

Planning for Cluster 4 – Proposed Steps & Timelines

Subject to change; based on Cluster 3 experience and estimates from AAFC for Cluster 4

Activity	Timelines	
Commodity group Research and Innovation Strategy document review: ongoing discussions	2021	
Commodity group Research and Innovation Strategy: updates to priorities	Tree Fruit	
	Small Fruit	
	Potato	Fall 2021
	Greenhouse Vegetable Field Vegetable	
Finalize Priority Lists	Fall 2021	
Call for Expressions of Interest	December 1, 2021	
Deadline for EOIs	January 30, 2022	
Commodity Group review of EOIs (including discussions on possible Industry Contributions) & Decisions on Request for Proposals	February 2022	
Request for Proposals	February 15, 2022	
Deadline for Proposals (first draft, ready for peer review)	April 1, 2022	
Ongoing discussions on Industry Contributions (Letter of Support requests)	Spring 2022	
Peer Review Process	Spring & Summer 2022	
Project leads finalize proposals and project details, based on peer review results	Summer & Fall 2022	
Finalize details on Industry Contributions	Fall 2022	
Final deadline for all project details (budgets, workplans, summaries, etc.)	December 15, 2022	
Cluster 4 application is completed & submitted	January 2, 2023	

What to think about now

While it seems like we've really just started Cluster 3 and are far away from Cluster 4, research is long term and we need to be strategic about future priorities (industry's and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's) and activities.

- Review Cluster 3 activities (progress to date, possible outcomes, ongoing work, etc.)
- Review your commodity group's Research and Innovation Strategy
- Start discussions within your province/region about possible partners, including:
 - Researchers
 - funding contributors
 - Value chain participation

For more information on Cluster 3 and future projects, please visit CHC's website (<https://www.hortcouncil.ca/en/projects-and-programs/current-projects/>) or contact Amy Argentino (aargentino@hortcouncil.ca)