**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**for**

**AGRICULTURAL POLICY RESEARCH FUND**

Funding has been secured for research projects related to agricultural policy issues for the 2017/18 fiscal year. We are therefore calling for research proposals on agricultural policy issues.

The proposed research projects will need to align with one of the following themes: (1) Structure & Performance; (2) Markets & Trade; (3) Innovation; (4) Environmental Sustainability; and (5) Consumer Demand. [*See Annex 1 for more details on the themes*.]

A Review Panel will assess the project proposals and provide recommendations based on alignment with policy priorities and the selection guidelines.

AAFC will allocate up to $24,999 per research project including taxes and overhead. The overhead cannot exceed 15% of the total.

**Summary of timelines**

* In order for your project to be considered for review by the Panel, you will need to submit your proposal using the template provided no later than **Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at 23:59 EST.** Proposals are to be sent to *Jennifer Vignola* at *Jennifer.Vignola*@agr.gc.ca .
* Following review by the Panel, AAFC will contact the primary applicant of selected projects the week of January 2, 2018.
* All contracts are expected to be prepared and signed by end of January 31, 2018.
* A first draft of the research paper will need to be submitted by March 15, 2018.

**Selection Criteria**

All submissions will be evaluated on the following criteria.

* *Research Theme*

Applicants must clearly specify in their proposal which theme their project falls under. [*See Annex 1 for more details on the themes*.]

* *Policy Relevance*

Applicants must clearly demonstrate the potential contribution of the proposed activities to agricultural and agri-food policy research and development in Canada, in terms of the achievement of specified goals and anticipated outcomes.

* *Completion Date*
* Preference/Priority will be given to projects that will be completed on or before March 31, 2018.
* All funded projects will have to be completed by March 31, 2019.
* You may also submit long-term projects that will be completed by March 31, 2020 but such projects will be considered at a later date when funding becomes available.
* *Budget*

The proposed budget needs to be clear and appropriate for the scale of the proposed research. Eligible expenses can include university overhead costs (limit of 15%), data purchase, travel, and other project-related expenses.

* *Optional*

Special consideration may be given to projects involving graduate students and enhancing collaboration between universities.

*Please address questions about the Agricultural Policy Research Fund to:*

Jennifer Vignola

Jennifer.Vignola@agr.gc.ca

613-773-1256

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)

Government of Canada