at stewardship of the environment.

The public demands high-quality food that is produced in a clean environment. As in other industries, agricultural production practices are under scrutiny and the public is having a greater say in how the agriculture industry produces food.

The primary purpose of the Environmental Farm Plan is to assist producers in assessing environmental risks on their farms. The plan involves the completion of a workbook that is then reviewed by a planning advisor.

Workbooks must be reviewed every five years in order to remain eligible for Beneficial Management Practices funding.

Please contact the Agriculture Branch for a copy of the workbook.

Eligible Activities

After an Environmental Farm Plan has been completed and approved, funding is available to implement eligible on-farm Beneficial Management Practices.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals who have a completed and approved plan that has been reviewed within the last five years are eligible to fund beneficial management practices.

Eligible Funding

Assistance may be provided for up to 50% of project costs if in-kind contributions are included in the application and up to 60% if there are no in-kind contributions by the applicant.

Eligible Beneficial Management Practices

Land drainage	\$5,000
Manure storage and management	\$5,000
Compost facilities	\$10,000
Slaughter waste management	\$5,000
Storing and handling fertilizers, pesticides and petroleum products.....	\$20,000
Protecting and drilling water wells	\$5,000
Installing remote watering systems for livestock: pasture pipelines, pumps and power systems.....	\$5,000
Establishing windbreaks and buffers.....	\$5,000
Installing cross fence to maintain pasture integrity...	\$10,000
Building power lines to pump sites, remote watering stations, dugouts and well heads.....	\$5,000
Improving pump intakes	\$5,000
Controlling invasive species: chemical, biological, mechanical and cultural controls	\$10,000
Making efficiency upgrades: electric pumps, low pressure nozzles and fuel efficiency upgrades...	\$10,000
Constructing and maintaining dugouts	\$5,000
Providing livestock watering systems.....	\$5,000
Constructing water storage systems	\$5,000
Developing water sources.....	\$5,000
Instituting other practices identified In an approved EFP.....	\$5,000



Agriculture Training Program

The objectives of this program are to provide support for the presentation of and attendance at agricultural courses, seminars, workshops, conferences and any other activities that will develop the human resource capabilities of Yukon agricultural agri-food and agri-based products industry.

Eligible Activities

Activities that will improve agricultural skills or build capacity within a farm or agricultural organization.

Eligible Costs

Costs include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ instructor and speaker fees;
- ▶ training venue and equipment rental;
- ▶ advertising costs;
- ▶ registration fees; and
- ▶ transportation, accommodation, meals and incidental costs.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals, farm groups, cooperatives, non-profit organizations and governments.

Eligible Funding

Assistance may be provided for up to 60% of project costs for individuals to a maximum of \$6,000 per year and \$18,000 over the life of the program, 60% of project costs for farm groups or cooperatives to a maximum of \$30,000 per year, and 100% of project costs for non-profit organizations and governments. Organizations and governments sponsoring applications for 100% funding will be required to advertise the opportunity to eligible participants (for non-profit organizations this would be at minimum their entire membership) and evaluate individual applications based on predetermined criteria to select delegates.



Agriculture Internship

The objective of this program is to provide an opportunity for new entrants to the Yukon agriculture and agri-food processing industries to gain knowledge and experience in northern agriculture through internships with established members of Yukon's agriculture industry.

Eligible Activities

- ▶ Employing an intern to teach them about agricultural production in Yukon. The intern must demonstrate a commitment to work in the industry and should have some agricultural background, education, training or experience.
- ▶ An intern is an individual who is eligible to work in Yukon and has a demonstrated interest in the agriculture and agri-food industry. Preference will be given to Canadian interns.
- ▶ The internship term will be for a minimum of eight weeks to a maximum of 25 weeks.

