

Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP), Farm Energy Agri-Processing (FEAP), and On-Farm Solar Photovoltaics (OFSVP) Programs Update

Submitted by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP): <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/>

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE THEME

1. Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change – Producer https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/STEW_PROD

The purpose of the Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change - Producer program is to support producers in reducing negative impacts on the environment while enhancing sustainable production, managing climate change and increasing profitability in the agriculture sector.

Funding list as of Sept 6th, 2018: <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/download/AGUCMINT-2686740>

Producer applications are processed through first come-first serve merit or by panel review, consisting of Subject Matter Experts. First come-first serve merit will cover applications that do not require a site inspection, the risk can be clearly identified on the application and verified by aerial photos and by the applicant responses. Applications will be scored to determine the government/applicant cost share percentage. The scoring criteria will consist of questions to determine the level of risk present, the degree to which that risk will be mitigated, and the project's technical ability to address that risk.

All other applications that require a site inspection will be processed through panel review. The program has scheduled dates throughout the year; this ensures applicants are aware of the deadlines for application submission and know when a decision for their project will be made. The panel reviews each application and determine the cost share percentage. The cost shares range from 30%, 50% and 70%, maximum funding is \$100,000. The funding list contains several of the types of projects seen under the GF2 Confined Feeding Operation and On-Farm Stewardship Programs. The funding list acts as guide; if the program receives an application that addresses a water quality or GHG risk but may not fall under the prescribed funding list activities, it will still be reviewed by the program.

A valid EFP is a prerequisite to the program. EFP has implemented a 10-year renewal starting 2018, an EFP completed before 2008 will not be considered valid.

2. Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change – Groups and Agricultural Organizations:

https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/STEW_GROUP

The purpose of the Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change - Group program is to support extension delivery, carry out applied research, and strategically manage data (through producer groups and agricultural organizations) that improve producer understanding of key environmental practices that, when implemented, can increase market access for the producer.

Funding list as of Sept 6th, 2018: <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/download/AGUCMINT-2623973>

This program will also be a merit based with a minimum of two intake cycles per year. Upcoming intake dates can be found on the CAP Group [website](#). Eligible applicants include: Applied Research Associations, Forage

Associations, Agricultural Commodity Groups, Rural Municipalities, Agricultural Watershed Groups. There is no prescribed cost share, maximum funding is still being determined.

This program seeks to address climate change in agriculture by:

- Helping industry position itself for success in a low-carbon economy.
- Helping industry improve its 'carbon literacy' and understand its risks and opportunities regarding GHG emissions.
- Helping industry organize itself in light of its GHG risks and opportunities.
- Help Industry work towards sustainability goals relating to water quality, air quality, soil health and biodiversity.
- Data collection related to environmental issues
- Data analysis related to environmental issues.
- Strategy development.
- Minimizing resource waste, optimizing resource utilization.
- This program is NOT seeking to share capital costs on technologies that will reduce a producer's GHG emissions (that's what On-Farm Energy Management is for).

Example (but not limited to) projects that could qualify for funding are:

- A commodity group organizing a series of energy audits for its members, with the aim of identifying opportunities and benchmarking performance.
- A commodity group undertaking a Life Cycle Assessment of its product, with the aim of identifying opportunities to reduce GHG emissions.
- A group investigating barriers to no-till adoption among its members.
- A group looking to promote the 4R system of managing nutrients.
- A group investigating economic consequences of pursuing lower-carbon options by its members.
- A group doing extension activities regarding industry's GHG risks and opportunities.

Question

Under Section 2, groups and association would internal AF (research) applicants be accepted, and would universities (i.e. U of Lethbridge, U of Alberta) be able to apply for these funds?

Answer

No to internal applicants. Yes to universities and colleges, however the program will only cover applied research. The aim of the program is producer extension related to our outcomes which could include applied research and data development

3. On-Farm Water Management https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/FARM_WATER

Objectives:

- Support producers to improve their water supply security and more effectively and efficiently manage their on-farm water resources.
- Support producers to protect their water resources through beneficial management practices.
- Provide technical assistance to producers to complete an assessment for the management of their water resources (e.g., Long-Term Water Management Plan).

