

General Application Information

The Ecologically Sustainable Forestry Equipment Program (the “**Program**”) is intended to promote the adoption of sustainable forestry practices in the Province of Nova Scotia by assisting eligible forestry businesses in acquiring harvesting equipment suitable for ecologically sustainable harvesting practices.

In this Application, all capitalized terms shall have the meaning set forth in Schedule “A” attached hereto.

Program Administrator is under no obligation to extend any Grant(s) until a Grant Agreement is fully executed by Applicant and Program Administrator.

If Applicant needs more space for any of its answers herein, please attach a separate sheet of paper. On such paper, please provide the full answer, and indicate clearly which question is being answered.

Section 1: Applicant Information

Applicant Entity Name: _____

Type of Applicant Entity (sole proprietorship, company, partnership, etc.): _____

RJSC Registration Number (if applicable): _____

CRA Business Number: _____

Any business names Applicant Entity operates under (if different from above):

Applicant Entity Contact:

First Name: _____ Middle Name(s): _____ Last Name: _____

Registered Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

How many people does Applicant currently employ as operators? _____

Have all operators currently employed by Applicant completed Nova Scotia *Silvicultural Guide for the Ecological Matrix* training or equivalent? Yes No ¹

If yes, please provide name of provider and the date completed for each operator employee:

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¹ If no, such employees will need to agree to complete within twelve (12) months of Grant Agreement.

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Will Applicant (and its employees, contractors and/or Affiliates) be the only users/recipients of the Equipment?² Yes or No

If no, please provide the name of any additional users/recipients, and details of the proposed relationship with Applicant, and usage rights to the Equipment:

Is Applicant primarily engaged in Ecological Forestry related activities within the Province of Nova Scotia?³
Yes or No

How long has Applicant been engaged in forestry activities within the Province of Nova Scotia: _____

What is Applicant's current geographical area of service? _____

Does Applicant or any of its Affiliates, or any of their respective shareholders, directly or indirectly, carry on any work involving secondary processing of forestry products including, but not limited to, sawmill operations or pulp mills? Yes or No

If yes, please provide details:

Has Applicant or any of its Affiliates received any financing from, or otherwise granted any rights obligating Applicant or any of its Affiliates to issue or sell any shares of (or any other interest in) Applicant or any of its Affiliates, to any sawmill, pulp mill or any other mill business? Yes or No

² Any additional recipient/user of the Equipment will be required to submit its own Application.

³ "primarily engaged in Ecological Forestry related activities" means at least 75% of Applicant's revenue in the last 12-month period is from forestry related activities in the Province of Nova Scotia.

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If yes, please provide details:

Please list all Affiliates of Applicant Entity, and their jurisdictions of formation:

Describe Applicant’s current operation capacity and type of work Applicant currently carries out in the forestry sector:

Please provide details on current harvesting contracts (including number and types of prescriptions):

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To which companies and organizations does Applicant currently sell its lumber/wood product?

Please provide an estimate of annual production/output for this calendar year in tonnes.

Please list and provide details on Applicant’s current harvesting equipment inventory:

1) Harvesters

2) Forwarders

3) Others

Additional Materials Required

To support the Application, please provide a true copy of the following (as applicable):

- i) Document of Learning from NSCC’s course named “Striving for Equity and Building Bridges” completed by a representative of the Applicant Entity.
- ii) Applicant Entity’s registers of shareholders’/partners’ and individuals with significant control.
- iii) Applicant Entity’s certificate of status issued by Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stock Companies.
- iv) Financial statements of Applicant Entity for its most recently completed financial year prior to this Application.
- v) Please provide evidence that Applicant is registered with the Forestry Safety Society of Nova Scotia.
- vi) Please provide a valid third-party safety audit and certificate.

