

# 2018 Programs and Services for Alberta Agri-Processing

This document was created to assist Alberta agri-processing companies locate **grants** and other funding programs, **services, resources and support** available to sustainably grow their business and adapt. **Development Officers and New Venture Coaches of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry** serve as the first point of contact for the province's growing and established agri-processing companies. In addition to having a thorough understanding of the agri-processing industry they can help you navigate through the numerous programs and services. Call **310-FARM (3276)** to contact one today!

Program Name	Type	Administered By	Description	Maximum Funding	Program End Date	Website
<b>Innovation / Product Development / Commercialization / Marketing</b>						
<b>Enabling Emerging Opportunities</b>	Grant	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	This program directs dollars to support diversification through the development of new or emerging opportunities to broaden Alberta's food, beverage and bio-products industries.	TBA	March, 2023	<a href="https://cap.alberta.ca">https://cap.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Products to Market</b>	Grant	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	The Program supports Alberta's agricultural industries in the development of new products and/or processes, commercialization of products in new markets, and expansion into local, domestic and international markets. <u>Eligible applicants are new entrants, established food and bio-industrial processors, producers that are adding value past primary agricultural production or are involved in international market development and processors or producers associations.</u> Projects must include eligible activities and expenses that directly relate to the development of new products/processes and/or access to new markets.	\$50,000 / Fiscal Year	March, 2023	<a href="https://cap.alberta.ca">https://cap.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Value Added Products to Market</b>	Grant	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	The purpose of the Program is to support growth of Alberta's value-added <u>food processors and bio-industrial processors.</u> 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. The applications must be submitted during one to three intakes per year and are assessed against the Program Assessment Criteria found in Terms and Conditions 4.1.	\$500,000 / Fiscal Year	March, 2023	<a href="https://cap.alberta.ca">https://cap.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Agrivalue Processing Business Incubator</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	This is a multi-tenant, CFIA registered facility with eight private, fully serviced processing suites dedicated to assisting food processors in the scale-up and commercialization of food products and technologies leading to successful establishment of their own enterprises.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca">www.agriculture.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Food Science and Technology Centre</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	The Pet Food Program from the Food Science and Technology Centre specializes in creating safe, nutritionally balanced, flavourful and pet foods; it helps clients develop clean label and specialty formulations, incorporate functional ingredients and meet pet food standards.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca">www.agriculture.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Food Processing Development Centre</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	The Food Processing Development Centre is a modern, fully equipped pilot plant and product development laboratory facility. It is staffed with experienced food scientists, engineers and technologists. Centre services are designed to strengthen and expand the capability of Alberta's food processors to meet the challenges of the marketplace through application of new technology and the development of new or improved products and processes.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca">www.agriculture.alberta.ca</a>

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<b>Sensory Evaluation Program</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	The Sensory Evaluation Program is an essential service for both product development and applied research activities at the Food Processing Development Centre. To support the success of these two streams, valuable consumer feedback is captured at the Consumer Product Testing Centre in downtown Edmonton.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca">www.agriculture.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Market Development Team</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	The Market Development Team brings experience in retail, food service, alternative markets such as c-stores and into the world of packaging and understanding consumer insights. This also includes innovation, broker relations, go-to-market plans and merchandising of products. The team works with agri-food processors as they move through the stages of Start-up, Selling, Establishing your business and Growing your capacity.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca">www.agriculture.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Alberta Scientific Research and Experimental Development Tax Credit</b>	Tax Credit	<i>Alberta Treasury Board and Finance</i>	The provincial tax credit program benefits businesses of all sizes and in all sectors that conduct research and development that leads to new, improved or technologically-advanced products or processes. The credit is for all expenditures incurred after December 31, 2008 that are also eligible for the federal Scientific Research and Experimental Development Credit (SR&ED). The Alberta SR&ED tax credit is over and above the federal SR&ED credit, helping the research and development investments made by Alberta companies go farther.	Tax credit of up to 10%	-----	<a href="http://www.finance.alberta.ca">www.finance.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Industry R&amp;D Associates Program</b>	Grant	<i>Alberta Innovates</i>	The Industry r&D Associates Program is designed to provide technology-based SMEs with research expertise in order to accelerate business ideas impacting defined industry challenges in Alberta, and to support the expansion of highly trained personnel in research and industry settings. The purpose of the Program is to stimulate the development and commercialization of novel technological and/or business solutions, while generating material risk-weighted returns on investment to Alberta.	\$149,000	continuous intake	<a href="http://www.innotechalberta.ca">www.innotechalberta.ca</a>
