



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Second Intake Now Open for Canada-B.C. Agri-Innovation Program**

**September 22, 2011, Victoria, B.C.** – IAF is now set to accept applications for the second intake of proposals under the \$1.5 million Canada-B.C. Agri-Innovation Program. The deadline for second intake proposals is October 4, 2011. In addition, there will be a third intake, with a deadline of December 15, 2011.

The Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C. (IAF) has reviewed the applications received under the first intake, and is finalizing approvals for a number of applications. However, a large portion of the \$1.5 million in program funding remains uncommitted to projects.

Based on the results of the first round, IAF has updated Parts A and B of the Request for Proposals. These updates are intended to provide greater clarity regarding eligible costs, and to place greater emphasis on the need to clearly demonstrate project strength within the proposals.

“From the experience of the first round, it is clear that the strongest applications were characterized by broad industry support; a demonstrated ability to complete within the Program timeframe; and significant industry financial commitment to project funding,” says Stuart Wilson, IAF chair.

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact an IAF Program Manager prior to completing and submitting their application. The October 4, 2011 application deadline will provide opportunity for discussion between IAF staff and applicants prior to board review. To speak with an IAF Program Manager, interested applicants should call 250-356-1662 or email [funding@iafbc.ca](mailto:funding@iafbc.ca)

As with the first intake, businesses, organizations and individuals can access up to \$250,000 for eligible projects. Examples include:

- adaptive or applied research;
- development or demonstration of innovative technologies, processes or products; and
- projects that support the adoption of product, process or technological innovation.

Additional Program information, the Request for Proposals and application forms are available at: <http://www.iafbc.ca/agri-innovation.htm>

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The Canada-B.C. Agri-Innovation Program is an initiative funded through the federal and provincial Growing Forward Agreement, and will enable the sector to undertake projects that lead to innovations that will enhance profitability and competitiveness, both on-farm and throughout the rest of the supply chain. Examples include projects aimed at assessing or adopting technologies on farms or in processing facilities, such as waste processing or energy efficiency.

The program is delivered on behalf of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture by the Investment Agriculture Foundation. IAF is an industry-led, not-for-profit corporation that strategically invests federal and provincial funds in support of projects that benefit the agriculture and agri-food industry in B.C.

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