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## NEWS RELEASE

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### British Columbia Environmental Farm Plan Program Continues.

**ABBOTSFORD, BC – June 5, 2018:** The B.C. Agricultural Research & Development Corporation (ARDCorp) will continue to deliver the Environmental Farm Plan Program (EFP) on behalf of the governments of Canada and British Columbia.

Funding for this program is provided by the new Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year 3-billion-dollar investment by Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments that aims to support the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector.

"The Government of Canada is proud to partner with British Columbia to keep the agriculture and agri-food sector strong and innovative. This important investment will continue to support B.C. producers' efforts to safeguard the environment and improve their bottom lines by identifying more practical and efficient ways to manage their farming operations," says Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food. "By adopting best practices, producers are helping to improve the health of our ecosystems and to sustain the sector's prosperity for future generations."

"People buy BC products because of their quality, and the sustainable methods used to produce them," said B.C. Agriculture Minister Lana Popham, "B.C. farmers and ranchers are natural stewards of the land, and the Environmental Farm Program helps continue that legacy, and ensure the land is well cared for and will continue to produce food for years to come."

"The Environmental Farm Plan program is a highly valued program for producers in B.C.," says Allen James, ARDCorp Board Chair. "It has assisted B.C. farmers and ranchers in making environmentally positive changes to B.C. farm practices for the past 15 years and we look forward to continued partnership in the delivery of this successful program."

Since its inception in 2003, over 5,000 farms have completed an Environmental Farm Plan in British Columbia. The program comes at no cost to producers and helps identify both environmental strengths and potential risks on a farm. Further, there are nearly twenty planning advisors located across the province that assist producers through their plans – which is unique to British Columbia.

The associated Beneficial Management Practices (BMP) program, which assists producers with funding to address environmental risks, is anticipated to re-open in mid-June. Program details will be available mid-June.

To read the governments' recent announcement, [click here](#)

*The B.C. Agricultural Research & Development Corporation (ARDCorp) leads innovation and delivers resources to improve the long-term profitability of B.C. farmers and ranchers with the vision to grow B.C. into the most dynamic and robust agricultural province in Canada. ARDCorp is the wholly owned subsidiary of the BC Agriculture Council (BCAC). Working with BCAC and provincial government, ARDCorp delivers effective, affordable programs and services that advance both the individual producer and entire agriculture sector while benefiting local communities. ARDCorp provides funding and assistance for a variety of producer-focused programs for which eligible BC farmers and ranchers are free to apply.*

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