



# Agri-Food and Bioindustrial Innovation Program (ABIP)

*A Continuous Intake Opportunity*

Information Webinar

Virginia Mulligan, PhD

June 23, 2022



# Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge the many First Nations, Métis and Inuit who have lived on and cared for these lands for generations. We are grateful for the traditional Knowledge Keepers and Elders who are still with us today and those who have gone before us. Alberta Innovates respectfully acknowledges that we are situated on traditional territory of the Treaty 6, Treaty 7, and Treaty 8 First Nations; home to Métis Settlements, the Métis Nation of Alberta, and Regions 2, 3 and 4 within the historical Northwest Métis Homeland. We respect the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community



# Alberta Innovates

- The province's largest and only cross-sectoral research and innovation (R&I) agency
- We lead and accelerate innovation from discovery to use across all sectors, in all parts of the province
- We propel great ideas forward to improve the lives of Albertans today and for generations to come

# Agri-Food and Bioindustrial Innovation Program (ABIP)

- Managed through the Agri-Food Innovation (AFI) and Bioindustrial Materials (BiM) Technology Portfolios
- **AFI** supports the development and advancement of technologies to increase productivity, reduce production costs and increase the value of agri-food commodities
- **BiM** leverages cross-sectoral synergies between agriculture, forestry, manufacturing and construction to increase the value of Alberta's abundant renewable biomass resources

# ABIP

- There's an increased global demand for food and sustainable materials
- The agri-food and forestry sectors need to adapt to shifting consumer demands, changing regulations, environmental concerns and effects of climate change
- ABIP aims to harness the power of technology to increase productivity, lessen environmental footprint of production, reduce waste and improve decision-making along the value chain





# ABIP Objectives

- Sustain, grow and optimize productivity, and reduce the cost of production of Alberta's agri-food and bioindustrial industries
- Add value to enhanced and new commodities in the agri-food and bioindustrial sectors
- Increase environmental sustainability and social benefits for Albertans



# ABIP Focus Areas

- Data and digital solutions
- Autonomous systems
- Agricultural biotechnology
- Food processing innovation
- Biofiber utilization
- Value-added biomass
- Green construction
- See pp 3 of Program Guide



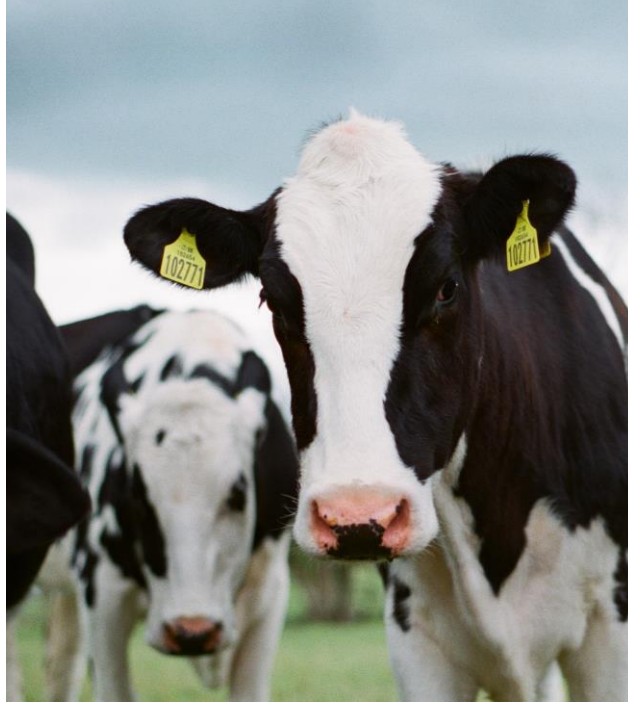




# Available Funding

- \$3.5 million CAD
- Each grant up to \$500,000 CAD
- Applicants must provide at least 25% of total eligible costs
- No limit on amount of financial stacking toward Applicant's contribution
- Please review sample Investment Agreements on ABIP's web page for eligible expenses
- **Highly competitive process**





