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Nova Scotia Business Inc.

Agrifood

There's always
something in season.

With a temperate climate, affordable land, and an innovative community—Nova Scotia has the right ingredients for a thriving agri-food industry.

Nova Scotia has established an international reputation as a reliable source of high-quality food, beverage and value-added ingredients. With over 2,000 businesses and approximately 12,000 jobs directly linked to industry, Nova Scotia produces an abundant supply of agricultural commodities and ingredients for export. In 2021, Nova Scotia exported \$403 million of agri-food products to more than 165 countries around the world. Nova Scotia is home to the world's largest supplier of frozen wild blueberries, North America's largest processor of frozen carrot products and the largest supplier of OMEGA-3 EPA/DHA to the global food and beverage industry.

About the sector

Cropland and Processing

With Nova Scotia's growing array of products, our modern agriculture and transportation infrastructure ensures customers receive exceptionally fresh and nutritious products quickly and efficiently. Nova Scotia's food manufacturing ranges from small cottage industries to internationally traded commodities, exporting products from artisanal cheeses to plant powders made from dried, surplus fruits and vegetables.

Nova Scotia's food processing industry serves a number of dietary niche markets with gluten-free, vegan/vegetarian, halal and kosher friendly products.

The industry's commitment to high quality, safe food is highlighted by the various food processor associations active in the province, including Taste of Nova Scotia, the Farmers' Markets of Nova Scotia, and the Canadian Food Exporters Association.

Agri-tech

Nova Scotia supports a globally recognized tech sector. The province is consistently exploring new ways to increase food production and processing while ensuring our world-class sustainable and safety standards are met.

The sector, and its facilities, are modernizing by testing and adopting innovative technology to respond to new opportunities and challenges. Research labs can be found throughout the province including:

- Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture
- Dalhousie University Smart Farm Innovation Hub
- Perennia
- Centre of Geographic Sciences (COGS)
- NSCC EATLab

Relevant programs and incentives:

- **Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Program:** This program provides tax incentives to encourage research and development in Canada. Administered by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), it is the largest single source of federal government support for industrial research and development.
- **Nova Scotia Research and Development Tax Credit:** This incentive mirrors the federal program, and provides an additional 15% tax credit to Nova Scotia corporations that incur qualified SR&ED expenditures made in Nova Scotia, as defined by the federal Income Tax Act.
- **Atlantic Innovation Fund:** This program aims to increase Atlantic Canada's innovation capacity by funding R&D projects linked to the commercialization of technology-based products, processes or services.
- **AgriScience Program:** This program provides up to \$5 million per eligible project in non-repayable contribution funding and collaborative research and development support for pre-commercial science activities and cutting-edge research that benefits the agriculture and agri-food sector and Canadians.

Learn more at novascotiabusiness.com/agrifood

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