<b>Industry Commercialization Associates Program</b>	Grant	<i>Alberta Innovates</i>	The Industry Commercialization Associates Program is designed to increase business management and marketing expertise in Alberta's technology-based SMEs by enabling them to recruit skilled business professionals. The purpose of the Program is to stimulate the commercialization of novel technological and/or business solutions, while generating material risk-weighted returns on investment to Alberta.	\$224,000	continuous intake	<a href="http://www.innotechalberta.ca">www.innotechalberta.ca</a>
<b>Micro-Voucher and Voucher Programs</b>	Grant	<i>Alberta Innovates</i>	The Micro-Voucher Program supports technologies in the early developmental stages with a quick and flexible financial solution to fund Alberta SMEs to retain one Service or Product Provider to assist with early start up development activities. The Voucher Program supports technologies in the mid-to-late developmental stages but may include some early developmental stages; it is intended to fund Alberta SMEs to work in collaboration with up to three Service or Product Providers to advance the technology closer to commercialization.	\$10,000 (Micro-Voucher) \$100,000 (Voucher)	continuous intake	<a href="http://www.innotechalberta.ca">www.innotechalberta.ca</a>
<b>Product Demonstration Program</b>	Grant	<i>Alberta Innovates</i>	The Product Demonstration Fund (PDF) assists Alberta businesses in the commercialization phase of their development. PDF funding is in the form of a 50/50 matching non-repayable grant, typically ranging from \$100,000 to \$300,000. This fund will help businesses demonstrate their new products or services in a real-life, end-user environment.	\$300,000	-----	<a href="http://www.innotechalberta.ca">www.innotechalberta.ca</a>
<b>Connectica</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Innovates</i>	Connectica is a web portal designed to help users connect with Alberta's research and innovation network. It is a place to find programs, services, facilities or events that meet specific needs. Connectica facilitates introductions between stakeholders, researchers and entrepreneurs, and helps to bridge the gap between Alberta's research organizations, universities and publicly-funded innovation support services.	-----	-----	<a href="https://www.connectica.ca">https://www.connectica.ca</a>

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<b>AgriInnovate Program</b>	Repayable Contribution	<i>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</i>	This program aims to accelerate the demonstration, commercialization and/or adoption of innovative products, technologies, processes or services that increase agri-sector competitiveness and sustainability. In order to be eligible for funding, applicants must clearly demonstrate how proposed projects will demonstrate/commercialize an innovation new to the sector or country. Eligible applicants are for - profit organizations, including businesses and corporations, co-operatives and indigenous groups. Program cost share is maximum 50%.	\$10,000,000	March, 2023	<a href="http://www.agr.gc.ca">www.agr.gc.ca</a>
<b>AgriScience Program</b>	Repayable Contribution	<i>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</i>	AgriScience Program - Projects component aims to support specific shorter-term research activities to help industry overcome challenges and address fiscal barriers experienced by small and emerging sectors. On the innovation continuum, project activities range from applied research and development to technology and knowledge transfer. Eligible applicants are for - profit organizations, including businesses and corporations, co-operatives and indigenous groups. Program cost share is maximum 50% for for-profit organizations.	\$10,000,000	March, 2023	<a href="http://www.agr.gc.ca">www.agr.gc.ca</a>
<b>Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP)</b>	Resource/ Grant	<i>National Research Council (NRC)</i>	IRAP program supports small and medium-sized enterprises in Canada to build their technology and innovation capabilities. Industrial Technology Advisors work with small and medium-sized enterprises on-site to assess needs and design solutions which can be tailored to each business. NRC-IRAP offers direct technical assistance, access to the latest technological advances, expertise, facilities and resources. NRC-IRAP may also provide cost-shared financing of innovative technical projects to qualified firms.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca">www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca</a>
<b>Youth Employment Program (IRAP)</b>	Grant	<i>National Research Council (NRC)</i>	The Youth Employment Program provides financial assistance to innovative small and medium-sized enterprises in Canada to hire post-secondary science, engineering, technology, business and liberal arts graduates. Internships must be at least six and no longer than 12 months and are available anywhere in Canada. Support will help cover a part of the intern's salary but does not include fringe benefits and overhead costs.	\$20,000	-----	<a href="http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca">www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca</a>
<b>Build in Canada Innovation Program (BCIP)</b>	Procurement	<i>Canada Business Network</i>	The BCIP program helps Canadian companies of all sizes to move their inventions, new technologies or processes that are not available in the marketplace from the laboratory to the market. Through the BCIP, the Government of Canada buys pre-qualified goods and services and moves these late-stage research and development innovations (Level 6 of Technology Readiness Level) to federal departments for testing. After testing, the BCIP provides feedback to suppliers on the performance of their products or services.	\$500,001	continuous intake	<a href="http://canadabusiness.ca">http://canadabusiness.ca</a>
