



BeeBC

PROGRAM GUIDE

1. Program Overview

The Bee BC Program will provide up to \$100,000 in funding over two years to support small scale regional/community-based projects to research, explore, field-test and share information about best management practices associated with bee health.

2. Objective

The objective of the Bee BC Program is to enhance bee health throughout the province. Bee health is important, not only for the production of honey, but also for the contribution that bees make to the pollination of many crop species and to the wider environment.

The program will focus on assisting regional or community-based organizations, beekeeping associations and/or beekeepers to contribute to the overall health of bees in the Province. Up to \$5,000 per project is available through the Bee BC Program to assist with project costs.

3. Timelines

- Applications can be submitted starting on May 29, 2018.
- Successful applicants will be notified within approximately 2 weeks of receipt of their completed application.
- Project related expenditures cannot start before they are approved and a contribution agreement is signed by the applicant and IAF.
- All approved projects must be completed by Feb 15, 2019.

4. Eligible participants, projects and costs

Eligible Participants

- Regional/community beekeeping associations or groups
- Beekeepers with permitted hives
- Groups of beekeepers with permitted hives working together
- First Nations/Indigenous Peoples organizations

What types of projects are eligible?

- Eligible project activities include research, exploration, and field testing of bee health related best management practices.

- Both *conventional* and *new/innovative* bee health best management practices are eligible.
- Examples of eligible activities include:
 - purchasing a new piece of equipment and implementing it into your bee health strategy;
 - implementing a best management practice such as beehive equipment irradiation;
 - introducing pollen substitutes and/or supplements into your bee health strategy; and/or
 - seeding and planting new bee forage that offers nectar and pollen.

Ineligible projects:

- Projects that are not directly focused on bee health – e.g.
 - Regular activities related to commercial honey production
 - Business development activities
 - Marketing, promotional or market development activities
- Regular or on-going maintenance of bee colonies
 - Such as the purchase of standard equipment to maintain a bee colony

5. Budget Considerations

Project Funding

- Available program funding will not exceed \$5,000 in funding contribution from the Province per project. Participants must additionally contribute a minimum of 20% of funding requested from the Province. In-kind contributions from Participants are eligible to be applied to towards their 20% contribution.

Eligible Costs

- Costs to research, explore, and/or field-test a conventional or new management strategy/practice – e.g.
 - Costs for new equipment, technology, etc. to enhance bee health;
 - Transportation costs of beehive equipment for irradiation;
 - Costs for pollen substitutes and/or supplements; and/or
 - Costs for seeding and planting of new bee forage.

Ineligible Costs

- Ineligible costs include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Any cost not specifically required for the execution of a project;
 - Normal costs of establishing or maintaining a bee colony or commercial honey operation, including costs to maintain compliance with requirements of law that pertain to current business operations;
 - Beekeeper wages, salaries, benefits, stipends, etc.
 - Also includes staff wages, salaries, benefits, stipends, etc. of a beekeeper
 - Purchase of land, building and facilities;
 - Lease of land, buildings and facilities
 - Financing charges, loan interest payments, bank fees, and charges;
 - Any cost, including a tax that is eligible for a rebate, credit or refund (including a refundable portion of the Government Sales Tax);
 - Gifts and incentives;

- Permits and approvals;
- Legal fees;
- Costs incurred before the approval of the project or after the project completion date;
- Costs related to activities that directly influence or lobby any level of government.

6. Reporting and Evaluation

Reporting

- Program participants will be required to submit a final report to IAF on their project, including:
 - a brief description of the bee health issue that the project was focused on;
 - a brief description of the best management practice researched, explored and/or field-tested;
 - the results and findings; and,
 - recommendations for other beekeepers facing a similar bee health issue.

7. Approval and Agreement

- Successful applicants will be required to enter into a contribution agreement with IAF that sets out the terms and conditions of the project, including funding.
- An initial payment of Bee BC Program funding will be provided to successful applicants once they've signed their contribution agreement.
- A final payment of Bee BC Program funding will be made upon receipt by IAF of a completed project report and financial documentation to support project expenditures (e.g. receipts).
- Funding is application and project-specific and may not be transferred from an approved application to a new proposal or used for purposes other than the approved project.

8. Selection Criteria

The completed Application Form must be submitted by email to bbaehr@iafbc.ca.

In addition to eligibility criteria, selection criteria will take the following into consideration:

- Alignment with the Bee BC Program objective.
- Geographic representation: in selecting projects, IAF may select projects to represent BC's different regions. Projects based in the same region may be encouraged to partner.
- Projects which include partnerships with local, regional or First Nations governments may be prioritized.
- Projects which engage youth may be prioritized.
- Available funds.

9. Contact

For more information please contact: Brian Baehr

Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC

www.iafbc.ca

bbaehr@iafbc.ca

250.860.2967

Funding for the Bee BC Program is provided by the Province of British Columbia.

