

AGRITECH INNOVATION CHALLENGE 2019-20 LETTER OF INTEREST



Instructions

The B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Innovate BC are inviting B.C. innovators (i.e., producers, processors, entrepreneurs, startups, companies, researchers) to submit 'Letters of Interest' (LOI) explaining how they can support and solve exciting challenges related to agritech. Your ideas will drive the next generation of innovation and technology development in order to enhance the competitiveness and resiliency of B.C.'s agrifood and seafood sector.

Process: Submitted 'Letters of Interest' will be reviewed by a panel of experts and a shortlist of candidates will be invited to submit an application to advance towards mentorship, potential seed funding, financing and other project opportunities.

Challenge information: The Ministry of Agriculture and Innovate BC are seeking project proposals that relate to the three challenge areas below. Please visit the [official website](#) to review further information about the challenge.

- a) Food and beverage processing technologies
- b) Food traceability technologies
- c) Precision agriculture and bioproducts

Next steps and key dates:

May 2, 2019	LOI Q&A Session (visit website for details and registration)
May 14, 2019	Deadline for submitting an LOI
May 22, 2019	Notification to applicants / short-listed applicants invited to submit a Full Proposal
May 27- Jun 14, 2019	Shortlisted applicants receive mentorship on their submissions
Jun 24, 2019	Deadline for submitting proposals
Jul 8, 2019	Challenge winners will be notified

Submission process: Complete and submit the 'Letter of Interest' form below by **May 14, 2019 at 9:00am PST** by email to Innovate BC at programs@innovatebc.ca (Subject Line: Agritech Challenge Solution). The 'Letter of Interest' can be a maximum of two-pages, and must be submitted in Arial 10 font. Condensed fonts will not be accepted. Submissions are welcome from companies and researchers primarily located in B.C. and incorporated in Canada with 100 or fewer employees.

Non-confidential: All content provided in the 'Letter of Interest' must be public. Please understand that by signing and submitting the 'Letter of Interest' you are acknowledging that the content provided is non-confidential information about your company, idea or innovation, and that any information disclosed to Innovate BC related to your submission will be shared with the challenge reviewers as part of the evaluation process.

More information: See the [challenge website](#) or [email us](#) with your questions.

Funding for the Agritech Innovation Challenge has been provided by the Government of British Columbia and the Governments of Canada and British Columbia through a federal-provincial-territorial initiative, the *Canadian Agricultural Partnership*.



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Letter of Interest Content

Please submit a 'Letter of Interest' (two pages maximum, Arial font, font size 10) by **May 14, 2019 at 9:00am PST** by email to Innovate BC programs@innovatebc.ca with the subject line: Agritech Challenge Solution. The 'Letter of Interest' must include the following sections:

Section 1: Applicant information

- First Name, Last Name
- Email Address
- Phone Number
- Full Mailing Address

Company information (if applicable):

- Company Name
- Applicant's Title/Role in Company
- Website URL
- Date Founded
- # of Employees
- Key Team Members and Expertise

Section 2: Innovation/idea information

- Solution name (please keep it short and descriptive)
- Describe your innovation/idea and how it applies to one of the three challenge areas (food processing technologies, food traceability technologies or precision agriculture technologies and bioproducts). Include a description of the stage of your innovation/idea (i.e., idea/early-stage, prototype created, pilot, commercialized).
- Describe how your innovation/idea will benefit the sector and generate positive economic, social and/or environmental impacts (e.g., productivity, job creation, waste/energy reduction, benefits to underrepresented groups, such as Indigenous populations and women).
- Explain how your innovation/idea addresses an existing or emerging market demand while being practical and economical for producers/processors.
- Describe the extent to which your innovation/idea has the potential to be scaled, commercialized and/or adopted.
- Include any additional, supporting information that you would like to be considered (ancillary features or services, background/history, sales strategy).

Section 3: Signature

- Applicant must sign the letter and submit by e-mail.

On behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Innovate BC, thank you for your submission!