<b>Matching Investment Fund (MIF)</b>	Grant	<i>Canadian Dairy Commission (CDC)</i>	The MIF is designed to help eligible companies and Food Technology Centres with product development initiatives that help stimulate demand for Canadian dairy products and ingredients. 50% of the eligible costs of the project may be funded by the CDC, up to a maximum of \$150,000 (before taxes). Of this amount, a maximum of \$25,000 (before taxes) can be allocated to consultation activities. Projects which emphasize the use of solids non-fat ingredients will be given priority attention under the CDC MIF and may be eligible for an increased level of funding.	\$150,000	continuous intake	<a href="http://www.milkingredients.ca">www.milkingredients.ca</a>
<b>Scientific Research &amp; Experimental Development Tax Incentive Program (SR&amp;ED)</b>	Tax Credit	<i>Canada Revenue Agency</i>	This program is a federal tax incentive program that encourages Canadian businesses of all sizes and in all sectors to conduct research and development (R&D) in Canada that will lead to new, improved or technologically-advanced products or processes. Companies can apply for SR&ED investment tax credits for expenditures such as wages, materials, machinery, equipment, some overhead and SR&ED contracts.	Tax credit of up to 35%	-----	<a href="http://www.canada.ca">www.canada.ca</a>

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<b>Strategic Innovation Fund</b>	Repayable and Non-repayable Contribution	<i>Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada</i>	Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF) supports small, medium and large sized for-profit corporations with activities to encourage research and development that will accelerate technology transfer and commercialization of innovative products, processes and services, facilitate the growth and expansion and attract and retain large scale investments. Eligible costs are non-recurring costs specifically related to the project, including direct labor, consultants, materials and equipment, land and buildings. SIF focuses its support on projects over \$10 million (requested contribution).	Project dependent	continuous intake	<a href="http://www.canada.ca/innovation-science-economic-development">www.canada.ca/innovation-science-economic-development</a>
<b>Western Innovation Initiative (WINN)</b>	Repayable Contribution	<i>Western Economic Diversification Canada</i>	WINN offers repayable contributions to small and medium enterprises proposing to commercialize a new technology, product, process or service in Western Canada. The program assists with up to 50% of eligible project costs to a maximum of \$3.5M/project or \$7.5M to one organization. Only the strongest applications demonstrating the highest merit and best fit with WINN objectives receive funding.	\$3,500,000	-----	<a href="http://www.wd-deo.gc.ca">www.wd-deo.gc.ca</a>
<b>Investment / Business Planning / Access to Capital</b>						
<b>Agri - Business Program</b>	Financing/ Loan	<i>Agriculture Financial Services Corporation</i>	This program is designed to provide "value added" with suitable financing to start, develop and grow their businesses. The loan can be used to start, expand, purchase or upgrade facilities, equipment, or other capital assets needed. The program offers a variety of flexible rates and terms with competitive interest rates with no risk rated pricing.	\$5,000,000	-----	<a href="http://www.afsc.ca">www.afsc.ca</a>
<b>Agriculture Borrowing Program</b>	Financing/ Loan	<i>Alberta Treasury Bank (ATB Financial)</i>	ATB Financial offers financing to any business engaged in the Agri Food Value Added chain. Products specific to agri-processors include: term loans for equipment, real estate, working capital; operating loans to fund day to day operating expenses secured by accounts receivable and inventory; and access to a financial advisor via ATB Investor Services or Ag Centre of Expertise to assist with investment and insurance needs. ATB has a team of experts - Ag Centre of Expertise (ACE) to connect business with people who know the industry.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.atb.com">www.atb.com</a>
<b>ATB Entrepreneur Centre</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Treasury Bank (ATB Financial)</i>	The ATB centres (Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Grande Prairie) are for entrepreneurs to get advice, banking solutions and connect with experts. Whether an ATB client or not, the business is starting or growing, the centres can help with events and networking opportunities, free appointment bookings with business strategy experts, and custom business and personal banking solutions.	-----	-----	<a href="https://atbentrepreneurcentre.com">https://atbentrepreneurcentre.com</a>
<b>Alberta Investor Tax Credit (AITC)</b>	Tax Credit	<i>Alberta Economic Development and Trade</i>	The 3-year AITC is applicable across sectors, offering a 30% tax credit to investors who provide capital to Alberta small businesses doing research, development or commercialization of new technology, new products or new processes. Investments made as of April 14, 2016, may be retroactively eligible for the AITC. An investor can either invest directly in an Eligible Business Corporation, or invest in an Approved Venture Capital Corporation.	Tax credit for up to 30%	-----	<a href="https://www.alberta.ca">https://www.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Capital Investment Tax Credit (CITC)</b>	Tax Credit	<i>Alberta Economic Development and Trade</i>	The CITC is a 2-year program that provides a non-refundable tax credit valued at 10% of a corporation's eligible capital expenditures, up to \$5 million. The CITC encourages companies to make timely capital investments by returning a percentage of the company's costs, including the purchase of machinery, equipment and buildings. The CITC can only be claimed when the capital purchased is in use and the firm is earning profits and paying taxes.	Tax credit for up to 10%	-----	<a href="https://www.alberta.ca">https://www.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Community Futures</b>	Loan	<i>Community Futures Alberta</i>	Community Futures Alberta provides rural Alberta companies flexible and affordable loan products that are specifically designed to support small business growth. Each Community Futures office provides flexible and affordable small business loans, business coaching/training services and business management tools for people wanting to start, expand, franchise or sell a rural business.	\$150,000	-----	<a href="http://www.albertacf.com">www.albertacf.com</a>