Funding List as of Sept 6th, 2018: <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/download/AGUCMINT-2623534>

Activities:

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- Construction of new water sources such as wells, dugouts, spring developments, dams, and pipelines, and connections to multi-user water supply pipelines.
- Protection of new and existing manmade water sources using beneficial management practices (e.g., off-site watering for dugouts and vermin-proof caps for wells).
- Management of water supply risks through well decommissioning, well pit conversions, water meters, and water well depth measurement equipment.

Recipients:

- Producers, corporations and not-for-profit organizations with an active agricultural business in Alberta.

Noteworthy:

- First-come-first-served.
- Off-site watering will be an eligible activity for new man-made water sources and existing dugouts and spring developments.
- New wells will be required to have vermin-proof caps, higher stickup (18”), 2hr pump/2hr recover test and drawdown measurements, and well ID tag attached to new well once they are available from a certified driller. A new well will not be eligible if it has a pumphouse put on it.
- Tie-ins will be moved from special incentive to standard incentive (1/3 up to \$5000).
- Well decommissioning will still be a special incentive. Each decommissioned well will require a decommissioning report to be submitted by a driller. Cost sharing will change: 50% for one well, 60% for two wells, 75% for three or more wells if all submitted on same application. Maximum of \$2000 per project.

4. Irrigation Efficiency https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/IRR_EFFICIENCY

Outcome:

- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions and increased water savings in irrigated agriculture by assisting producers with the purchase of more efficient irrigation equipment and systems.

Funding List as of Sept 6th, 2018: https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/IRR_EFFICIENCY

Proposed Eligible Equipment Upgrades:

- New low pressure centre pivot to replace a gravity, side-wheel or high pressure centre pivot.
- Retrofit of a high pressure centre pivot to a low pressure centre pivot, including booster pumps, nozzle packages and pump modifications.
- High efficiency sprinkler nozzles and related equipment to upgrade an existing low pressure centre pivot.
- Variable-rate irrigation equipment (controllers and software).
- Control panel upgrades, including base stations for telemetry.
- Surface or subsurface drip irrigation systems.

Eligible Applicants:

- Operate as a producer in Alberta.
- Own an irrigated agricultural operation in Alberta.
- Have a Long-Term Irrigation Management Plan.
- Have not been previously approved for payment from the Program on the given parcel.

Proposed Grant Payments:

On Common Ground: Messages from the Agri-Environmental Partnership of Alberta – Issue #23 Sept 2018

- 40% of the costs for eligible equipment upgrades on a given parcel up to a maximum of \$5,000; or
- \$15,000 for an upgrade on a given parcel from a gravity, side-wheel or high pressure centre pivot irrigation system to a new low pressure centre pivot or subsurface drip irrigation system (minimum 20 acres).

PUBLIC TRUST THEME

Theme Guiding Principles for funded projects:

1. Committed to producing products that are environmentally, economically and socially sustainable.
2. Committed to producing safe, nutritious food.
3. The diversity of Alberta's agriculture and agri-food industries is respected.
4. Strive to be sustainable and efficient in the face of emerging challenges.
5. Diversifying Alberta's economy through innovation, leading-edge research and investment in new technologies.
6. Offer challenging and rewarding career options.

Current Submission Deadlines for all 3 programs:

- Friday, September 21st 2018
- Thursday, November 15th 2018

5. Public Trust - Public Agriculture Literacy: https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/PUBLIC_LITERACY

Outcome:

- This program supports initiatives that build industry communication capacity to increase public and consumers' awareness and understanding of agriculture and the food production system.

Funding List as of Sept 6th, 2018: <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/download/AGUCMINT-4387772>

Eligible applicants include:

- Agricultural groups registered under the Societies Act, such as applied research/forage associations;
- Commodity groups;
- Incorporated not-for-profit;
- A recognized form of rural municipal government.

