

Food News

May 2022

Webinars, events and programs

Excellence in Manufacturing Consortium (EMC) – Hiring New Canadians Event

May 4, 2022 – 11 a.m.

EMC members are having difficulty finding people to fill their job openings. Jim Estill, CEO of EMC member company Danby Appliances, will share how they have implemented a program to hire new Canadians and refugees. The program has been a win-win; Danby has given people a start in Canada and in turn, they work and contribute to Canada and Danby. Jim will talk about the Ease into Canada program they have developed with a focus on English as a Second Language and safety training needed to bring people up to speed to work in Canada. Discussion will touch on how refugees are brought into Canada, what they require, what agencies Danby used to help, and the government programs available. RSVP for this event [here](#).

Awesome Virtual Accelerator – Apply for Cohort 4!

Program runs September to November 2022

Application Deadline: August 12, 2022

Canada's food and beverage processing industry amounted to \$117.8 billion in 2019. Food processing is the largest manufacturing employer in Canada and provides employment for 290,000 Canadians. Women play a vital role in growing the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector. The proportion of women-led and women-owned businesses in Canada, from farm to table, continues to increase. However, women remain underrepresented in the food sector. The AWESOME Accelerator provides 10 weeks of focused learning, sales development and connections for women food processing business entrepreneurs in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba with emerging businesses. With support from Prairies Economic Development Canada and Farm Credit Canada, the Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre is able to offer this program free of charge to businesses that are women-owned and led. Apply for cohort 4 and find more information [here](#).

Government of Canada – Scientific Research and Experimental Development Program

The Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Program uses tax incentives to encourage

Canadian business of all sizes and in all sectors to conduct research and development (R&D) in Canada. These tax incentives come in three forms: an income tax deduction, an investment tax credit, and, in certain circumstances, a refund. The [SR&ED Program](#) provides more than \$3 billion in tax incentives to over 20,000 claimants annually, making it the single largest federal program that supports business R&D in Canada. The program is administered by the Canada Revenue Agency.

Government of Canada – Canada Digital Adoption Program

How Canadians do business has changed. To stay competitive and grow, small and medium-sized businesses need to adopt new digital tools. In Budget 2021, the Government of Canada announced the \$4 billion Canada Digital Adoption Program to help get your business online, give your e-commerce presence a boost or help digitalize your business's operations. The program provides funding and support to businesses, as well as training and work opportunities for young Canadians. More information and to find out which grant your business is eligible for, check [here](#).



Funding

Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) in Alberta

CAP is a five-year, \$3 billion federal-provincial-territorial investment in the agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector that began in April 2018. Programs are now

accepting applications with a streamlined CAP grant process to make it easier for producers and processors to access funds. The following program is now accepting applications from Alberta's value-added food processors and bio-industrial processors:

- [Value-added Program](#) (Intake Period: April 11 to May 24, 2022)

For more information on this program, as well as other non-processor related programs, please visit [CAP Alberta](#).

Government of Canada – Trade Commissioner Service: CanExport SMEs

Now accepting new applications for projects starting after April 1, 2022.

CanExport SMEs provides up to \$50,000 to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) registered in Canada for international business development activities. The program, open to all industry sectors, focuses on export marketing activities of existing products and services in foreign markets. CanExport SMEs supports exploratory activities as well as activities that contribute toward a longer-term strategy for internationalization. View the applicant's guide and apply [here](#).

Resources

Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development (AFRED): two new video resources have been added to the Agri-Processing Business Resources Webpage

- [Getting into Retail is Hard. Staying in is Even Harder \(video\)](#)
- [Distributors and Brokers – Are You Ready to Work With Them? \(video\)](#)

Looking for information on starting or growing your agri-processing business?

Entrepreneur and business resources are available on Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development's [Agri-Processing Business Resources webpage](#).

Alberta Food Processors Association (AFPA)

AFPA Co-Packing Sector Survey

Survey Deadline: May 9, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.

Do you offer co-packing services in Alberta? Are you a food, beverage, natural health, or personal care manufacturer operating in Alberta? AFPA would like to invite you to complete a survey to help create a sector profile of the co-packing industry and understand how we can better support co-packers and manufacturers in Alberta. The agri-food and agriculture sectors significantly contribute toward a well-diversified economy in Western Canada and co-packing businesses, food, beverage, natural health, or personal care manufacturers all play an integral role to support and grow this sector. We recognize that if you are a co-packer you may have received a survey from Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development in March 2022. While the topic and some questions may be similar, the purpose and scope of the projects are different. We do apologize in advance for any duplication between the two surveys and ask that you do take the time to complete this survey. This survey is being delivered through a partnership between AFPA and Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan) and can be found [here](#).

Food Safety Training

Upcoming Courses (virtual instructor led):

- GMP, Preventative Controls & HACCP Implementation (with exam). This course is recognized by the International HACCP Alliance – June 15-16
- Ask us Anything live – June 1 in Calgary or June 3 in Edmonton. More information [here](#).
- Consulting is also available as well as GAP assessments or Internal Audits.
- https://afpa.com/fsq_courses

Workplace Health & Safety Training

- Roles & Responsibilities for Managers & Supervisors – May 11
- Full course schedule (offering in person or virtually instructor led) available here: https://afpa.com/whs_courses

Consulting is also available to create, develop, and implement your health and safety management system, all 10 elements as well as onsite training! One-stop for industry-specific online self-paced learning content at afpaondemand.com.

Reach out to melody@afpa.com for additional information or questions.