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<b>Pre-Commercial Investment Program</b>	Investment Fund	<i>AVAC Ltd.</i>	AVAC Ltd. provides both capital and other value-added services to grow commercial business successes that are focused strongly toward agriculture and food. AVAC Ltd. has partnered with Finistere Ventures to assist with the Finistere Ventures II Fund, to identify and invest in Canadian deal flow and to further advance the commercialization of its companies. As well, it manage an early-stage venture capital fund-of-funds investment pool, and Accelerate Fund I, an angel co-investment fund.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.avac ltd.com">www.avac ltd.com</a>
<b>Alberta Indian Financial Services</b>	Financing / Loan	<i>Alberta Indian Investment Corporation(AIIC)</i>	AIIC provides interest-bearing loans to First Nation entrepreneurs for the purpose of establishing, acquiring, diversifying or expanding a business. In some cases, equity financing may also be available. To be eligible for applicants must be a Status Indian who has resided in Alberta for at least one year; if a corporation or partnership, the Status Indian must own at least 51% of any shares, participate more that 51% in profits, and above all, must be active in managing the business.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.aiicbusiness.org">http://www.aiicbusiness.org</a>
<b>Alberta Women Entrepreneurs Program</b>	Loan / Resources	<i>Alberta Women Entrepreneurs (AWE)</i>	AWE is a not-for profit organization dedicated to enabling women to build successful businesses; it provides unique programs and services to women at all stages of business through advising, financing, mentoring, and skills and network development. Repayable loans of up to \$150,000 are available to businesses that are 51% owned/operated and controlled by a woman.	\$150,000	-----	<a href="http://www.awebusiness.com">www.awebusiness.com</a>
<b>Business Planning</b>	Resource	<i>Business Link</i>	Business Link is a non-profit organization that helps Alberta entrepreneurs start their own businesses. The Business Link provide the tools to make business ideas a reality, and connect with relevant small business resources to help bring ideas to life.	-----	-----	<a href="http://businesslink.ca">http://businesslink.ca</a>
<b>District Ventures Business Accelerator</b>	Resource	<i>District Ventures LP</i>	District Ventures is a leading-edge accelerator connecting early-state companies to top entrepreneurs, investors and commercialization support; it will also fund Canadian companies that are commercially viable but are challenged to expanding. Companies participating in the Accelerator will be offered business development support (e.g., marketing, distribution) and access to office space.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.districtventures.ca">www.districtventures.ca</a>
<b>District Ventures Capital</b>	VC Funding	<i>District Ventures LP</i>	District Ventures Capital invests in early-stage Canadian companies that develop, manufacture, market, distribute or sell consumer-packaged goods, with a particular focus on the food, beverage, beauty and health and wellness sectors. Prospective investee companies will have strong revenues, and generally require capital for growth of up to \$4 million to commercialize their products.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.districtventurescapital.com">www.districtventurescapital.com</a>
<b>Opportunity Calgary Investment Fund</b>	Loan	<i>Calgary Economic Development</i>	The fund is for private sector companies making transformative investments that will be catalysts for economic growth, diversification, increased employment, and expansion of the property tax assessment base. To be successful, applicants must demonstrate how their project (located in Calgary) is aligned with assessment criteria, such as economic and social benefits, job creation, innovation and sector benefits, alignment with key industries & emerging sectors, and strategic initiatives.	Project dependent	-----	<a href="http://www.calgaryeconomicdevelopment.com">www.calgaryeconomicdevelopment.com</a>
<b>Business Loans, Advisory Services and Capital</b>	Loans / Resources / Capital	<i>Business Development Bank of Canada</i>	The Business Development Bank of Canada, the only bank exclusively dedicated to entrepreneurs, offers business loans and advisory services to help Canadian businesses grow, both at home and abroad. Through its subsidiary—BDC Capital, also offers a full spectrum of specialized financing, including venture capital, equity as well as growth and business transition capital. Financing is available to expand production, purchase new equipment or for a special project.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.bdc.ca">www.bdc.ca</a>

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<b>Canada Small Business Financing Program</b>	Loan	<i>Industry Canada</i>	Under the program, the Government of Canada makes it easier for small businesses to get loans from financial institutions by sharing the risk of lenders. Companies must be small businesses with a gross annual revenue of less than \$10 million. Maximum is \$1 million for any one borrower, of which no more than \$350,000 can be used for purchasing leasehold improvements or improving leased property and purchasing or improving new or used equipment. The loan is delivered and approved by financial institutions.	\$1,000,000	-----	<a href="http://www.ic.gc.ca">www.ic.gc.ca</a>
<b>Family Business Resources</b>	Resource	<i>Business Families Foundation</i>	The Business Family Foundation is a not-for-profit charitable organization established to support, help and empower business families to ensure their sustainability and harmony for generations to come. It delivers relevant, interactive and engaging education on important topics relevant to business families both online and through face-to-face settings. The foundation also nurtures a network of partners that help make our learning accessible globally and trains academics & advisors to better cope with business family issues.	-----	-----	<a href="http://businessfamilies.org">http://businessfamilies.org</a>
