



## **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CANADA/NWT AGRICULTURE POLICY FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT**

### **1. What is the Agriculture Policy Framework Agreement (APF)?**

The Agriculture Policy Framework (APF) is a multi-lateral five-year package of programs negotiated by the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers responsible for Agriculture and Agri-foods.

### **2. What is the overall goal of the APF?**

The APF aims to make investments in Canada's agriculture and agri-foods sector in order to better address the challenges facing the sector in an ever increasing, competitive global marketplace.

### **3. How does the Northwest Territories benefit from this Agreement?**

Every province and territory wishing to participate in the APF signs a separate agreement (bi-lateral) with the Government of Canada. This agreement spells out the specifics of program delivery for the affected province or territory. The Canada/Northwest Territories (NWT) APF Agreement is a bi-lateral agreement specifically developed for the NWT.

### **4. How much money is available?**

This agreement commits the Governments of Canada and the NWT to investing up to \$435,000 per year, to a maximum investment of \$2,175,000, in the NWT agriculture and agri-foods sector. Funding for the APF is based upon a cost sharing formula. The Government of Canada will provide 60 per cent of funding while the Government of the NWT will provide 40 per cent funding. This funding commitment extends from 2003 to 2008.

### **5. What are the programs that are available under the Canada/NWT APF?**

#### **A. Food safety and quality:**

Designed to improve the sector's ability to identify and respond to food safety and quality issues, improve the industry's ability to meet or exceed market requirements, increase consumer confidence and create valued-added opportunities.

**B. Environment:**

Designed to accelerate the efforts to reduce agricultural risks and provide benefits to the water resources, soil, air and biodiversity in the NWT.

**C. Renewal:**

Designed to provide farmers with the skills, knowledge and tools to help them succeed in farming; access to advice on increasing profitability through new business opportunities and value-added activities; and opportunities to help them improve farm family incomes and/or make informed choices about sources of income.

**D. Science and Innovation:**

Designed to provide scientific and technical support aimed at developing innovative approaches to the diversification of the agri-foods industry. The overall goals include realigning public science resources, enhancing coordination along the whole value chain and nurturing an innovative climate.

**6. Who is eligible to receive funding under the APF?**

All producers, individuals, agriculture groups, organizations, not-for-profit organizations and governments are considered eligible for the majority of programs under the APF agreement. Eligible applicants, where applicable, must have reported a minimum of \$10,000 in gross farm sales as reported to Canada Revenue Agency in at least one of the last three tax years or be considered a new entrant.

**7. What do I have to do to apply for funding if I am a new entrant?**

New entrants will be required to complete the following:

- a. Applicant declaration
- b. Application
- c. Willingness to undertake a farm business assessment (requirement for a \$100 outlay by the proponent with the program paying up to \$1900 in consulting costs)
- d. Environmental Farm plan (assisted by department in developing).

**8. Can producers in supply-managed industries apply for Canada/NWT program consideration?**

Yes

**9. How will my proposal be evaluated?**

Factors that will be considered when evaluating each proposal will include:

- Eligibility of the applicant and project activities
- The applicant's experience
- Applicant's financial contribution to the project
- Applicant's ability to obtain required financing and/or investments
- The commercial sustainability of the project and agribusiness
- The identified need of the project
- The expected impact, reach and results of the project

#### **10. What is the most I can expect to receive from the APF?**

There are amounts that are stipulated in the Guidelines that are linked to annual sales. These amounts are as follows:

<b>Gross Farm Sales (\$)</b>	<b>Annual Funding Limits (\$)</b>
10,000 - 24,999	10,000
25,000 - 49,999	15,000
50,000 - 99,999	20,000
100,000 or greater	30,000

New entrants may be eligible for a maximum funding limit up to \$10,000 per year.

Notwithstanding, the above-mentioned proponents are encouraged to describe the full extent of their needs.

#### **11. How do I apply?**

Prospective applicants should obtain the *Canada/NWT APF Program Guidelines For Submitting Project Proposals* from their regional Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) office, along with the application and the applicant declaration forms. Once completed, the application and other relevant materials should be submitted to the ITI regional office where it will proceed through a formal process of evaluation.

#### **12. Who can I contact for information on the program?**

Prospective applicants should contact the Manager for Trade and Investment at any of the ITI regional offices or Mr. Gene Hachey, Agriculture, Agri-foods and Commercial Wildlife for ITI at (867) 874-5408, or [gene\\_hachey@gov.nt.ca](mailto:gene_hachey@gov.nt.ca)