# Project Eligibility

- Align with the Program objectives
- Be between Technology Readiness Levels 3 and 7 at the start of the project (higher start-level TRLs may be considered on a case-by-case basis)
- Be stepped with critical “go/no go” milestones
- Be completed within 36 months
- Comply with other criteria that Alberta Innovates may develop from time to time
- See pp 3-4 of Program Guide





# Applicant Eligibility



- Small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), industry organizations, research and development organizations, post-secondary institutions and government research laboratories
- Applicants are not required to be based in Alberta but must demonstrate a clear value proposition for the province
  - Projects that will be researched, piloted, demonstrated and/or implemented in Alberta with long-term Alberta impact will be prioritized
- See pp 3-4 of Program Guide



An aerial photograph of a vast, dense forest of evergreen trees, likely spruce or fir, covering a hillside. The trees are a vibrant green, and the perspective is from a high angle, looking down into the canopy. The lighting is bright, creating a sense of depth and texture in the forest.

# Partner Eligibility

- Collaboration with Project Partners is highly encouraged
- Partnership with potential end-users
- Applicants not based in Alberta are encouraged to have Alberta-based Project Partners
- See pp 3-4 of Program Guide



# Application Process



## Phase 1: Engagement and Intake

1. Contact us
2. Register
3. Complete the intake form
4. Intake form review (Internal)



## Phase 2: Full Proposal

1. By invitation only
2. Review Process
3. Highly competitive



## Phase 3: Agreement

1. To be drafted by January





# Engagement and Intake Phase



# Intake Form

- **Innovation Opportunity:** The *relevance* of the proposed work to the target industry, its competitive *market advantage*, alignment to Alberta Innovates priorities and *TRL advancement* during the Project
- **Proposed Commercialization Pathway:** A realistic plan to achieve *market readiness* and/or adoption *within the Project timelines* as well as potential risk mitigation strategies
- **Project Overview:** A sound *Project design and methodology* to achieve the clearly identified objectives, deliverables and outcomes. It should demonstrate the novelty of the proposed technology or intervention
- **Impact:** The environmental, economic, social and other proposed impacts of the work to Alberta



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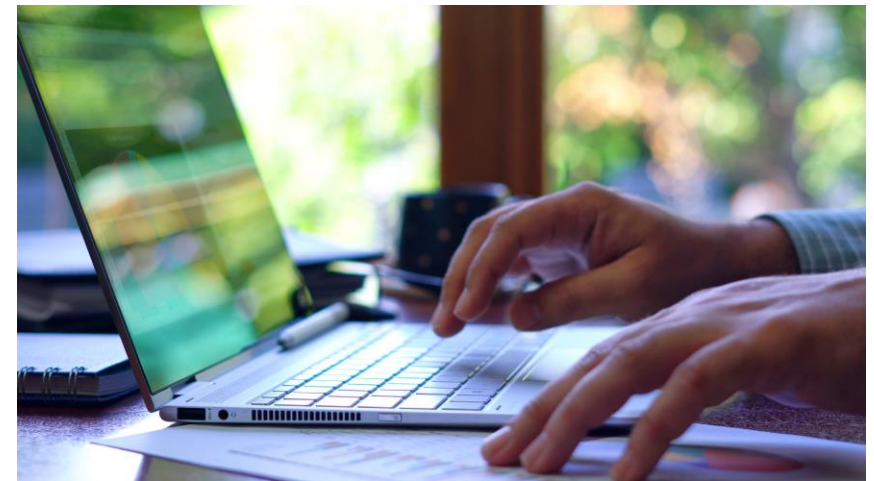
## Phase 3: Agreement

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# Full Proposal Phase

- By invitation only
  - An invitation to submit a Full Proposal does not guarantee funding
- Clients are assigned to a Project Advisor