<b>Natural Products Canada (NPC)</b>	Network / Resource Loan	<i>Networks of Centres of Excellence of Canada</i>	NPC was created to stimulate growth in Canada's natural products industry by supporting the development of the most promising new products and technologies. The centre facilitates access to Canadian R&D, investment funding, and provides access to expertise in IP management, regulatory evaluation and planning, market assessment, business plan preparation, clinical trial design and management.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.naturalproductscanada.com">www.naturalproductscanada.com</a>
<b>Futurpreneur Canada Start-Up Program</b>	Loan	<i>Futurpreneur Canada</i>	This program provides financing, mentoring and expertise to 18 to 39 years old entrepreneurs to get a start-up off the ground; Futurpreneur Canada offers collateral-free loans at better interest rates than most banks and can finance up to \$15,000 per business. Furthermore, the Business Development Bank of Canada teamed up with Futurpreneur Canada to provide entrepreneurs with up to an additional \$30,000.	\$45,000	-----	<a href="http://www.futurpreneur.ca">www.futurpreneur.ca</a>
<b>Small Business Assistance</b>	Resource	<i>Conseil de développement économique de l'Alberta (CDÉA).</i>	The CDÉA provides a wide range of consulting services related to start up and operation of a company. The CDÉA makes available to the French-speaking business community a hub of skills to promote the development of economic activities in Alberta; it does not provide direct funding to companies.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.lecdea.ca">www.lecdea.ca</a>
<b>Food Safety</b>						
<b>Risk Mitigation - Food Safety Area</b>	Grant	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	The purpose of this cost-share funding program is to support agri-food processors increase their food safety knowledge, implement strategies/solutions to proactively mitigate identified food safety risks and or achieve food safety certification in order to supply to current markets and/or access new markets. Eligible activities include food safety training for staff, pre-audits/gap assessments, certification audits, development and implementation of a food safety system and facility modifications.	\$150,000/program term \$50,000/project	March, 2023	<a href="https://cap.alberta.ca">https://cap.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Surveillance</b>	Grant	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	This program is intended to increase to industry capacity to proactively asses new and emerging threats to food safety as well as support early detection of emerging diseases, pests and plant and animal health issues.	TBA	March, 2023	<a href="https://cap.alberta.ca">https://cap.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Food Safety Resources and Assistance</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF)</i>	AF has many excellent resources to assist food processors in developing, improving and implementing a food safety system (i.e., GMP, HACCP or GFSI Benchmarked systems) to meet the requirements of current customers and help gain new customers. These resources include coaching and guidance from experienced Food Safety Specialists, a food safety "how to" manual, personnel training materials, food safety DVDs, template record keeping forms, and more. Most resources are on-line, but don't forget to contact a Food Safety Specialist for assistance: <a href="mailto:foodsafety@gov.ab.ca">foodsafety@gov.ab.ca</a> .	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca">www.agriculture.alberta.ca</a>

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<b>Food Safety Training and Consulting</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Food Processors Association (AFPA)</i>	AFPA can train a group of employees on HACCP or other food safety topics in a public course setting or in a customized course at their facility. Customized courses minimize potential expenses and time away from production. It also gives a team approach to training, which many companies prefer. Food Safety consulting is also available.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.afpa.com">www.afpa.com</a>
<b>Online Food Safety Training &amp; Management System</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Food Processors Association</i>	This program enables Alberta food processors to train employees within the facility on seven food safety modules, administer quizzes and present certificates upon completion of the training. It will also give HACCP Coordinators the tools to manage employee training and prerequisite programs to ensure they are current and ready for audits. Technical support is also available to assist processors in entering employee names into the database, downloading SOPs and training to use the system.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.afpa.com">www.afpa.com</a>
<b>AgriAssurance Program</b>	Grant	<i>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</i>	The AgriAssurance Program: Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) component provides targeted support to companies (up to 250 employees and less than \$50 million in annual revenue) to help implement third-party assurance certification projects that address international market requirements, thus helping expand export opportunities. To be eligible, a project must be aimed at meeting actual market-specific certification requirements. Funding will not be made available if there is no such certification requirement by the target market. Program cost share is maximum 50%.	\$100,001	March, 2023	<a href="http://www.agr.gc.ca">www.agr.gc.ca</a>
<b>Global Trade</b>						