Section 2: Equipment Information/Grant Request⁴

Type of Equipment: _____

Make: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____⁵ Hours on Machine: _____

Serial Number of Equipment: _____

Location of Equipment (City and Province/Territory): _____

Condition of Equipment: New Used⁶ or Retrofit Improvements⁷

If Retrofit Improvements, when was original Equipment purchased by Applicant: _____⁸

If Retrofit Improvements, was vendor of original Equipment an Affiliate of Applicant: Yes or No ⁹

If Retrofit Improvements, have you assessed the feasibility of retrofitting Applicant's existing equipment compared to purchasing new Equipment? Yes or No If yes, please provide details of such evaluation:

If Retrofit Improvements, please provide details on how Equipment was selected:

Purchase Price of Equipment/Cost of Retrofit Improvements: \$ _____¹⁰

Amount of Grant Requested: \$ _____¹¹

Amount to be Financed: \$ _____

⁴ If applying for more than one (1) piece of Equipment (i.e. New, Used and/or Retrofit Improvements), please complete a Section 2 for each such Equipment and/or Program stream.

⁵ Must be a model year of 2019 or newer.

⁶ Used equipment must be operated for less than 15,000 hours at the time of purchase and must be a model year 2019 or newer.

⁷ Retrofit Improvements must be for equipment currently owned by the Applicant and which supports ecological forestry.

⁸ Must have been purchased on or after January 1, 2023.

⁹ Vendor cannot be an Affiliate of Applicant.

¹⁰ Applicants are eligible to receive, excluding HST, 35% of purchase price for new equipment (to maximum of \$250,000), 30% for used Equipment (to a maximum of \$150,000) and 50% of Retrofit Improvements (up to maximum of \$150,000).

¹¹ Must be a minimum of \$50,000 (for New or Used Equipment) or \$15,000 for Retrofit Improvements.

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Source(s) of Financing (Name and Address of lender), or, if not available at the time of Application, confirmation that such information is not yet available¹²:

Please use the EFEP Grant Calculator to calculate Grant and Remaining Balance amounts.

Remaining Balance of Purchase Price/Cost (after application of Grant and Financing): \$ _____

Source(s) to Fund Balance of Purchase Price: _____

Has Applicant previously received a Grant under the Program? Yes or No

If yes, how many: _____, and what is total value of previously issued Grants: \$ _____¹³

Does Applicant have access to qualified operator(s) to adequately operate the Equipment? Yes or No

If yes, please provide details:

How will the Equipment contribute to increasing productivity in Applicant's harvesting operations, and what specific metrics is Applicant anticipating in terms of output increase or harvesting time reduction?

¹² If information is unavailable at time of Application, it will be required prior to signing Grant Agreement.

¹³ An Applicant cannot be approved for more than two (2) Grant applications, and the maximum cumulative value of Grants received by any Applicant cannot exceed \$500,000.

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Is Applicant planning to add to its existing equipment fleet or replace current equipment with the proposed purchased Equipment? If replacing, could you provide details on the equipment being replaced and reasons for replacement?

How will the Equipment align with Applicant's long-term business objectives and strategies for advancing Ecological Forestry practices?

Please elaborate on how the Equipment aligns with ecological forestry principles and practices, particularly in terms of selective harvesting, habitat conservation, and ecosystem restoration?

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What specific features or technologies incorporated into the Equipment promote biodiversity conservation, soil health improvement, or minimization of environmental disturbance?

How does Applicant plan to measure and track productivity gains resulting from the use of the Equipment?

Please provide forecasted overview of use of Equipment:

Year after receipt of Grant	Utilisation in hours per year	Estimated volume per hour	Recording method
1 st			
2 nd			
3 rd			

Equipment Vendor Information:

Name of Vendor: _____¹⁴

Sales Representative (if applicable): _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Address of Vendor: _____

Quote Number/Reference (If applicable): _____

¹⁴ Vendor cannot be Affiliate of Applicant.

Additional Materials Required

To support the Application, please provide a true copy of the following items:

- i. Copy of Quote for Purchase of the Equipment from Dealership or a copy of the Private Equipment Purchase form for Private Sales.
- ii. Copy of the Sources for Financing Purchase of the Equipment (including commitment letters and conditional approval), or, if not available at the time of Application, confirmation that such information is not yet available.¹⁵
- iii. Copy of Appraisal of Equipment, or if, not available at the time of Application, confirmation that such information is not yet available.¹⁶
- iv. Screen Shot of Applicant’s CRA My Business showing no outstanding taxes payable.

