



WHOLE FARM RESEARCH COMMITTEE CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTENT TO CONDUCT RESEARCH

*Manitoba Crop Alliance (MCA) is now accepting letters of intent (LOIs) for Whole Farm Research projects to begin in 2023. **LOIs will be accepted until Thursday, April 13, 2022.***

Special Call for MCA Whole Farm Priorities including:

- Crop rotation innovation.
- Rotation design considering nutrient-use efficiency, pest management, improved soil health, water-use efficiency and profitability (costs and benefits).
- Economic analyses for Manitoba rotation choices.
- Harvest management.
- Soil Health
 - Implications of cropping system practices on soil organic matter, soil biology and soil physics.
- Cover Crop and Intercropping
 - Options designed for Manitoba growing conditions.
- Pest Management: Weeds, Diseases and Insects
 - Optimize current tools and minimize resistance pressure.
 - Next generation control options.
 - Integration of digital tools.
- Water
 - Extremes of moisture (i.e., managing drought and flood).
 - Irrigation and drainage innovation.

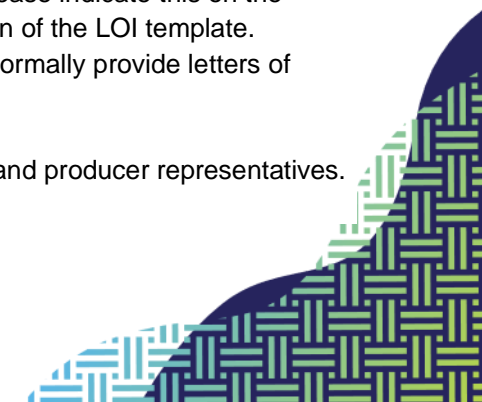
Here are some points to keep in mind when preparing your LOI:

1. MCA will consider proposals of up to five years in length related to grain production and value-added processing. **Projects must feature a minimum of two crop types, including at least one of MCA's focus crops.**
An overriding priority is improving profitability for Manitoba's barley, corn, flax, wheat or sunflower producers.
2. **General principles** for MCA Whole Farm Research funded projects are:
 - Innovative and forward-thinking.
 - Designed to answer farmers questions or resolve issues.
 - Solution-oriented, with actionable outcomes producers can implement in their operations.
 - A pathway to assess and integrate new/next technology into Manitoba cropping systems.
 - Another channel to communicate and collaborate with other organizations in Manitoba and across Canada.
 - An opportunity to enhance communication with consumers and the public.
3. If you are planning to submit a LOI this year, please review the eligibility criteria:





- Any person, business or organization with an idea that may be of practical value to Manitoba's grain producers is encouraged to submit an LOI. However, the principal investigator for the project should be a full-time, permanent employee at a Canadian public or private research organization.
 - Eligible expenses
 - Salaries (students, postdoctoral fellows, technical assistants).
 - Consultant fees.
 - Equipment rental.
 - Materials/supplies.
 - Project travel (conferences, field work, collaboration/consultation).
 - Publication costs.
 - Overhead costs to a maximum of 15 per cent of project costs.
 - For AAFC applicants only – Science Service Charges up to 10 per cent.
 - Ineligible expenses
 - Equipment purchases costing more than \$3,500.
 - Any other expenses not directly related to the MCA project.
4. Your LOI may be shared with MCA industry partners if you provide consent. Below is a list of industry partners that may review any LOI that is of interest to them for potential co-funding and/or technical review. Your LOI may also be shared with potential co-funders other than those listed. Your LOI will only be shared if your consent is given.
- When preparing your LOI, make yourself aware of the research priorities of these funding partners if your proposed research is targeted at their industries. Please visit their websites for more information:
- [Ag Action MB – Research & Innovation](#)
 - [Manitoba Pulse & Soybean Growers](#)
 - [Manitoba Canola Growers Association](#)
 - [Saskatchewan Barley Development Commission](#)
 - [Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission](#)
 - [Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission](#)
 - [Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission](#)
 - [Western Grains Research Foundation](#)
 - [Alberta Barley Commission](#)
 - [Alberta Wheat Commission](#)
5. Only include the amount of funding you are requesting from MCA and industry partners within your LOI. If you already have funding secured from these or other sources, please indicate this on the "Cash Contribution from Other Sources" or "In-Kind Contributions" section of the LOI template. Industry partners who are interested in co-funding through MCA do not normally provide letters of support for LOIs or full proposals.
6. Please keep in mind that your LOI will be reviewed by technical experts and producer representatives.





7. Your title and objectives sections should be in plain language and within the character limits of the application system:
 - Title: no more than 100 characters long.
 - Objectives: no more than 1,000 characters long (fewer is preferred). When possible, limit your list to fewer than four objectives, all of which are focused on the primary goals of the project.

8. Description and project context
 - Please be consistent and avoid duplication.
 - When possible, limit to fewer than 500 words.

For more information about the Whole Farm Research Program, please visit mbcropalliance.ca/projects/whole-farm-research.

For information about funded Whole Farm Research projects beginning in 2022, please [visit our blog](#).

About Manitoba Crop Alliance:

Manitoba Crop Alliance is a non-profit organization established August 1, 2020 representing over 9,000 farmer-members. Manitoba Crop Alliance puts their farmer-members first and strives to continuously improve the competitiveness and profitability of all crops represented by the organization by focusing on four main areas: research, agronomy, market access and development, and communications. It is through investment in these key areas that Manitoba Crop Alliance can ensure wheat, barley, corn, sunflower and flax are sustainable production choices for Manitoba farmers. For more information, visit mbcropalliance.ca.

For more information, please contact:

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