<b>International Relations and Marketing Team</b>	Resource / Grant	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	The International Relations and Marketing team provides focused trade programs and services to support Alberta export ready companies to gain international market knowledge, build export capacity to meet market demands, mitigate risk, address market barriers, and profile Alberta as a preferred supplier of agriculture and food products to the world. The team experts can help industry with export readiness support, market intelligence, international market opportunities, trade show support, international outreach, buyer-seller connections, and market access support.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca">www.agriculture.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Export Readiness Micro-Voucher Program</b>	Grant	<i>Alberta Innovates</i>	The Export Readiness Micro-Voucher Program is a 2 year program initiated in April 2017 in collaboration with the Ministry of Economic Development & Trade to provide funding to Alberta SMEs that are interested in expansion into international markets. The purpose of the Program is to offset the cost of developing an international market assessment/business plan, and to evaluate the risks and benefits of exporting prior to entering new global markets.	\$10,000	continuous intake	<a href="http://www.albertainnovates.ca">www.albertainnovates.ca</a>
<b>AgriMarketing Program</b>	Grant/ Interest-Free Loan	<i>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</i>	AgriMarketing Program: Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) Component provides targeted support to companies for international initiatives. Under this component, funding will be available to help implement international export plans, which include promotional and market development activities. SMEs must operate in the agriculture, agri-food and agri-products industry and must be directly involved in growing, harvesting, processing, or otherwise transforming or consolidating their products. They must have up to 250 employees and their annual revenues shall not exceed \$50 million.	\$250,000 over five years \$ 50,000 per fiscal year	March, 2023	<a href="http://www.agr.gc.ca">www.agr.gc.ca</a>
<b>Canada Brand</b>	Resource	<i>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</i>	The Canada Brand is designed to give the Canadian food and agriculture industry a competitive advantage, through a common strategy and set of tools. The strategy and its elements are free to use; the basic eligibility requirements are that the products be grown, raised or harvested, or processed in Canada and produced in accordance with all relevant Canadian regulations related to exports.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.marquecanadabrand.agr.gc.ca">www.marquecanadabrand.agr.gc.ca</a>

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<b>Canadian Trade Commissioner Services</b>	Resource	<i>Global Affairs Canada</i>	The Canadian Trade Commissioner Service offers an extensive network of international business contacts and hands-on knowledge of international markets. In 161 offices around the world and across Canada, trade commissioners provide expert advice and problem-solving skills—whether you export, partner, or invest abroad.	-----	-----	<a href="http://tradecommissioner.gc.ca">http://tradecommissioner.gc.ca</a>
<b>Export Credit Insurance and Trade Financing</b>	Financing / Resource / Insurance	<i>Export Development Canada (EDC)</i>	EDC is an export credit agency that supports and develops Canada's export trade by helping Canadian companies respond to international business opportunities. EDC provide insurance and financial services, bonding products and small business solutions to Canadian exporters and investors and their international buyers. It also supports Canadian direct investment abroad and investment into Canada.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.edc.ca">www.edc.ca</a>
<b>Nutrition / Labelling</b>						
<b>Canada's Regulatory System for Food with Health Benefits</b>	Resource	<i>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</i>	This website is a starting point for companies wanting to promote the health benefits of their products. It will help you better understand and navigate Canada's food regulatory system and point you to important resources.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.agr.gc.ca">www.agr.gc.ca</a>
<b>Regulatory Readiness Decision Model</b>	Resource	<i>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</i>	The Regulatory Readiness: A decision Model for Canadian Food Products helps industry navigate the regulatory environment for Canadian food products and take advantage of market opportunities. It synthesizes a complex array of regulations and guidance into six key questions to consider prior to launching a new food product.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.agr.gc.ca">www.agr.gc.ca</a>
<b>Food Labelling for Industry</b>	Resource	<i>Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)</i>	The CFIA Industry Labelling Tool is the food labelling reference for all food inspectors and stakeholders in Canada. The tool provides information on food products that require a label, general principles for labelling and advertising and a labelling requirements checklist.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.inspection.gc.ca">www.inspection.gc.ca</a>
<b>Occupational Health and Safety</b>						
<b>Alberta Occupational Health and Safety</b>	Resource	<i>Government of Alberta</i>	Alberta Occupational Health and Safety works in consultation with industry to help prevent worker injuries and illnesses by providing measures and information for taking action. It includes resources such as publications on legislation and other topics, educational materials on how to work safely and stay healthy and e-learning programs.	-----	-----	<a href="https://work.alberta.ca">https://work.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Certificate of Recognition Program</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Food Processors Association</i>	This program is a key component of Alberta Human Services Partnerships program. A Certificate of Recognition (COR) is issued to employers who have successfully implemented a workplace health and safety management system that meets partnership standards. Benefits of obtaining a COR include: minimized accident costs, improved worker productivity, a safer workplace and a possible 5% to 20% rebate for WCB premiums.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.afpa.com">www.afpa.com</a>