Eligible Activities include:

- planning, organizing and hosting agriculture literacy awareness summits, workshops and conferences;
- recruitment and training of agriculture industry spokesperson;
- development of resources such as videos, website, educational materials, displays, publication and other awareness and educational resources;
- development and implementation of strategic communication campaigns; and
- benchmarking studies or needs assessments.

Noteworthy:

- ideally, proposed projects involve partnerships or collaboration with multiple organizations/groups
- the grant will support creative and innovative approaches to communication capacity-building and communication strategies

- any non-agriculture group must demonstrate collaboration with an agriculture group who can provide in-kind contributions (manpower, equipment), resources and expertise

Funding:

- Grant max per applicant per year: \$200,000
- Cost share: 50%

6. Public Trust - Agriculture and Food Assurance Sustainability Initiatives:

https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/PUBLIC_ASSURANCE

Outcome:

Provide support industry associations and industry-led non-profit assurance initiatives to develop and enhance sustainability certification or assurance systems to demonstrate to the public the quality, safety and sustainability of products produced by producers and food companies.

Funding List as of Sept 6th, 2018: <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/download/AGUCMINT-4387770>

Eligible applicants include:

- an industry-led non-profit assurance initiative;
- an agricultural group registered under the Societies Act, such as an applied research/forage association;
- a commodity group; or
- an incorporated not-for-profit organization.

Eligible Activities include:

One or more of the following activities related to the development and/or enhancement of sustainability certification or assurance systems are eligible for funding and may be included in an Application:

- benchmarking studies including life cycle analyses, environmental foot-printing and gap analyses;
- short-term funding for operating costs related to pilot studies, audits;
- development of governance;
- administrative support directly associated with the Project;
- promotion of label and certification standard associated with the sustainability assurance initiative;
- support for industry organizations to develop sustainability assurance programs; and
- support communication efforts regarding consumer perceptions, verification standards, BMPs and performance metrics.

Noteworthy:

- This program relates to the development or enhancement of an entire assurance system
- If the project relates to a single component of an assurance system (e.g. environment, animal welfare), it may be covered by a different program

Funding:

- Grant max per applicant per year: \$250,000
- Cost share: 50%

7. Public Trust - Youth Agriculture Education: https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/YOUTH_EDUCATION

Outcome:

- Supports the development and delivery of effective agriculture education programs that are science-based, topic-driven, curricular-linked and help students use critical thinking to engage in meaningful and informed conversations about issues that affect public trust in agriculture.

Funding List as of Sept 6th, 2018: <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/download/agucmint-4387775>

Eligible applicants include:

- An agricultural group registered under the Societies Act
- A commodity group
- A university or college*
- A school district*
- An incorporated not-for-profit organization*, or
- A recognized form of rural municipal government in Alberta

Noteworthy:

- Funding is for programs and associated resources
- Programs must be new, or they must be adapted in some way or expanded to broaden their reach
- Collaboration with new partners, in new ways, is highly encouraged and any non-agriculture group must demonstrate collaboration with an agriculture group
- All programs must deliver impact evaluations to students and teacher to measure impact on public trust in agriculture

Funding:

- Grant max per applicant per year: \$120,000
- Cost share: 60% grant 40% applicant

PRODUCTS, MARKET GROWTH, and DIVERSIFICATION THEME

8. Products, Market Growth, and Diversification - Products to Markets (Small Program, grants less than \$50,000): https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/MARKETS_SMALL

Outcome:

The purpose of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership Products to Markets Program is to support growth of Alberta's agricultural industries by supporting the development of New Products and/or Processes, commercialization of products in New Markets, and expansion into local, domestic and international markets

Funding List as of Sept 6th, 2018: <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/download/AGUCMINT-4602003>

Eligible Applicants include:

- Bio-Industrial Processors
- Food Processors
- Processor Organizations
- Producer Organizations
- New Entrants
- Producers who are:
 - Adding value past primary agricultural production
 - Involved in international market development activities