Eligible Applicants

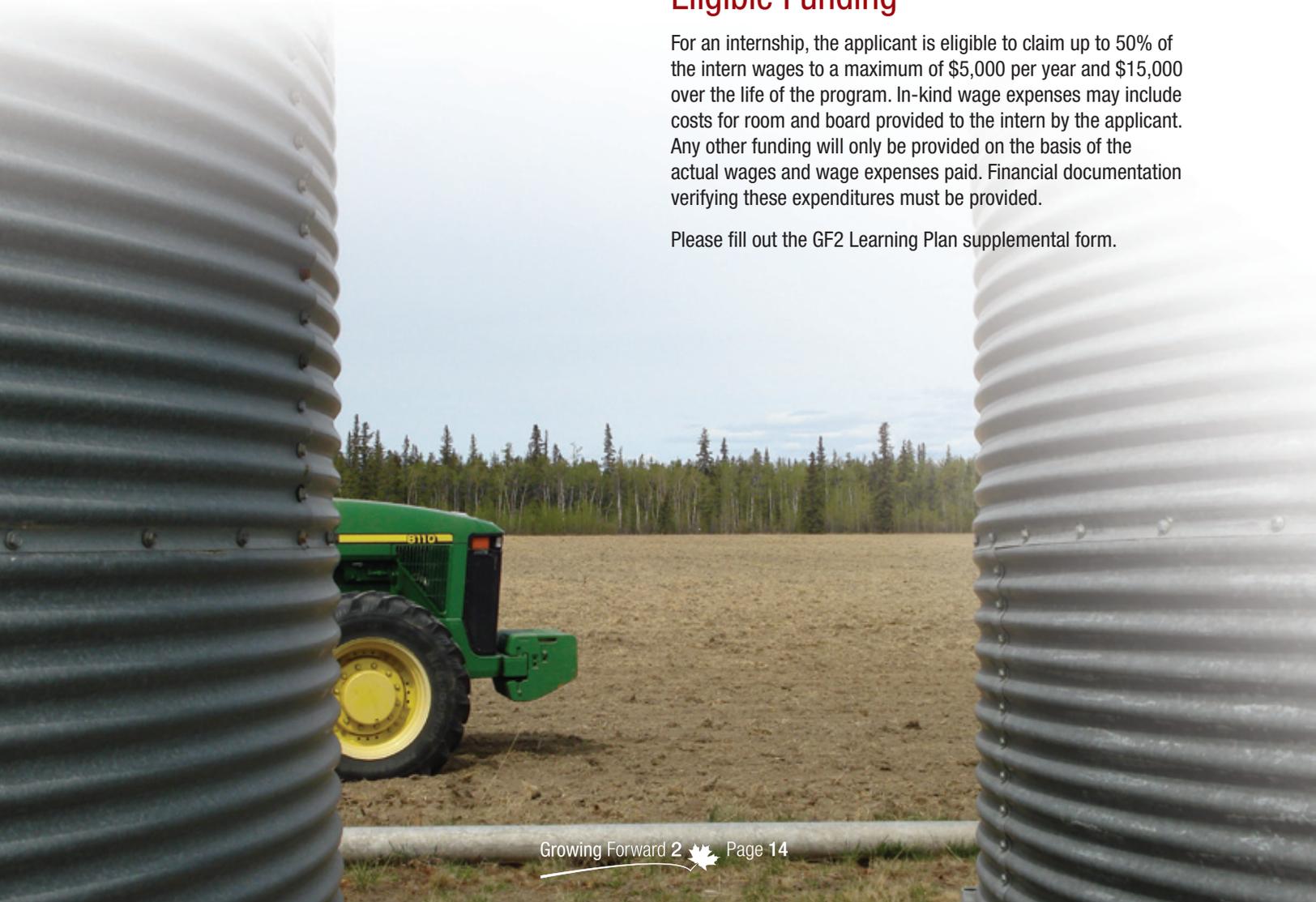
Established members of the Yukon agriculture and agri-food processing industries who employ new entrants to the industry in their agri-business.

The applicant and intern must include a learning plan with identified goals as part of the funding application. The applicant and intern will be responsible for completing an evaluation report at the end of the internship. Immediate family members are not eligible for this program.

Eligible Funding

For an internship, the applicant is eligible to claim up to 50% of the intern wages to a maximum of \$5,000 per year and \$15,000 over the life of the program. In-kind wage expenses may include costs for room and board provided to the intern by the applicant. Any other funding will only be provided on the basis of the actual wages and wage expenses paid. Financial documentation verifying these expenditures must be provided.

Please fill out the GF2 Learning Plan supplemental form.





Farm Mentorship

The objective of this program is to provide individuals with the opportunity to gain or strengthen agricultural experience.

Eligible Activities

- ▶ Hiring a mentor with significant knowledge of, and experience with, agricultural production or agri-food processing.
- ▶ The applicant may apply to work with the mentor at either their own farm or that of the mentor.
- ▶ The mentor must be from Canada or the Circumpolar North

Eligible Applicants

Individuals with an existing Yukon agricultural operation seeking to increase skills in their current business or to expand into another sector.

Eligible Funding

Individuals are eligible to claim up to 50% of expenses incurred for the mentorship to a maximum of \$5,000 per year and \$15,000 over the life of the program. Expenses may include: the honourarium charged by the mentor, travel and room and board.

Please fill out the GF2 Learning Plan supplemental form.





Agriculture Education Program

The objectives of this program are to provide educational resources, support for agriculture-related youth development and leadership programs, and support for development of agricultural communication materials.

