



Weather Station Assistance Program Guidelines

2022-2023

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Programs

74 Research Drive

Bible Hill, Nova Scotia B6L 2R2

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CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL PARTNERSHIP (CAP)

The governments of Canada and Nova Scotia are committed to ensuring farmers and processors have the tools they need to innovate, grow and prosper. The *Canadian Agricultural Partnership* agreement is part of a commitment by federal, provincial and territorial governments to promote productivity and profitability for the sector. The programs are designed to help the industry position itself to respond to future opportunities and to realize its full potential as a significant contributor to the economy. Programs are also tailored with the flexibility to meet diverse regional requirements.

The partnership is a five-year, \$3-billion investment by federal, provincial and territorial governments that aims to strengthen the agriculture and agri-food sector and ensure continued innovation, growth and prosperity. The partnership includes \$1 billion for federal activities and programs, and \$2 billion in cost-shared programs delivered by provinces and territories on a 60-40 basis. In Nova Scotia, \$37 million will be invested through provincially delivered programs focusing on Markets and Trade; Science, Research and Innovation; Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change; Risk Management; Value Added Agriculture and Agri-Food Processing; and Public Trust.

In addition to cost-shared strategic initiatives, the partnership includes several business risk-management programs to help farmers manage risks that threaten the viability of their farms.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Weather Station Assistance program is to encourage producers to embrace on-farm weather station technology and adopt tools that allow them to fully utilize the data gathered. This will strengthen the industry and empower producers to make the necessary proactive management decisions to mitigate the impacts of climate change and adverse weather conditions.

ELIGIBILITY

Farm:

- currently and properly registered in the correct income category under the *Farm Registration Act*.
- applicant is at least 19 years of age and actively farming in the program year.

Agricultural Industry Association:

- represents identifiable Nova Scotia agriculture and agri-food products; and
- demonstrates not-for-profit status by providing documentation.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Weather stations must be purchased from Perennia. An evaluation matrix with key variables will be used to generate funding assistance for applicants. Assistance will range from 30% to 70% of the cost of the weather station, based on this evaluation matrix, and will be provided in the Letter of Agreement.

Note: No more than 100% of non-repayable funding can be received for any eligible project cost incurred and paid for by the applicant, regardless of source. No funding can be received for similar projects from other Nova Scotia Government sources. Applicants are required to disclose all funding sources.

Applicants shall:

- prepare and maintain the chosen site for the weather station as required.
- purchase hardware replacements as required.
- allow the weather data to remain open-sourced for use by the farmer, Perennia and other public-interest users for 5 years.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for the Weather Station Assistance program, complete and submit the Application. Late applications will not be accepted.

Application Intake
March 15, 2022 – April 30, 2022

Note 1: Clients new to Programs since 2018 must complete the Program Funding Registration form. Returning clients must update the form as needed with any changes to business information including contact information, structure, commodities, environmental farm plan and Premise ID.

Note 2: Applications are limited to one application per farm for the duration of the program.

Note 3: Applications will be processed and scored via the evaluation matrix and farms with the highest scores being eligible for funding.

APPROVAL PROCESS

Applications are assessed based on the application provided. If an application requires further assessment or information, Programs staff will follow up with the applicant.

AUTHORITY

NSDA shall have the authority to deny an application if there is evidence of misrepresentation of pertinent information or if NSDA believes that an application does not conform to the spirit of the Program.

EVALUATION AND AUDIT

Review and evaluation of projects may be carried out by NSDA, Government of Canada or other parties chosen by NSDA for the purpose of audit, analysis, evaluation, program development and determining financial assistance. This review and evaluation process may be conducted prior to project commencement, during work or upon project completion. Applicants may be asked to complete an evaluation survey related to their final claim.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Applicants consent to the release of their name and the amount of support received under the Program. This specific information is deemed to be public information, to be actively disseminated by NSDA. NSDA may provide any information from an applicant to another public body or a law-enforcement agency in Canada to assist in an investigation, undertaken with a view to a law-enforcement proceeding or from which a law-enforcement proceeding is likely to result. Any other information provided, unless disclosed in the manner and for the purposes stated above, will be subject to the confidentiality and disclosure provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please submit all documents related to the Weather Station Assistance Program to Programs at the address, email or fax number below. For more information about the Program, please contact Programs or your regional office.

Programs
 74 Research Drive
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 Fax: 902-893-7579
 Email: prm@novascotia.ca

Programs: Telephone: 902-893-6377 Toll Free: 1-866-844-4276		
Western Region Offices	Cornwallis	902-638-2395
	Kentville	902-679-6021
	Lunenburg	902-634-7575
Eastern Region Offices	Truro	902-893-6575
	Antigonish	902-863-7180
	Sydney	902-563-2000