Contact:

- Email: AF.AG-GRANTS@GOV.AB.CA

9. Products, Market Growth, and Diversification – Value Added Products to Markets (Large Program, grants greater than \$50,000): https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/program/MARKETS_LARGE

Outcome:

The purpose of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership Value-Added Products to Markets Program is to support growth of Alberta's value-added Food Processors and Bio-Industrial Processors. The Program targets Projects that enable growth of their businesses through increased sales related to the development of New Products, adoption of state-of-the-art processes, commercialization of products in New Markets, and expansion of their business in local, domestic and international markets.

Funding List as of Sept 6th, 2018: <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/download/AGUCMINT-4602224>

Eligible Applicants include:

- Bio-Industrial Processors
- Food Processors

Contact:

- Phone: 310-FARM (3276)
- Email: af.ag-grants@gov.ab.ca

OTHER CAP PROGRAMS

Watch the CAP website for more programs to roll out in the Fall/Winter: <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/>

[Risk Mitigation](#)

[Accelerating the Advancement of Agricultural Innovation](#)

[Adapting Innovative Solutions in Agriculture](#)

[Emergency Preparedness](#)

[Emerging Opportunities in Food and Agri-Processing](#)

[Surveillance](#)

Farm Energy Agri-Processing (FEAP) Program: www.agriculture.alberta.ca/feap

FEAP is a combination of two discontinued GF2 programs:

On-Farm Energy Management Program

Accelerating Agricultural Innovation Program (Stream C)

By combining these two programs, a single program can be offered across the whole agricultural value-chain, for energy efficiency and energy management projects.

Program Description:

The Farm Energy and Agri-Processing Program shares costs with the agriculture and agri-processing sector on energy efficiency investments. The Program is designed to encourage energy management which will result in cost savings, energy conservation, and ultimately, reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

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The Program offers financial support, subject to financial constraint, to Applicants who incorporate high efficiency equipment that is identified in the applicable Funding List in their construction and/or retrofitting projects.

Key Messages:

- This program is RETROACTIVE to April 2016.
- Applicants with eligible receipts dated April 2016 and later can apply.
- Retroactive projects are subject to current eligibility criteria.
- 50% cost share on most items. See Funding List for full details.
- Up to \$250,000 maximum grant per Applicant per year
- Funding Timeline is from now to Feb 2020
- An EFP is NOT a prerequisite for this funding
- Applications will be processed in a first complete, first served basis. Incomplete applications will not secure a spot in line.
- Once applications have been approved, producers can watch for emails from the grant management system: "Grant_Management_System@agric.gov.ab.ca" They will get notifications from this email address as their application moves through the steps.

For More Information:

Visit www.agriculture.alberta.ca/feap for:

- Application forms
- Producer Funding List
- Processor Funding List
- Program Terms and Conditions

On-Farm Solar Photovoltaic (OFSVP) Program: <http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/general/progserv.nsf/all/pgmsrv464>

This program is now a provincial program. Details and applications can be found on the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry website under the [On-Farm Solar Photovoltaic Program](#).

Key Messages:

- This program is retroactive back to April 15th, 2017.
- An applicant must have an Electrical Distribution Rates that is rated as farm, irrigation, grain drying or equivalent.
- Grant funding is calculated as follows:
 - ≤100 kW: \$0.75/W to maximum 35% eligible cost share
 - 100.01 – 150 kW: \$0.56/W to maximum 27% eligible cost share
 - System must be tied to the grid.

For more information, email the program at af.farmsolarpvprogram@gov.ab.ca or contact an Energy Outreach Officers:

- Vern Steinborn with SouthGrow in Lethbridge can be contacted at 403-894-0050.
- Lyle Lawrence with Lakeland College in Vermilion can be contacted at 780-581-8403
- Amber Kenyon with Gateway Research Organization in Westlock can be contacted at 780-307-7849.

[On-Farm Solar Photovoltaic \(OFSVP\) Program Poster](#)