Eligible Activities

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ developing, designing and printing agriculture-related education resources;
- ▶ conducting agricultural activities for school-aged students;
- ▶ travelling to observe and consult with agri-businesses;
- ▶ establishing, developing and coordinating youth agri-based programs; and
- ▶ developing communication materials and publications, such as websites and newsletters.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals, farm groups, cooperatives, non-profit organizations and governments. Organizations that do not have a mandate to support commercial agriculture, agri-food processing or the agri-products industry may be eligible with the support of farm groups, organizations or governments that do have an agriculture mandate. All applications will be evaluated according to the policy objectives outlined in beginning of the Growing Forward 2 Program Guide.

Eligible Funding

Assistance may be provided for up to 50% of project costs for individuals to a maximum of \$15,000 per project, up to 75% of project costs for farm groups and cooperatives to a maximum of \$25,000 per project, and up to 100% of project costs for government and non-profit organizations to a maximum of \$50,000 per project.





Market Development Program

This program provides resources to investigate and capture new market opportunities and enhance the competitive capability of the industry.

Eligible Activities

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ marketing and agri-food promotional activities and products;
- ▶ market development strategies;
- ▶ participation in marketing events; and
- ▶ supporting marketing organizations including farmers' markets and agri-tourism ventures.

Eligible costs include consultant fees: development and design of brochures, logos, labels, signage and packaging; cooperative farm market venues, travel costs and participation fees at marketing events; and other costs associated with market development strategies and agriculture awareness activities.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals, farm groups, cooperatives, non-profit organizations and governments.

Eligible Funding

Assistance may be provided for up to 50% of project costs for individuals if in-kind contributions are included in the application and up to 60% if there are no in-kind contributions, up to 75% of project costs for farm groups or cooperatives, and up to 100% of project costs for government and non-profit organizations.





Agriculture Development Program

This program provides funding to develop agricultural projects that enhance regional economic development and contribute to sustainability of our farm community. This program is divided into two categories, one dedicated to the building of community infrastructure, and one dedicated to individual farms and processors.

Eligible Community Activities

This program provides support for agriculture infrastructure to expand commercial agriculture and develop community gardens, greenhouses and farmers' markets.

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ expanding commercial agriculture;
- ▶ developing or commercializing country food opportunities;
- ▶ community gardens and greenhouses;
- ▶ farmers' markets;
- ▶ agriculture infrastructure (including storage facilities, processing kitchens and specialized equipment);
- ▶ multi-user irrigation projects: larger scale projects to provide water to a number of water users, including pumps and regional pipelines, that will lead to growth in the agricultural sector as supported by the Irrigation Strategy; and
- ▶ other activities that may include purchasing equipment and facilities, hiring third-party labour and consultant services for professional, technical and analytical support.

Eligible Funding

For farm groups or cooperatives, up to 75% of project costs to a maximum of \$100,000 over the lifetime of the program, and up to 100% of project costs for non-profit organizations and governments.

Applications for funding that exceed the specified maximum amounts may be considered, based on available funding.

Eligible Applicants

Farm groups, cooperatives, non-profit organizations and governments.

Eligible Farm and Processor Activities

This program provides assistance to commercial agriculture producers or processors who seek to diversify or expand their operations to take advantage of market opportunities that will increase profitability on the farm. This program also provides assistance to process or develop products that add value to primary agricultural products.

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ purchasing of equipment or facilities;
- ▶ hiring professional, technical or analytical support;
- ▶ diversifying an agri-business and introducing new local agri-food products;
- ▶ expanding an agri-business;
- ▶ adding value to local agriculture products through processing;
- ▶ introducing new technologies and processes; and
- ▶ developing underutilized agricultural resources.

Eligible Funding

Assistance may be provided up to 50% of project costs for individuals if in-kind contributions are included in the application, and up to 60% if there are no in-kind contributions, to a maximum of \$50,000 over the lifetime of the program.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals



Planning and Advising Agri-businesses

The objective of this program is to provide assistance to access consultant services to examine financial situations, discuss business objectives, determine current options in meeting profitability goals, build succession options or to create entire business plans.

Eligible Activities

This program gives applicants five days of confidential consultant service with a certified consultant* who has knowledge of the agriculture sector of interest. Additional funding beyond five days is available if required.

* Listings of certified consultants are available at the Agriculture Branch.

Eligible Funding

Funding will cover the cost of consultant services up to \$5,000 with a \$200 contribution from the applicant. Above \$5,000, the funding will provide 50% of costs up to a maximum of \$20,000 over the life of the program.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals, farm groups, cooperatives, non-profit organizations and governments.

New entrants who are seeking to apply for other funding sources are advised to apply for this program first in order to build their agri-business case, which may be required to access further funding.