Section 3: Knowledge and Experience in Ecological Forestry Practices

Applicant must demonstrate that they have sufficient knowledge of Ecological Forestry practices. Please provide a description of Applicant’s knowledge below:

Additional Materials Required

To further support the Application, please also submit a recent harvesting portfolio of Applicant which includes a minimum of 4 (maximum 6) Harvest Audits or Prescription Implementation Documents (PIDs).

¹⁵ If information is unavailable at time of Application, it will be required prior to signing Grant Agreement.

¹⁶ If information is unavailable at time of Application, it will be required prior to signing Grant Agreement.

Section 4: Additional Information

Please provide any additional information that may be relevant to the Application:

Section 5: Consent to Use of Personal Information

By signing and submitting this Application, Applicant consents and authorizes that Program Administrator shall share all relevant Applicant information with associated parties to the Program for the administration and maintenance of the Program.

By signing and submitting this Application, Applicant consents and authorizes Program Administrator to conduct such due diligence searches and inquiries as Program Administrator considers necessary for the purposes of evaluating this Application, including, without limitation, information from, or related to, Personal Property Security Acts, Bankruptcy & Insolvency legislation, Bank Act, litigation, Workers Compensation Board and Labour Standards matters, and Tax/CRA records. Applicant agrees to execute, in such form and substance required by Program Administrator, any additional required consents for Program Administrator to conduct its due diligence searches and investigations.

Section 6: Submission Instructions

The completed and signed Application can be submitted to Program Administrator by email to forestequipment@nsc.ca, with subject line “[Applicant Name] Application Submission”.

Section 7: Acknowledgement and Consent

Applicant confirms that all of the information provided in this Application is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief. Applicant acknowledges that any misinformation, misrepresentation, whether intentional or unintentional, may result in the rejection of the Application, and in the case of an approved Application, may result in the immediate repayment of the Grant by Applicant to Program Administrator, or any other remedies available at law to Program Administrator.

Name: _____

Position: _____

Applicant Entity (if applicable): _____

SCHEDULE “A” – DEFINITIONS

“**Affiliate**” means, with respect to any Person, any other Person that directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, Controls, is controlled by, or is under common Control with, such Person.

“**Applicant**” means the Person requesting a Grant by completing and submitting this Application.

“**Applicant Entity**” means any Applicant that is not an individual.

“**Application**” means this application and any additional documents required to be submitted in support of such application.

“**Control**” means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of a Person, whether through the ability to exercise voting power, by contract or otherwise; "controlling" and "controlled" have corresponding meanings.

“**Dollars**” or “**\$**” means the lawful currency of Canada, excluding HST.

“**Equipment**” means any equipment, whether new or used, and any retrofit improvements to equipment currently owned by Applicant, proposed to be purchased with the Grant being applied for pursuant to this Application.

“**Ecological Forestry**” means the implementation of forest harvesting practices in accordance with Nova Scotia’s *Silvicultural Guide to the Ecological Matrix*.

“**Grant**” means, as applicable, any grant(s) issued or applied for under the Program to assist in the purchase of the Equipment.

“**Grant Agreement**” means a grant agreement to be entered into by and between Applicant (if the Application is conditionally approved) and Program Administrator, specifying the terms and conditions of the Grant, in such form and substance as required by Program Administrator in its sole and absolute discretion.

“**HST**” means any taxes exigible pursuant to Part IX of the *Excise Tax Act* (Canada), including, for greater certainty, any taxes commonly referred to as goods and services tax (GST) and harmonized sales tax (HST).

“**Person**” means an individual, corporation, company, body corporate, partnership, joint venture, organization, trust, association or other entity.

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“**Program**” has the meaning ascribed under the “General Application Information” section of this Application.

“**Program Administrator**” means the Nova Scotia Community College, which is responsible for administering the Program.

“**RJSC**” means the Province of Nova Scotia’s Registry of Joint Stock Companies.