



Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities Fall Conference

November 4, 2021



Atlantic Canada
Opportunities
Agency

Agence de
promotion économique
du Canada atlantique





Who we are

- Federal Regional Development Agency (RDA) for the Atlantic region
 - 1 of 7 across Canada
 - Stand-alone Minister, Ginette Petitpas-Taylor
- Core responsibility for economic growth, wealth creation and economic prosperity
- Offices in each Atlantic province
 - Head office - Moncton and Ottawa
- Nearly 600 employees across the region
 - Approximately 110 in NS

Points of Service in Nova Scotia



- We're on the ground in Nova Scotian communities, offering a customized, flexible approach
- Eleven service points throughout Nova Scotia
- Professional staff in tune with local needs
- Diverse and far-reaching network of partners and stakeholders



What we do

- Support the government's economic priorities
- Deliver programs for firms and communities
- Advocate for the interests of Atlantic Canada
- Develop relevant policies and programs
- Support federal-provincial collaboration



ACOA-NS Community & Inclusive Growth Focus

- Help support communities to capitalize on opportunities and their strength to diversify economically with an emphasis on supporting:
 - Inclusive economic growth
 - Indigenous economic development
 - Rural community infrastructure
 - Tourism
 - Skills / Labour
 - Immigration





Project attributes

- Clearly demonstrate linkages and partnerships within the community
- Be beneficial to the economic development of a community/region
- Be consistent with economic development plans/objectives
- Address challenges and opportunities of a community/region
- Lead to sustainable and viable economic activity
- Be incremental in nature
- Be of a fixed duration
- Demonstrate adequate managerial, financial and technical capability

ACOA Core Programs

Businesses

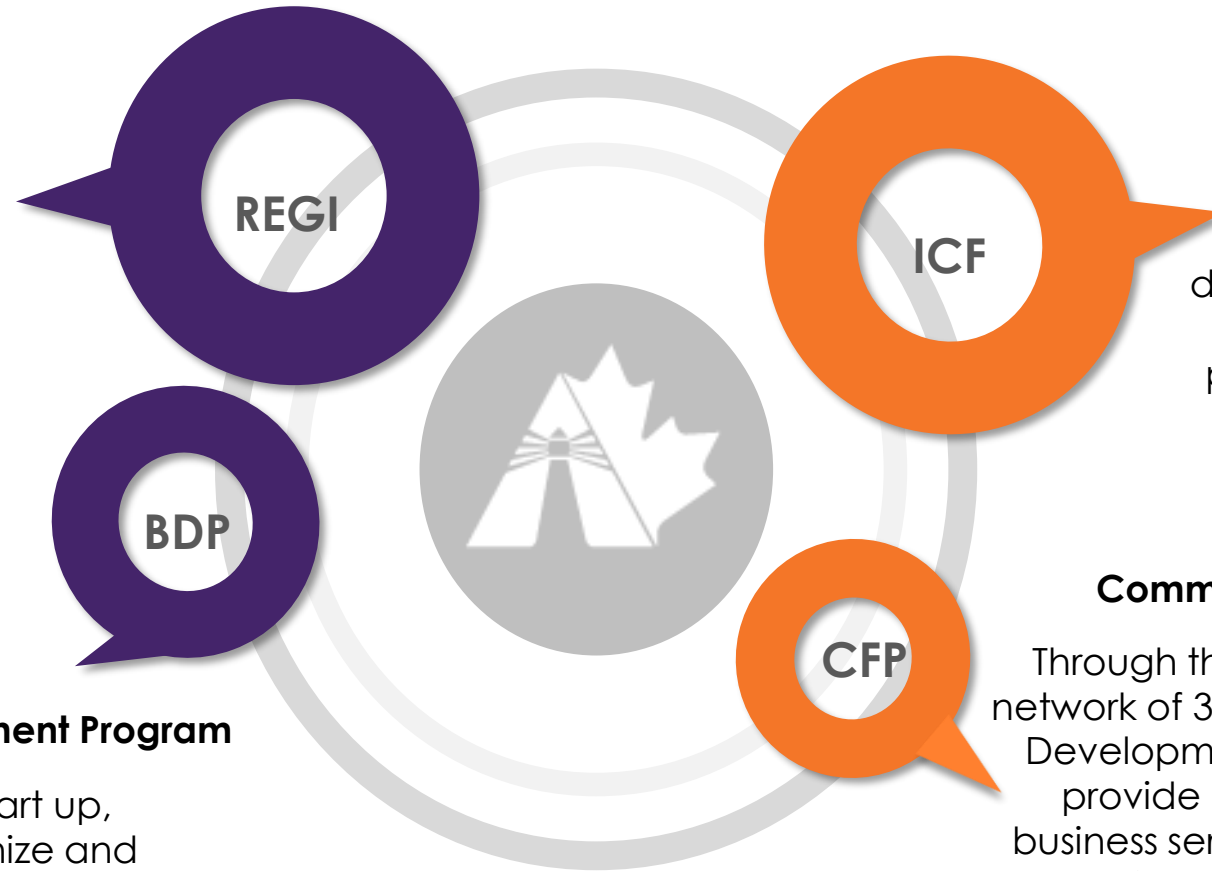
Regional Economic Growth through Innovation

Supports all innovation-related projects to start or grow innovation businesses and to develop regional ecosystems through two streams:

- Business Scale-up and Productivity
- Regional Innovation Ecosystems.

Business Development Program

Helps businesses start up, expand or modernize and improve their competitiveness.



Communities

Innovative Communities Fund

Invests in strategic economic and sector development planning and infrastructure projects that stimulate the vitality of mainly rural communities in Atlantic Canada.

Community Futures Program

Through the CFP, ACOA helps a network of 39 Community Business Development Corporations who provide access to capital and business services for SMEs and fills the gap in available financing and training for businesses in Atlantic Canadian rural areas.





Short-term Initiatives

Tourism Relief Fund

Supports tourism product development or tourism destination development on a regional basis.

Black Entrepreneurship Program

Support for black entrepreneurs to address systemic barriers.

Women Entrepreneurship Fund

Supports women entrepreneurs in a diversity of industries in their efforts to scale and grow their businesses, as well as pursue export-oriented projects.

Women Ecosystem Fund

Support communities to adapt community spaces and assets so that they may be used safely in accordance with local public-health guidelines, or to build or improve community infrastructure to encourage Canadians to re-engage in and explore their communities and regions.

Canada Community Revitalization Fund

Canada Coal Transition Initiative – Infrastructure

Supports skills development and economic diversification for workers and communities in regions phasing out coal.

Regional Relief and Recovery Fund

Support for businesses to recover from economic downturn due to COVID-19.

Jobs and Growth Fund

Support for job creators and the organizations that support them to future-proof their businesses, build resiliency and prepare for growth by transitioning to a green economy, fostering an inclusive recovery, enhancing competitiveness, and creating jobs.



Thank you !



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