
ISLAND COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVE

Program Policy: *Supporting community Organizations to support food and other eligible costs for community fridges, gardens and meals.*

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Island Community Food Security Initiative is designed to provide grants to community organizations to support food and other eligible costs for community fridges, gardens and meals.

Supporting goals related to community food security, particularly increasing access to affordable local food and improving health and food safety. The program will focus on strengthening local food systems through community-led efforts that:

- Promote good nutrition and healthy food choices;
- Building community self-reliance and collaboration;
- Creating multi-sector partnerships and networks that work toward community food security.

The ***Island Community Food Security Initiative*** will support PEI residents in obtaining safe, nutritionally adequate diets through a sustainable, local food system that maximizes community self-reliance. Projects should aim to be inclusive of one or more of the following groups of people:

- a. Mi'kmaq and other Indigenous Groups;
- b. Newcomers to Canada;
- c. Refugees;
- d. Children (pre-school);
- e. Students (K-12);
- f. University/College Students;
- g. Women;
- h. Urban residents;
- i. Rural residents;
- j. Senior citizens (55+);
- k. Individuals with a disability; and/or
- l. Individuals with a low income.

Note: All projects funded through the Initiative must adhere to the directives of PEI's Chief Public Health Office regarding COVID-19 (approved project activities must be revised if recommendations change). Applicants are responsible for ensuring that activities comply with the directives of the Chief Public Health Office.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Mi'kmaq First Nations and other Indigenous Organizations; and Community Organizations with a registered charity number, business number, and/or incorporated number.

Note: The projects administered by approved applicants must aim to be directly inclusive of (i.e., support) one or more of the groups of people listed above.

Note: Applications should include letters of support from partnering organizations

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Support for Food and other eligible costs for community fridges.
- Seeds and other eligible costs for establishing and maintaining community gardens, greenhouses or indoor gardens.
- Eligible costs associated with community meals
- Other expenses as deemed eligible by a review committee

Note: Eligible applicants are encouraged to suggest projects and activities that work towards community food security outcomes.

INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- Provincial branding activities.
- For profit or fundraising activities or events
- Individual conference attendance costs, including registration, out-of-province travel, accommodations, etc.;
- Organizational overhead fees;
- Expenses related to outdoor community gardens are no longer eligible after September 1, 2022.
- Administration fees
- Prizes or contest moneys;
- Scholarships and/or bursaries; and
- Gift cards

FUNDING

- 100% of assistance up to \$10,000 per project is available for eligible expenses
- The Department reserves the right to consider additional amounts for funding on a **case-by-case** basis.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

- Applications may be submitted as of May 30, 2022.
- All projects must be implemented, completed and claims submitted no later than March 15, 2023

APPLICATION AND APPROVAL PROCESS

Applications must meet the eligibility criteria and submit a complete application to the Department of Agriculture and Land for review and approval.

CLAIM PROCESS

Applicants shall maintain an accurate record of expenditures incurred and shall submit, upon completion of the project, the following:

- a financial statement summarizing expenditures
- copies of all paid invoices with verification of payment
- a brief report on the project and its results in terms of meeting applicant and program objectives/purpose
- photos of funded material funded, when feasible, copies of material produced

EVALUATION AND CONTROL

A complete evaluation of this program is planned to ensure that the objectives and results are achieved and to assess the relevance of its renewal. Program metrics are collected and reported on an on-going basis.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Approved projects must be completed within the fiscal year.

- Applicants must meet the eligibility criteria and submit a complete application to the Department of Agriculture and Land.
- Applications will be assessed on a first come-first serve basis for merit and impact.
- Expenses incurred prior to May 30, 2022 are not eligible for assistance under this program.
- If the project is not approved, all incurred costs are the responsibility of the applicant.
- Assistance will be available until the fiscal year (March 31st) or until funds are totally allocated within that year, whichever comes first.
- Projects may be funded below the maximum contribution rate upon assessment and availability of funding.

PROGRAM TERMINATION

This program is effective May 30, 2022 and will terminate on March 31, 2023. This program may be altered or discontinued without notice by the Minister of Agriculture and Land.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Wherever possible, the needs of under-represented groups, including Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, and persons with disabilities, were considered during program development.

HOW TO APPLY

Completed applications may be submitted to the attention of the **Island Community Food Security Initiative** via regular mail or email at:

E-Mail Applications:

Applications may be submitted via email at DeptAgLand@gov.pe.ca
Please include the program name in the subject line.

Regular Mail

PEI Department of Agriculture and Land
45 East Drive, PO Box 8
O'Leary, PE
C0B 1V0
Phone: 902-859-0004
Fax: 902-859-8709

Rev. 08312022