Innovation Exchange Program

This program will provide opportunities for individuals to participate in research and innovation exchange and education with other agricultural regions.

The primary function of this program will be to sponsor participation at relevant agriculture conferences, such as Circumpolar Agriculture Conference 2013 and 2016. Emphasis will be placed on information exchange that provides for Yukon agriculture to become competitive in the marketplace and to adapt to changes that will provide sector sustainability.

Eligible Activities

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ travel for presentations, information gathering, network development, youth development or other activities that contribute to the development of circumpolar agriculture.

Proposals for attendance should contain an outline of benefits to Yukon agriculture and an information dissemination plan outlining how the applicant plans to share the knowledge gained with other members of the agricultural industry.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals, farm groups, cooperatives, non-profit organizations and governments.

Eligible Funding

Assistance may be provided for up to 60% of project costs for individuals to a maximum of \$6,000 per year and \$18,000 over the life of the program, 60% of project costs for farm groups or cooperatives to a maximum of \$30,000 per year, and 100% of project costs for non-profit organizations and governments. Organizations and governments sponsoring applications for 100% funding will be required to advertise the opportunity to eligible participants and evaluate individual applications based on predetermined criteria to select delegates.

Reimbursement for travel costs must be consistent with Yukon government travel expense guidelines. Eligible costs include transportation, accommodation, registration fees, meals and incidental expenses.



Yukon Research and Demonstration Program

This program complements and advances agricultural research and demonstration programs in Yukon.

Information generated by this research will be used to advance Yukon agriculture and provide advice to Yukon farmers, processors and agri-businesses in all aspects of farm management, production, processing, marketing, conservation techniques, new farm technology and farm financing. Research projects will be reviewed and approved by the Yukon Agriculture Research Committee (YARC). Priority research projects will be identified in the 2012–2018 Research Plan and tendered by the YARC.

Eligible Activities

Activities may include, but are not limited to, activities involved in agriculture research program design, preparation, implementation and maintenance. Individuals may apply for assistance to conduct research in all aspects of farm management, production, processing, marketing, conservation techniques and new farm technology.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals, farm groups, cooperatives, non-profit organizations and governments.

Eligible Funding

Individuals applying for funding to conduct preliminary research or literature reviews may be eligible for 50% funding up to \$5,000 per project.

Projects directed and approved by the Yukon Agriculture Research Committee for individuals, farm groups and cooperatives may be provided for up to 80% of the costs of materials, supplies, testing, tools and equipment, and up to 50% of the actual costs for labour, to a maximum of \$25,000 per project.

Assistance for non-profit organizations, governments and priority research projects may be provided for up to 100% of costs of materials, supplies, testing, tools and equipment and up to 80% of costs of labour to a maximum of \$250,000 per project.

Please fill out the GF2 Research Project supplemental form.





Business Risk Management Programs

Designed to help farmers move beyond crisis management to long-term profitability and competitiveness.

To apply for a Business Risk Management program please contact the designated office listed under each program description.

AgriInvest

AgriInvest is a self-managed producer-government savings account that allows producers to set money aside which can then be used to help manage small income shortfalls or to make investments to reduce on-farm risks. Producers will continue to have the flexibility to withdraw funds at any time throughout the year. Your AgriInvest account builds as you make annual deposits based on a percentage of your Allowable Net Sales (ANS) and receive matching contributions from federal, provincial and territorial governments. Producers can deposit up to 1.0 per cent of their Allowable Net Sales (ANS) each year into an AgriInvest account and receive a matching government contribution.

For more information, phone toll free 1-866-367-8506 or fax toll free 1-877-949-4885.

AgriStability

AgriStability is a margin-based program that allows producers to protect their farm operations against large declines in farm income. A program payment is triggered when a producer's margin (allowable revenue less allowable expenses) in the program year drops below their average margin from previous years (historical reference margin). Governments will continue to provide a share of the lost income.

For more information, phone toll free 1-866-367-8506 or fax toll free 1-877-949-4885.

AgriRecovery

The purpose of this disaster relief program is to help affected producers resume business operations and/or take actions to mitigate the impacts of a disaster as quickly as possible.

AgriRecovery is a framework that provides a process for the government to quickly determine whether further assistance beyond existing programming already in place (e.g., AgriInvest, AgriStability, or targeted sector payments) is warranted and, if so, what form that assistance should take.

Where the government agrees that assistance is warranted, the form of assistance will be unique to the specific disaster situation.

Contact the Agriculture Branch for further details.





Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Programs

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) delivers stand-alone programs and services to help achieve an environmentally sustainable, competitive and innovative agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector.

For a complete list of programs please review:

- ▶ AgPal Program and Service Finder
www.agpal.ca