FP FIELD	Criteria / Rubric	Score & Weight
INNOVATION OPPORTUNITY	The Full Proposal (FP) will be evaluated on the merits of the proposed opportunity, including its strengths and competitive advantage to address the sector challenge described and alignment to Alberta Innovates priorities. This includes: a) the relevance and feasibility of the proposed work to the target industry; b) the expected TRL advancement during the course of the Project; and c) the existing and generated intellectual property related to this proposed work and the strategy for its management and protection (if applicable).	10%
MARKET OPPORTUNITY	The FP will be evaluated on the potential for the proposed work to be adopted by end-users in Alberta's agri-food or bioindustrial sectors. This includes: a) the estimation of the market size both at the end of the Project and five years after completion; b) the value proposition for the paying customer, early adopters and other end-users; and c) the description/comparison of the closest direct and indirect competitors for the proposed work. Please note that applicants may choose to attach a competitive analysis table.	10%
PROPOSED COMMERCIALIZATION PATHWAY	The FP will be evaluated on the feasibility of the proposed pathway to commercialization including consideration of technical, financial and/or regulatory hurdles and the resources required to achieve success. Risk mitigation strategies should be appropriately identified and addressed. The plan to achieve market readiness and/or adoption should be realistic within the Project timelines.	15%
PROJECT OVERVIEW	The FP will be evaluated on the clarity of objectives, deliverables and outcomes, quality of the proposed Project design and methodology, and the novelty of the proposed innovation. This includes the practicality of the timelines proposed and the achievability of the Project plan.	30%
PROJECT WORK PLAN, BUDGET, TEAM AND METRICS	The FP will be evaluated on the clarity and feasibility of the budget and the capacity of the Project team to execute the proposed Project. This includes: a) the skill sets of individual team members, ability to work collaboratively as well as the addition of relevant partners; b) whether the team has the appropriate facilities and resources to achieve the Project objectives; c) the practicality of the budget, the strength of the provided budget explanation/justification and the confirmed cash and in-kind contribution from Project partners; and d) Projected performance measures.	15%
PROJECT RISK ANALYSIS AND MITIGATION	The FP will be evaluated on the identification of the most evident risks that have the potential to adversely affect the Project's achievability as well as on the mitigation strategies to effectively address these risks.	10%
IMPACTS	The FP will be evaluated on their potential for significant, sustained and measurable environmental, economic, social and other identified impacts of the work to Alberta. Benefits should be realized beyond the applicant. Estimated timelines for the benefits of the work to be realized are within a reasonable range and the justification of any negative impacts are provided.	10%
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>		100%



# Full Proposal Review Process

- **Competitive evaluation process** - internal and external reviewers in agriculture, science, engineering, digital transformation, business development and commercialization
- Identity of reviewers is confidential
- Reviewers are subject to confidentiality and conflict-of-interest policies
- Decisions are final
- You may schedule a feedback meeting



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1. To be drafted by January



# Agreement Phase

- Read sample Investment Agreements
- Report on milestones progress and budget on an agreed to timeline
- Project payments are based on milestone achievement and progress reporting
- **Agreements must be drafted by January**





# Timeline

- Can submit an Intake form at any time
- Full proposal by invitation only
- Timeline for each phase is *project-specific* and dependent on the *timely submission* of intake and full proposal forms
- Agreements must be drafted by January
- **Highly competitive process**



# Advice for your Submission

- Read the Program Guide carefully
- Think what problem/challenge you are trying to address
- How is your project going to help solve this problem?
- Identify potential end users
- ABIP has a strong market and commercialization focus; highly encourages collaboration between industry, academia and government
- Economic, environmental and social impacts





## Login

Login

[Forgot Password?](#)

New to the System?

[Register](#)

## Welcome to Alberta Innovates Portal

Alberta Innovates delivers 21st-century solutions for the most compelling challenges facing Albertans. We work closely with government, industry, academia and others to support and accelerate innovation from the generation of ideas, through applied testing and validation, to commercialization or end use, across all of Alberta's key sectors. We enable researchers, entrepreneurs and industry to test and grow their ideas, products and businesses in lasting ways to positively impact the province's economy, the environment and the quality of life for all Albertans.

Our new Portal enables you to seamlessly manage and view all of your funding-related interactions with us, from creating and submitting your application, to reports on results easily and efficiently, and everything in between.

We recommend browsers such as Google Chrome, Firefox, Safari, or Microsoft Edge for the best experience. Internet Explorer is not supported.



