

Fiona Agriculture Disaster Assistance Guidelines Greenhouse Replacement Program

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture

Objective

This program will help greenhouse growers in the replacement of structures damaged by Hurricane Fiona. Support will be provided to growers who wish to remain active in the upcoming season through the replacement and improvement of structures. Assistance will be provided to support purchase and construction of heated greenhouses, unheated greenhouses and grow tunnels.

Eligibility

Applicants must be at least 19 years of age, be actively farming and be the owners of a registered farm. The damage of loss that is referenced in the application must be tied to the Hurricane Fiona Disaster period of September 23 and 24, 2022.

Financial Assistance

For greenhouse structures, funding is available for each applicant and will be based on the square footage of their damaged greenhouse structure(s):

Stream 1: Heated Greenhouses will be supported up to \$10/square ft.

Stream 2: Unheated Greenhouses will be supported up to \$7.50/square ft.

Stream 3: Grow Tunnels will be supported up to \$5/square ft.

Eligible Expenses

These include, but are not limited to:

- Commercial grade heated greenhouse kits, commercial grade unheated greenhouse kits, commercial grade tunnels (high, low, or mini tunnels) or hydroponic technologies
- Plastic, polycarbonate; row or thermal covers; steel structures; heating, ventilation, electrical, plumbing, anchoring systems, other related building supplies and irrigation system for season extension technologies.
- Equipment and tools used to monitor and control climatic conditions and irrigation in Controlled Environment Agriculture facilities (greenhouses and indoor production)
- Labour costs related to installation and other costs at the discretion of the department.
 - o Contracted Labour
 - o In-Kind Labour with maximum assistance of 70 hours @ \$15/hour

Note 1: It is recommended that new structures be constructed to meet industry standards and off-season weather conditions.

Note 2: A quote for estimated cost of replacement structures and eligible equipment should be submitted with the application.

Note 3: Both in-kind and contracted labour that is related to the construction of new structures is eligible for funding.

Note 4: Cost estimates and eligible equipment will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Application Process

Applications to Fiona Agriculture Disaster Assistance program must be received by **February 24, 2023**.

Initial Quotation Deadline: March 15, 2023

Ineligible Expenses

These include but are not limited to:

- costs related to normal commercial expansion;
- direct income support;
- energy sources to operate irrigation systems;
- normal business operational costs;
- refundable portion of the GST/HST, value-added taxes, or other items for which a refund or rebate is receivable;
- other costs that NSDA deems ineligible;
- plastic and biodegradable materials that are used for a one-year growing season;
- used equipment.

Approval Process

1. If you have not previously completed a Fiona Agricultural Disaster Assistance intake form please complete and submit the intake form found here: [fada-application.pdf \(novascotia.ca\)](https://novascotia.ca/fada-application.pdf)
2. A case manager assigned to your file will contact you
3. For applicants who have previously applied, your case manager will assist in gathering of any outstanding items.
4. If approved, applicants will receive a **Letter of Agreement** outlining the eligible project activities, assistance offered, and the terms and conditions under which assistance is approved.
5. Review, sign and return the LOA to Programs within the date specified on the agreement.

Payment Holdback: Initial reimbursement will be at 50% subject to confirmation of payment through purchase order with the supplier. Final payment to be released at completion of the greenhouse replacement project.

The Department of Agriculture has the sole discretion to determine eligibility of applicants, verify damage, loss, and expenses, and approve payments. Payments cannot be assigned or deferred. Assistance streams and funding sources are subject to change as work progresses to maximize support to the industry. Financial assistance may come from multiple funding sources and an applicant may receive more than one payment.

Form Submission

Completed forms may be submitted in one of the following ways:

Email: fada@novascotia.ca

Mail: Fiona Agriculture Disaster Assistance

74 Research Drive Bible Hill, NS B6L 2R2

Fax: (902) 893-7579

For more information or assistance please send an email to the address above or call 902-890-0542