

Canada-Québec Support Initiative for Farm Enterprises Affected by Exceptional Hail Episodes in 2017

This year, several Québec regions experienced exceptional hail episodes that had a direct impact on farm enterprises. Beyond the major damage to crops and the loss in yield, farm enterprises assumed additional expenses to maintain or return to their normal farming operations. Due to these unusual circumstances, the governments of Canada and Québec developed an AgriRecovery initiative, the *Canada-Québec Support Initiative for Farm Enterprises Affected by Exceptional Hail Episodes in 2017*.

The initiative was designed to support enterprises by granting them financial support to cover a portion of the additional expenses incurred to maintain or return to their farming operations.

The AgriRecovery Framework intervenes when exceptional natural disasters occur. Financial support can therefore be granted only once for a same cause of damage over a period of fifteen years.

This support is complementary to the financial support offered by the [insurance and income protection programs](#) administrated by La Financière agricole du Québec (FADQ).

Eligible enterprises

To be eligible for this support, your farm enterprise must have registered with the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation (MAPAQ) and had areas totalling one half-hectare or more affected by hail during the 2017 crop season. These areas must be located in one of the zones affected by a hail episode in 2017, as defined by FADQ.

The impact from hail must have caused damage on at least 15% of all your affected crops and generated additional expenses to maintain or return to farming operations.

Your farm enterprise may be eligible for this support, whether or not you participate in one or other of the insurance or income protection programs administrated by La Financière agricole. If, however, you are already enrolled in crop insurance coverage, the support may be added to the compensation you could receive through that insurance program.

Do you think you may be eligible?

If your farm enterprise is eligible, you must:

- Obtain the application form for participation on the website of La Financière agricole du Québec;
- Complete the form and provide information about your affected crops;
- Send your application for participation to the service centre of La Financière agricole closest to you, by **February 28, 2018**.

If you are already enrolled in crop insurance coverage, this support will go above and beyond the compensation you could receive through that insurance program.

If you are already enrolled in crop insurance coverage and a notice of damage caused by hail was opened in your file during the 2017 season, La Financière agricole will contact you directly in the weeks following the announcement of the initiative.

Payment of financial support

The financial support comes in the form of a lump sum payment that could reach \$150,000 per farm enterprise. The amount, calculated by La Financière agricole, corresponds to a percentage (4%, 7% or 12%) of the eligible value of areas affected by hail. It is established based on a damage intensity factor assigned by crop and for the zone in which your affected areas are located.

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The financial support will be paid in one or two instalments for each eligible application.

1 800 749-3646 | www.fadq.qc.ca

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