## Welcome Vir Mullig



Organization Profile



Personal Profile



Change Password

## Applications

Click here to view all of your applications.



Funding Opportunities

1

Draft Applications

0

Submitted Applications

0

Approved/Declined  
Applications

## Requires Attention

Click here to submit your requested revisions, investment agreements, and progress reports.



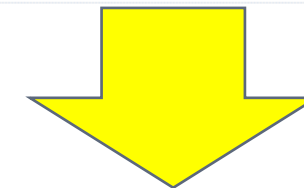


## New Grant



Program Name:

Cycle Name: [?(?object=utaproviderL2)\$Name\$#]



The red \* before a question indicates that it is mandatory for submission.

**\*\*\*\*Please click on Save Draft before beginning the Application\*\*\*\***

**Some functions of this Application, as well as any system generated fields, will not be present until a draft is saved.**

**Please Note:** the Application **DOES NOT** save automatically; remember to save early and save often.

Generate Application PDF

**INSTRUCTIONS AND DISCLAIMER**

ELIGIBILITY

APPLICANT INFORMATION

REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION

NON-CONFIDENTIAL SUMMARY

PROJECT OVERVIEW

PROJECT WORKPLAN, BUDGET >

**Instructions and Disclaimer**

This Application form collects pertinent information about the Investment being requested. This enables Alberta Innovates to assess the merits of the proposed Application and its fit with our strategic priorities and corporate goals. The Applicant must complete the Application in its entirety. Applicants that fail to complete all mandatory sections may not be considered. It is essential that you read and understand the Program Guide before completing this Application. All capitalized words or terms which are not defined within this Application have the respective meaning as set out in the Program Guide or Investment Agreement. In this Application, the term "you" and "Applicant" are used interchangeably.

To complete this Application, move from left to right through the tabs above. If you require assistance in completing your Application, please contact the Alberta Innovates' representative listed in the Program Guide. If you are unsure who to contact, please email [inbox\\_grants@albertainnovates.ca](mailto:inbox_grants@albertainnovates.ca).

The Application will be reviewed by experts who are within and potentially outside of Alberta Innovates. These experts will provide their recommendations to Alberta Innovates and Alberta Innovates may

NEXT >

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✓ Submit Application

Withdraw Application


222300369

Program Name: Agri-Food and Bio-Industrial Innovation Program

Cycle Name:

The red \* before a question indicates that it is mandatory for submission.

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INSTRUCTIONS AND DISCLAIMER

**TECHNOLOGY PORTFOLIO/FOCUS AREA**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION


NON-CONFIDENTIAL SUMMARY


INNOVATION OPPORTUNITY

PROPOSED COMMUNICATIONS

\* Please select the Technology Portfolio you are interested in applying for:

Please Select 

 BACK

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It is Alberta Innovates policy that any applications that involve the payment of a contingency fee will be rejected.

Alberta Innovates will use its reasonable efforts to inform the Applicant of the Investment determination made in respect of an Application in a timely fashion. Any failure to inform the Applicant of the Investment determination regarding an Application will not result in any obligation or liability of Alberta Innovates to the Applicant or any other interested party.

Alberta Innovates has sole and unfettered discretion over its funding decisions, including but not limited to the decision to fund or not fund, or the amount, timing, and terms attached to such funding, and Alberta Innovates owes no duty of reasonableness to the Applicant regarding same. All decisions of Alberta Innovates, including but not limited to the decision to fund or not fund, are final, binding on the Applicant, and non-appealable. Alberta Innovates is not an administrative agency, commission, or tribunal, and as such the Applicant is precluded from seeking judicial review of any decisions of Alberta Innovates arising from its evaluation of this Application. Alberta Innovates receives a large volume of Applications. Accordingly, the Applicant acknowledges and agrees that it may be turned down for funding even if it meets minimum requirements for the program or other eligibility criteria. Alberta Innovates may decline to evaluate the Application at any time for any reason. Alberta Innovates also has the right, as determined in its sole and absolute discretion, to impose a life-time limit on the number of Applications an Applicant may submit.

**NEXT** 

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 Submit Application

Withdraw Application



# Thank you

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780-868-7417