

## **Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> Food and Beverage**

	<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Resource Provider</b>
<b>Description</b>	<b>Agri-Food Open for E-Business Initiative</b> <p>The Governments of Ontario and Canada are investing up to \$2.5 million to help the agri-food sector expand online, providing more opportunities for producers to grow their business and offer more food choices for families who are shopping from home during the COVID-19 outbreak. The Agri-Food Open for E-Business initiative will help food producers, farmers markets, retailers, garden centres, greenhouses, nurseries, and agricultural associations develop online business, providing consumers with greater access to a wide variety of food and agriculture products. This targeted application intake features two funding streams: (1) Bring Your Business Online - Eligible organizations and businesses can apply for a grant of up to \$5,000 to establish an online e-business and marketing presence, (2) Develop Online Business Opportunities - Eligible organizations, businesses and collaborations can apply for cost-share funding of up to \$75,000 to implement high-impact projects. Due to high demand, the intake has been paused while applications that have already been submitted as of May 25, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. are reviewed and funding decisions are made. If funding is still available following the review of the remaining applications, the ministry will re-open this targeted application intake. Please see link for more details.</p>	Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
<b>Website</b>	<a href="#">Learn More</a>	
<b>Description</b>	<b>Agri-Food Workplace Protection Program</b> <p>OMAFRA has partnered with the Workplace Safety &amp; Prevention Services (WSPS) to provide agri-food businesses, organizations and associations with educational resources, tools and consulting services to help them implement COVID-19 health and safety protocols. Additional details about businesses that may qualify can be found on the WSPS website. Project completion date for program has been extended to January 29, 2021.</p>	Canadian Agricultural Partnership
<b>Website</b>	<a href="#">Learn More</a>	
<b>Description</b>	<b>Agriculture and Food Business Solutions Fund</b> <p>A \$100 million fund to support agribusiness and agri-food sector companies through unexpected business disruptions, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. The fund is set up to support a wide range of enterprises, including companies</p>	Farm Credit Canada

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involved in primary production, agri-tech, manufacturing, packaging and distribution. The fund will provide companies with innovative solutions such as convertible debt investments and other flexible financing solutions. Applications will be assessed individually on their merit, and will be supported to a maximum of \$10 million. To qualify, companies need to demonstrate an impact from an unexpected business disruption, such as the loss of a key supplier, temporary loss of a facility or permanent loss of critical staff or leadership.

**Website** [Learn More](#)

**AgriRecovery**

Government of Canada

**Description**

The AgriRecovery Framework is part of a suite of federal-provincial-territorial (FPT) Business Risk Management (BRM) tools under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. AgriRecovery is an FPT disaster relief framework intended to work together with the core BRM programs to help agricultural producers recover from natural disasters. The focus of AgriRecovery is the extraordinary costs producers must take on to recover from disasters. Extraordinary costs are costs which producers would not incur under normal circumstances, but which are necessary to mitigate the impacts of a disaster and/or resume farming operations as quickly as possible following a disaster. Further, AgriRecovery is intended to respond in situations where producers do not have the capacity to cover the extraordinary costs, even with the assistance available from other programs.

**Website** [Learn More](#)

**Credit Support for Producers, Agribusinesses and Food Processors**

Farm Credit Canada

**Description**

Farm Credit Canada will receive support from the Government of Canada to support producers, agribusinesses and food processors during COVID-19. Effective immediately, FCC has put in place: - a deferral of principal and interest payments up to six months for existing loans, or - a deferral of principal payments up to 12 months. If you'd like more information on these options or on how FCC can help improve your financial position, please contact your local office or the Customer Service Centre at 1-888-332-3301 for further details.

**Website** [Learn More](#)

**Enhanced Agri-food Workplace Protection Program**

Government of Canada, Province of Ontario

**Description**

The governments of Canada and Ontario are taking additional steps to help farmers better protect the health and safety of agri-food workers in the province during the COVID-19 outbreak to ensure the continued supply of locally grown food all year round. The original \$15 million investment has been extended to \$36.6 million to help support the agri-food sector and better protect workers during the COVID-19 outbreak. The Enhanced Agri-food Workplace Protection Program will help more farmers and packing operations by significantly increasing the cost-share funding to purchase

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Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and do workplace modifications and other measures to improve health and safety for their workers and ensure the continued supply of locally grown food during the COVID-19 outbreak. Under the expanded program, the amount farmers can claim for preventive expenses including a combination of workplace modifications, PPE, transportation and temporary housing will double to \$15,000. The program will also include a new category for small capital projects of up to \$100,000 for housing modifications, workplace modifications and equipment to allow greater physical distancing for workers. More updated program guidelines and submission forms will be made available in the weeks to come.

**Website** [Learn More](#)

**Farm Credit Canada Term Loans**

Farm Credit Canada

**Description**

FCC has expanded offerings to include term loans up to \$2.5M, with no fees and an 18-month interest-only option available over a 10-year amortization. These funds can be used for working capital and to modify production due to the impacts of COVID-19. FCC customers and non-customers are eligible to apply for FCC lending products. More information is available by contacting a local office or the Customer Service Centre at 1-888-332-3301.

**Website** [Learn More](#)

**Helping Agri-Food Businesses with Canada Brand Digital Marketing During COVID-19**

Government of Canada

**Description**

The Government of Canada will refresh the Canada Brand platform to ensure industry and partners have access to new graphics and tools optimized for today's digital platforms. The refresh will also enable them to reach more consumers and enhance virtual connections with international buyers, and will include a modernized look, signature, messaging, and suite of digital-first marketing products for the Canada Brand. The Canada Brand program is open to Canadian entities that have a role in producing, promoting or supporting Canadian agriculture, food and seafood products. It currently includes branding and graphics material, photography for use in marketing and promotional materials, Canadian content statements, messaging on Canada's advantages and promotion at Canada Pavilions for international trade shows.

**Website** [Learn More](#)

**Ontario Agri-Food Job Portal**

Province of Ontario

**Description** A one-stop-shop that highlights employment openings and training resources in Ontario's agriculture and food sector.

**Website** [Learn More](#)

**Program Name****Resource Provider****Ontario Supports Ontario's Beverage Alcohol Sector During COVID-19**

Province of Ontario

The Ontario Government is supporting Ontario's beverage alcohol sector with a number of initiatives including, Pausing increases to beer and wine taxes, previously scheduled to take effect in spring 2020, Temporarily allowing licensed restaurants and bars to sell alcohol with food takeout and delivery orders between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m., Temporarily allowing licensed restaurants and bars to sell spirits at a lower price with food takeout and delivery orders, Allowing restaurants and bars to temporarily create or extend outdoor patio spaces to safely accommodate patrons and staff once licensed establishments are permitted to reopen for business, Making it easier for cideries to sell directly to consumers by temporarily removing the requirement for cideries to have five acres of planted fruit to qualify for an on-site store, Extending the Ontario Wine and Grape Strategy to 2021-22, providing \$7.5 million annually for VQA Support, \$4.8 million annually for marketing and promotion, \$250,000 for research and \$250,000 for benchmarking, and Extending the Small Cidery and Small Distillery Support Program to 2021-22, providing \$2.6 million annually to help eligible businesses grow and scale up their operations.

**Description****Website** [Learn More](#)