<b>Small Employer Certificate of Recognition</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Food Processors Association</i>	The Small Employer Certificate of Recognition (SECOR) program provides an option for employers with a small number of workers to develop a safety management system and achieve a Certificate of Recognition (COR). The program is designed to meet the application and training needs of employers with 10 or fewer employees. A SECOR is issued to an employer whose health and safety program meets the partnerships standards. Small employers with a SECOR are eligible to receive a 5% to 20% rebate on their WCB premiums.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.afpa.com">www.afpa.com</a>



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<b>Workplace Health &amp; Safety Program</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Food Processors Association</i>	The Alberta Food Processors Association offers extensive educational courses. The following courses are instructed by qualified industry experts: Health & Safety Program Building, Internal Auditor Training, Hazard Assessment, WHMIS Train the Trainer, Incident & Accident Investigation, and Roles & Responsibility for Managers and Supervisors.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.afpa.com">www.afpa.com</a>
<b>Productivity / Technology / Continuous Improvement</b>						
<b>Productivity Benchmarking Tool</b>	Resource	<i>Business Development Canada</i>	This is a free productivity benchmarking tool that helps processors find where they stand compared to other Canadian businesses in the same industry. It's the first step to making a business leaner, stronger and more profitable. The benchmarking tool calculates and displays the results online; a printable report that includes recommended readings and information on best practices, can then be downloaded from the website.	-----	-----	<a href="https://www.bdc.ca">https://www.bdc.ca</a>
<b>GO Productivity</b>	Resource	<i>GO Productivity</i>	GO Productivity offers a broad range of services that help companies identify and address gaps in productivity, maximize resources and be more efficient. The organization has own in-house productivity experts as well as a vast network of resources to ensure that whatever the productivity challenge a business faces, they have the capacity to meet it.	-----	-----	<a href="http://goproductivity.ca">http://goproductivity.ca</a>
<b>Sustainability</b>						
<b>Farm Energy and Agri-Processing Program (FEAP)</b>	Grant	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	The Farm Energy and Agri-Processing Program (FEAP) 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. 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.	\$250,000/year	March, 2020	<a href="http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca">www.agriculture.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Business, Non-Profit, and Institutional Energy Savings Program</b>	Grant	<i>Energy Efficiency Alberta (EEA)</i>	This program offers incentives to encourage organizations to choose high-efficiency products. Eligible products are listed on the EEA's website. Individual businesses are eligible (including agri-food processing) with the exception of large emitters (as defined under the Alberta's Specified Gas Emitters Regulations). If you've received a rebate for products under another program (FEAP) you can't also get a rebate for the same product(s) under the program.	-----	-----	<a href="https://www.energycanada.ca">https://www.energycanada.ca</a>
<b>Agricultural Youth Green Jobs Initiative</b>	Grant	<i>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</i>	The Agricultural Youth Green Jobs Initiative supports employers who wish to hire youth to undertake environmentally beneficial activities on their farm; or employers who employ youth in the agriculture sector to undertake environmentally beneficial activities. Farm operators could receive up to a maximum of \$10,000 per intern to implement projects that are environmentally beneficial. Employers in the agricultural sector but not directly on farm could receive up to a maximum of \$16,000 per intern to undertake environmental activities, services or research that will benefit the agriculture sector.	\$10,000/intern and \$16,000/intern	First-come First-served	<a href="http://www.agr.gc.ca">www.agr.gc.ca</a>
<b>Food &amp; Beverage Sustainability Management System</b>	Resource / Mentoring	<i>Provision Coalition</i>	Provision Coalition (PC) is a non-profit organization that provides the tools, resources, and mentorship to assist Canadian food and beverage operations in becoming more sustainable. The free on-line portal includes web-based benchmarking tools and resources such as: a self-assessment survey, key performance indicators dashboard, environmental benchmarking tools, food waste & loss toolkit, consultant and funding databases, and case studies. PC partners with other organizations to offer manufacturers cost - share programs to tackle food and waste losses.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.provisioncoalition.com">www.provisioncoalition.com</a>

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<b>Office of Energy Efficiency</b>	Resource	<i>Natural Resources Canada</i>	The Office of Energy Efficiency (OEE) is mandated to strengthen and expand Canada's commitment to energy efficiency in order to help address the Government of Canada's policy objectives. The OEE offers a variety of resources, including workshops for professionals, statistics and analysis, awards and hundreds of free publications.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.nrcan.gc.ca">www.nrcan.gc.ca</a>
<b>SD Tech Fund™</b>	Grant	<i>Sustainable Development Technology Canada</i>	The SD Tech Fund™ is designed to support the development and pre-commercial demonstration of cleantech solutions. Its aim is to increase each solution's chances of successfully making it to the marketplace, and help Canadian entrepreneurs carry out their innovation efforts within Canada.	Project Dependent	Continuous Intake	<a href="http://www.sdte.ca">www.sdte.ca</a>
<b>Workforce Development</b>						
