

# PROVISION COALITION

PROCESSING FOOD SUSTAINABLY

## **Funding Assistance for Sustainability Available to Food and Beverage Manufacturers**

*Capacity Building Funding Assistance is now available to Manufacturers  
for Sustainability Planning, Education/Training and Audits*

### **For immediate release**

June 26, 2013

**Guelph, ON** – Fantastic news for the food and beverage manufacturing industry; to help with vital sustainability projects, Ontario manufacturers can now apply for funding through the Growing Forward 2 *Capacity Building Funding Assistance for Processors* program. As the leading voice on sustainability for food and beverage manufacturers, Provision Coalition has been working hard to demonstrate the importance of sustainability programs to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) and is pleased to see such a positive outcome.

Delivered by OMAF through Growing Forward 2 (GF2), a federal-provincial-territorial initiative, eligible applicants can secure funding to help improve their sustainability performance through: best business and leadership practices; using energy, water and other inputs efficiently; being better able to adapt to climate change; maximizing labour productivity; accessing new and emerging markets; retaining and expanding existing markets; marketing products that meet buyer demand through adoption of assurance systems, and/or improved risk identification, response and management. Cost-share funding is available to successful applicants covering 50 per cent of eligible project costs, up to \$350,000, over the five year duration of GF2.

This funding will provide manufacturers with the financial support necessary to create and deliver sustainability projects, such as sustainability planning, employee engagement workshops and seminars, mentoring and coaching services and operational audits, to name a few. There is no limit to the number of applications that can be submitted, or the number of

projects that an applicant may undertake at a given time. Manufacturers can apply on-line at the Growing Forward 2 Client Portal ([ontario.ca/growingforward2](http://ontario.ca/growingforward2)).

“This is a great opportunity for the food and beverage manufacturing industry,” says Cher Mereweather, Executive Director of Provision Coalition. “Capacity Building Funding Assistance for Processors will provide much needed support for the development and delivery of important sustainability programs in our industry. We’ve been working closely with OMAF, and I am extremely pleased to see that food and beverage manufacturers will have access to this funding.”

### **About Provision**

Provision is a coalition of 11 member associations representing the sustainability interests of food and beverage manufacturing and input supply sectors in Canada. Providing valuable resources, programming and advocacy, Provision is the industry’s leading voice on sustainability. Provision utilizes science, economics and the expertise of its members to ensure the competitiveness and long-term prosperity of the industry. Founded in 2010 under the federal-provincial-territorial initiative Growing Forward, Provision helps its members enjoy the economic, environmental and social benefits that come with operating in a sustainable manner.

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