

The Sustainable New Agri-Food Products and Productivity (SNAPP) Program

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Rural Agri-Innovation Network(RAIN)

RAIN is a division of the Sault Ste Marie Innovation Centre.

RAIN's vision is to build a resilient farm and food sector in Algoma through innovative research and agriculture development projects.

- ▶ We accomplish this by:
 - Encouraging business growth and improved capacity for farmers and food businesses;
 - Collaborating with industry, government and communities to develop initiatives that meet the needs of farmers and agri-food businesses;
 - Providing a network of support that enhances the industry

www.rainalgoma.ca

The Sustainable New Agri-Food Products and Productivity (SNAPP) Program is an initiative of the Rural Agri-Innovation Network (RAIN), a division of the Sault Ste Marie Innovation Centre in partnership with the Northern Ontario Farm Innovation Alliance and the Northwestern Ontario Innovation Centre and supports Northern Ontario agriculture and food producers, businesses, collaborations, communities and First Nations to create new products, enhance productivity and adopt clean technology to support improved environmental performance while fostering growth.

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SNAPP strives to:

- ▶ Stimulate the development and expansion of the agriculture and food sector in northern Ontario. Catalyze sustainable jobs or increase agri-food employment.
- ▶ Address challenges specific to northern Ontario agri-food production such as a shorter production season, distance to markets and a lack of economies of scale.
- ▶ Promote value-added processing and innovative production and processing practices that increase scalability, profitability and competitiveness.
- ▶ Improve efficiency or resource use, reducing ecological impact and carbon footprint while enhancing profitability.

Project Activity Streams

- ▶ **NEW PRODUCTS** - Projects that enable agriculture or food producers to create primary or processed products that are new to the business.
- ▶ **PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT** - Projects that utilize innovative technologies or processes to increase efficiencies in their operations and improve processes or products.
- ▶ **CLEAN TECH in AGRI FOOD** - Projects that adopt clean technology at the farm/business level and support improved environmental performance while fostering productivity, growth and competitiveness.

Project Review Criteria

- ▶ How novel the products to be developed are relative to northern Ontario (New Products)
- ▶ What new efficiencies will be implemented to increase production and decrease operating expenses (Productivity Stream)
- ▶ The project clearly demonstrates environmental and ecological benefits at an impacting scale (Clean Tech Stream)
- ▶ The use of innovative equipment or processes
- ▶ The scalability of the project (ability to expand production/sales)
- ▶ Jobs created or maintained as a result of the project
- ▶ Strategic alliances created or maintained as a result of the project

Project Review Criteria (cont'd)

- ▶ A clear marketing or distribution plan (New Products Stream)
- ▶ A sound business plan (required for start-ups only)
- ▶ Application completeness

Funding

- ▶ up to \$10,000 at 50% cost share to agri-food businesses in Northern Ontario
- ▶ Collaborations of three or more businesses are eligible for up to \$25,000 at 50% cost share

Eligible Applicants

- ▶ Eligible applicants must be a legal person with the authority to enter into a legal agreement. (corporations, not-for-profit organizations, primary producers, processors, distributors, First Nations, Metis and Inuit).
- ▶ Collaborations will be accepted with three or more partners.
- ▶ Applicants must have at least one component of their business located in northern Ontario, and the project activity must occur in northern Ontario.
- ▶ Both start-up and existing businesses are eligible

Eligible Costs

- ▶ Food or fibre processing equipment
- ▶ High tunnels or greenhouse structures
- ▶ Building materials (i.e. lumber, fencing)
- ▶ Farm production equipment
- ▶ Food packaging or labelling equipment
- ▶ Cold storage equipment
- ▶ Equipment delivery costs
- ▶ Technology upgrades

Ineligible Costs

- ▶ Equipment installation or servicing
- ▶ Rolling stock
- ▶ Inventory
- ▶ Labour costs
- ▶ Consumables
- ▶ Purchase or lease of land or buildings
- ▶ Gifts or incentives
- ▶ Computer software
- ▶ HST
- ▶ Land clearing
- ▶ Any ongoing costs associated with the carrying out of business
- ▶ Any costs that have the sole purpose of coming into or maintaining compliance with requirement of the law

Examples of SNAPP projects:

NEW PRODUCTS

- ▶ Food processing equipment to create new products
- ▶ Food production and harvesting equipment to increase growing capacity
- ▶ Packaging equipment to increase market capacity

Examples of SNAPP projects:

PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT

- ▶ Hoop house to extend growing season and increase vegetable production
- ▶ Vacuum monitoring system to increase efficiency of maple syrup production
- ▶ Cold storage unit to increase storage and flexibility of harvesting

Examples of SNAPP projects:

CLEAN TECH IN AGRI-FOOD

- ▶ Irrigation system to increase water efficiency and environmental benefit
- ▶ Passive solar greenhouse technology for four season growing capacity
- ▶ Solar powered kitchen facilities for value added processing

Giizhigat Maple Products

Richards Landing, ON



- ▶ Purchased equipment to create Phase 1 of Giizhigat Sugar Lodge.
- ▶ Purchase of sugaring equipment, creaming equipment, candy equipment, stainless steel tanks, and accessories to process new value-added products for Indigenous focused brand.
- ▶ Expanded capacity and produced a larger volume of product (maple candy, maple cream, maple sugar)
- ▶ Increased existing and expanded to new markets

Wkwemikong Development Commission

Wkwemikong, ON



- ▶ Expanded the Food Share program to include cultivating local apples for apple cider
- ▶ Purchased apple presses and bottle filler equipment
- ▶ Goal was to sell apple cider as a value-added product, develop a process for creating a low-cost product
- ▶ Giving back to the community through good food box program and community events

MoCreebec Eeyoud Council

Moose Factory, ON



- ▶ Purchased and installed a second greenhouse with increased capacity for season extension for produce
- ▶ Supported operations in the Cree Village Ecolodge
- ▶ Support for local community food and healthy living programs
- ▶ Allowed Ecolodge to benefit from locally grown tomatoes, pumpkins, squash, herbs, leafy greens

For more information visit:
www.rainalgoma.ca/SNAPP

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