

## **Call for Expressions of Interest - Canadian Agri-Science Cluster for Horticulture Apple Industry (2018-2023)**

### **Sponsor**

Canadian Horticulture Council (CHC)

### **Program**

Canadian Agri-Science Cluster for Horticulture Apples Industry (2018-2023)

### **For More Information**

[Expression of Interest Form](#) [1]

### **Description**

The Canadian Horticultural Council is currently exploring the opportunity to establish a third Agri-Science Cluster under the federal government's upcoming agricultural policy framework for 2018-2023.

The purpose of the program is to help industry-led agricultural organizations pull together national scientific and technical resources to establish clusters in support of innovation and research. Projects for the program must focus on the pre-commercialization development of new agri products, practices and processes in Canada that will make agriculture more profitable and competitive.

To date, the Canadian Horticultural Council (CHC) has undertaken a number of activities to gather input from members, including commodity groups establishing their national research and innovation strategies and priorities in collaboration with their value chain partners.

### **Indirect Costs**

15%

### **Project Duration**

Up to five years from April 1, 2018 - March 31, 2023

## Special Notes

At this time, CHC is seeking Expressions of Interest from researchers in Canada who would like to participate in the Canadian Agri-Science Cluster for Horticulture 3 in the following areas of priority for the apple industry.

<b>Key Priority Area</b>	<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	<b>Investment Priorities</b>
<b>Maximizing Quality &amp; Minimizing Losses</b>	Crop maturity management and postharvest storage conditions and treatments lead to larger percentage of high quality fruit reaching market.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Postharvest research (storage disorders and diseases)</li> <li>• Optimal harvest management</li> </ul>
<b>Technology, Mechanization, Automation and Efficiencies</b>	Increased production and postharvest efficiencies through the use of the latest technologies and precision agriculture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remote sensing, software development and robotics</li> <li>• Modelling</li> <li>• Labour efficiencies</li> <li>• Pest management/crop protection</li> <li>• Weather risk mitigation</li> <li>• Water use</li> <li>• Orchard design</li> </ul>
<b>Sustainable Practices</b>	Sustainable cropping practices (crop load management, pest management, training systems, carbon capture, irrigation, fertigation, soil management, nutrition) are optimized according to variety and agro-climatic conditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated Fruit Production (IFP)</li> <li>• Organics</li> <li>• Lower environmental impact</li> <li>• Area wide practices</li> <li>• Production efficiencies</li> </ul>
<b>Variety &amp; Rootstock Development &amp; Evaluation</b>	New varieties and rootstocks are selected according to their performance in the different Canadian apple producing regions. We will have achieved greater market share, domestically and internationally, through new variety breeding and evaluation, scion and rootstock evaluation in all Canadian apple producing regions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Genomics</li> <li>• Variety breeding and evaluation</li> <li>• Rootstock evaluation</li> <li>• Scion regional adaptation and evaluation</li> </ul>
<b>Broad Marketing Strategy</b>	Consumer preferences are identified and marketers &	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consumer preference studies</li> </ul>

Key Priority Area	Strategic Outcome	Investment Priorities
	retailers are informed of the preferences. Canada Brand is linked to 80% of exported apples.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International opinion studies on Canada Brand identity</li> </ul>
<b>Enabling Strategy:</b>	National collaboration with growers, universities and government researchers has resulted in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training programs</li> <li>• KT Coordinator</li> <li>• Communications and dissemination strategies</li> </ul>
<b>Knowledge Collection, Translation and Transfer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination of research;</li> <li>• Translation of results;</li> <li>• Transfer of knowledge and technologies for grower use; and</li> <li>• High adoption rates by industry.</li> </ul>	

## Deadlines

**If College-level review is required, your College will communicate its earlier internal deadlines.**

Type	Date	Notes
<b>External Deadline</b>	Wednesday, March 8, 2017 - 4:00pm	Please note that expressions of interest must be submitted to the sponsor no later than end of business March 8, 2017

## How to Apply

### 1. Expression of Interest

Please complete the attached Expressions of Interest Form and return it to Amy Argentino by end of business March 8, 2017, via email to: [aargentino@hortcouncil.ca](mailto:aargentino@hortcouncil.ca) [2] with the subject line: Apple – Expression of Interest.

- Researchers are not required to submit their EOI to the Office of Research for approval before submission to the sponsor. Researchers are asked to send a copy of their EOI to

to the Office of Research for information purposes only. An OR-5 is not required at the EOI stage. Researchers will be notified by the sponsor if they have been invited to submit a full proposal.

## 2. Full Proposal

- Only successful applicants will be notified and asked to provide a full research proposal for consideration. Those invited to submit a full proposal must submit their full proposal to the Office of Research two weeks in advance of the sponsor's deadline with a signed OR-5.

## Information For Co-applicants

If you are part of an application or team that has been invited to submit a full proposal but are not the lead, please contact the Office of Research as soon as possible.

For Questions, please contact

Amy Argentino

Manager, Projects and Programs

Canadian Horticultural Council

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[aargentino@hortcouncil.ca](mailto:aargentino@hortcouncil.ca) [2]

### Office of Research

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Alert Classifications **Category:**

Funding Opportunities and Sponsor News

### Disciplines:

Health and Life Sciences

Information and Communications Technology

Physical Sciences and Engineering

Social Sciences

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### Source

URL: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/alerts/content/call-expressions-interest-canadian-agri-science-cluster-horticulture-apple-industry-2018>

**Links**

[1] <https://www.uoguelph.ca/research/document/canadian-agri-science-cluster-horticulture-apple-industry-2018-2023-expressions-interest>

[2] <mailto:aargentino@hortcouncil.ca>

[3] <mailto:avuk@uoguelph.ca>

[4] <mailto:mgrimes@uoguelph.ca>