

**Ministry of Agriculture,
Food and Rural Affairs**

**Ministère de l'Agriculture, de
l'Alimentation et des Affaires rurales**

Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

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March 23, 2018

Dear Mayor/Reeve/Warden:

Applications for the 2018 Premier's Award for the Agri-Food Innovation Excellence are now being accepted. Please share this information with your municipality.

The Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence was created to recognize and promote the spirit of innovation that thrives in Ontario's \$37 billion agri-food sector. Each year, our agri-food sector demonstrates remarkable leadership in innovation through the development of new products, methods of production and ways of conducting business.

Every year the program recognizes up to 50 award-winning innovations across the province, including the Premier's Award which is valued at \$75,000.

Primary producers, processors and agri-food organizations are invited to submit applications until May 25, 2018.

Details on eligibility, innovation categories, assessment criteria, and the application and selection process can be found in the enclosed 2018 program guidebook and application form or [online](#). For additional information, please contact the Agricultural Information Contact Centre at 1 877-424-1300 or ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca.

I have also enclosed a copy of a brochure which highlights the recipients of the 2017 program for the Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence.

I look forward to celebrating the great innovations developed in your municipality to grow our agri-food sector and Ontario's economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Leal".

Jeff Leal
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Minister Responsible for Small Business



Good Things Grow In Ontario
À bonne terre, bons produits

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