

ABP & SCAIDF Call for Letters of Intent

Status: Open

Deadline: April 20, 2018



As part of the Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association Industry Development Fund (SCAIDF) application process, Alberta Beef Producers (ABP) and the Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association (SCA) will be partnering on proposals related to Animal Health and Welfare and Forage and Grassland Productivity.



Proposals submitted to SCAIDF that meet the targeted priorities in those key areas, as listed below, may be reviewed by both ABP and SCA's research committees, and go through the complete letter of intent, full proposal, and peer review process prior to final funding decisions. On the SCAIDF application form, please indicate, using the checkbox provided, whether you wish your proposal to be considered by both organizations, provided the proposed project meets the targeted research priorities below. The SCAIDF application form will be used as the letter of intent.

The purpose of this \$150,000 targeted call for proposals is to focus on specific priority areas benefiting Alberta and Saskatchewan's cattle producers. The targeted priority areas have been established based on producer and expert analysis of significant knowledge and/or technology gaps that require additional research.

Targeted Research Priorities:

- Animal Health and Welfare
 - Investigate cost effective and practical technologies or management practices to mitigate the adverse animal health and welfare effects of mycotoxin infected feed
 - Develop and promote cost-effective vaccination and/or management strategies that can be widely adopted throughout beef production systems to improve health, and reproductive outcomes.
- Forage and Grassland productivity
 - Develop new annual and perennial grass and legume varieties with improved stand longevity, quality, yield and adaptability through traditional and/or advanced plant breeding techniques
 - Identify or develop improved grazing and range management strategies that optimize forage and beef production from native range, tame perennial pastures, and/or annual/perennial mixtures; along with agronomic and economic benefits.

Research proposals will be evaluated for their likelihood to enhance the competitiveness and sustainability of Alberta and Saskatchewan's cattle producers over the short and long term, based on five criteria:

- Relevance to the identified research priorities stated above,
- Scientific merit, including statistical power calculations and economic analysis where applicable,
- A clear communication and technology transfer plan to facilitate the uptake of research by the beef industry, and to communicate results to the public and policy makers,
- Potential for impact on profitability, productivity and/or sustainability,

- Inventiveness and originality for one-off projects, or an explicit explanation of how the project fits into a larger research program.

Projects may be between 1 and 3 years in duration, with a maximum of \$50,000 per project, regardless of project duration.

All proposals submitted must follow the guidelines outlined in the *Instructions & Guidelines for Submitting a Letter of Intent & Research Proposal* document, posted on the SCA & ABP websites at <http://www.saskbeef.com/research--innovation.html> and <http://www.albertabeef.org/page/research>

Deadline for submission is **April 20, 2018**.