<b>Agri-Industry Workforce Development Program</b>	Grant	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	This program provides assistance to address specific workforce issues in agricultural production and agri-processing sectors. Financial assistance is provided to assist Alberta agri-business managers to assess and adopt technologies and processes which will increase worker productivity, reduce worker turnover through the development of retention strategies and recruit workers domestically as well as outside of Canada. 80% of eligible expenses incurred by a successful applicant in completing the approved project per applicant in a fiscal year (April to March).	\$25,000	Renewed Annually	<a href="http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca">www.agriculture.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Great People = Growing Profits Toolkit</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	This online toolkit for employers features practical tools to help immediately address labor shortage issues. The toolkit offers recruitment and retention strategies with tools and templates that can be used independently or incorporated into your current business processes. The toolkit can be accessed online or by contacting your Development Officer for a free CD copy.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca">www.agriculture.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Workforce Development Team</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Agriculture and Forestry</i>	The Workforce Development Team brings experience and resources in human resource, retention, recruitment and productivity improvement. The Team provides coaching to clients on how to improve current retention and hiring practices and works with producers and agri-food processing companies.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca">www.agriculture.alberta.ca</a>
<b>Canada-Alberta Job Grant</b>	Grant	<i>Government of Alberta</i>	The Canada-Alberta Job Grant covers two-thirds of direct training up to a maximum of \$10,000; employers cover a minimum of one third and decide on who gets training and what type of training may be needed for new and existing employees. If hiring and training an unemployed Albertan, up to 100% of training costs could be covered to a maximum of \$15,000 per trainee. Employers must use a third-party training provider to deliver the formal training either onsite, online, or in a classroom setting.	\$15,000/trainee \$300,000/ company	-----	<a href="http://www.albertacanada.com">www.albertacanada.com</a>
<b>Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP)</b>	Grant	<i>Government of Alberta</i>	STEP is a 4 - 16 week wage subsidy program that provides funding to eligible Alberta employers (1-49 employees) to hire high school or post-secondary students into summer jobs from May to August. A standardized wage subsidy of \$7.00/hour to a maximum of 37.5 hours/week will be provided to approved applicants. Application deadline is early February of each year.	based on size and scope of the organization.	Renewed Annually	<a href="http://www.albertacanada.com">www.albertacanada.com</a>
<b>Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program</b>	Resource	<i>Alberta Jobs, Skills, Training &amp; Labour</i>	The Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program is a federal-provincial agreement designed to assist employers to facilitate the permanent immigration process to retain qualified temporary foreign workers already working in Alberta.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.albertacanada.com">www.albertacanada.com</a>
<b>Apprenticeship Job Creation Tax Credit</b>	Tax Credit	<i>Canada Revenue Agency</i>	The federal incentive program is designed to help employers offset the cost of hiring and training employees who have entered into an apprenticeship contract. Employers can take advantage of a non-refundable tax credit equal to 10% of the eligible salaries and wages paid to apprentices in their first two years. Any unused credit may be carried back three years and carried forward 20 years.	\$2,000	-----	<a href="http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca">www.cra-arc.gc.ca</a>

Program Name	Type	Administered By	Description	Maximum Funding	Program End Date	Website
Canada Summer Jobs	Grant	<i>Employment and Social Development Canada</i>	Canada Summer Jobs provides funding to help small businesses (50 or fewer employees) to hire young people aged 15 to 30 years who are full-time students intending to return to their studies in the next school year. Assessment of applications will be carried out on a constituency-by-constituency basis, ensuring that local priorities are considered. Application deadline is early February of each year.	50% of minimum hourly wage for private sector	Renewed Annually	<a href="http://www.canada.ca">www.canada.ca</a>
Career Edge Program	Resource	<i>Career Edge</i>	Career Edge is Canada's largest provider of paid internship. It connects companies with talent, while giving the job seeker a chance to get into the workforce. Career Edge employment candidates include recent graduates, graduates with disabilities, international qualified professionals, and Canadian armed forces reservists.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.careeredge.ca">www.careeredge.ca</a>
Funding for Hiring-Career Focus Program	Grant	<i>Food Processing Skills Canada</i>	The Funding for Hiring – Career Focus Program is a wage subsidy program open to all organizations in the food and beverage manufacturing, distribution and wholesale sector. This funding could improve training standards and show youth the many benefits of working in this growing industry. The company must provide a full-time work opportunity (at least 30 hours per week) for a minimum of 3 months and provide a minimum of \$1 for each \$1 of wage subsidy.	\$20,000	-----	<a href="http://www.fphrc.com">www.fphrc.com</a>
Training & Development Resources	Resource	<i>Food Processing Skills Canada</i>	The Food Processing HR Council provides up-to-date training materials, human resources kits, multimedia products, guides, and reports to upgrade your employees' skills and abilities.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.fphrc.com">www.fphrc.com</a>
Temporary Foreign Worker Program	Resource	<i>Employment and Social Development Canada</i>	The Temporary Foreign Worker Program is a federal program designed to meet temporary labour needs in Alberta to fill short-term gaps in the labour force.	-----	-----	<a href="http://www.esdc.gc.ca">www.esdc.gc.ca</a>