



## Backgrounder

### CANADA-NEW BRUNSWICK WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The \$1.9 million Canada-New Brunswick Water Management Program (CNBWMP) represents the province's portion of the National Water Supply Expansion Program (NWSEP). The NWSEP is a \$60-million program administered by the Government of Canada, in partnership with provincial and territorial governments. The NWSEP aims to help Canada's agricultural community meet water management challenges through expanded and sustainable rural water supply and drainage infrastructure.

CNBWMP will provide \$1,800,000 in federal funding in partnership with the Government of New Brunswick, for agricultural water management projects. The program will run until March 31, 2008.

#### CNBWMP Eligibility

Individual farmers must have a valid Environmental Farm Plan in order to be eligible for the Canada-New Brunswick Water Management Program. The program provides assistance for surface and sub-surface water control on agricultural land as well as for on-farm water supply and management infrastructure such as on-farm ponds, wells and pipelines.

To be eligible, projects must have an agricultural water management component. Eligible applicants for CNBWMP assistance include individual and/or incorporated groups of farmers, conservation groups, rural communities and municipalities, agri-businesses and rural enterprises, and educational institutions. Producers must have a validated Environmental Farm Plan to be eligible for assistance for infrastructure projects under Tier 1 and 2 components of the program. Non-agricultural applicants must include agricultural partners in the project.

Three types of projects are eligible for assistance:

- (Tier 1) **On-farm Infrastructure** – Up to \$1,500,000 for individual on-farm water management infrastructure projects (e.g. water wells, off-stream storage, drainage, etc.) that enhance the management of water through secure, safe and reliable water supplies for agricultural producers, or drainage. Approved on-farm infrastructure projects are eligible for a one-third cost share from the CNBWMP up to a maximum contribution of \$5,000 per project and are subject to a maximum contribution of \$15,000 per applicant.
- (Tier 2) **Multi-user Infrastructure** – Up to \$100,000 for multi-user infrastructure projects (e.g. multi-farm irrigation or drainage infrastructure) that enhance water management capability on farms. Approved multi-user infrastructure projects are eligible for a one-third cost share from the CNBWMP up to a maximum contribution of \$50,000.
- (Tier 3) **Strategic Initiatives** – Up to \$200,000 for projects that expand the knowledge base of the resource (e.g. regional groundwater/surface water studies, feasibility studies and information extension activities), including support for agricultural water management-related organizations and activities. Approved multi-user projects are eligible for up to 100 per cent of CNBMP funding up to a maximum contribution of \$100,000 per project.

The New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture will deliver the Program. Information on the Program is available at the office of NBDFA in your area.