

An aerial photograph of the Simon Fraser University campus. The university buildings are situated on a hillside, surrounded by dense green forests. In the foreground, there are several large green sports fields with red running tracks. To the left, a wide river flows through a valley, with forested mountains in the background. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. In the top right corner, there is a red rectangular box containing the white text 'SFU'. On the left side, there is a large red banner with white text.

SFU

**SIMON FRASER
UNIVERSITY**

**A LEADING RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY**

IMPACTFUL PARTNERSHIPS HAPPEN HERE

Through access to shared infrastructure, expertise and talent, we are building partnerships to de-risk emerging technologies and maximize social economic impact—from cleantech, agritech, AI and computing, and more.





SFU

B.C. CENTRE FOR AGRITECH INNOVATION (BCCAI)

FERTILE GROUND

- BC has the **most diverse agriculture sector** in Canada with over 17,500 farms and 1,500 agribusinesses creating over 35,100 direct jobs
- BC's agriculture sector is facing **critical challenges**: climate change adaptation, increasing competitiveness, food security, long-term sustainability, and unfilled labour gaps
- At the same time, the public's perception on the value of local agriculture has changed, **increasing demand for local products**
- Opportunity for:
 - BC farms to increase **value-added processing capacity**, attract investments, and foster long-term sustainability.
 - **Universities and SMEs to lead development of innovative solutions** and technologies that support the sector.
- Enabling BC to become **a leader in the emerging agritech sector**



B.C. CENTRE FOR AGRITECH INNOVATION

→ A province-wide initiative, focusing on empowering SMEs to achieve faster growth for local and global impact

→ The Centre helps to support our envisioned impact of increasing food security, developing a thriving agritech sector, and enabling economic growth in BC

→ SFU's co-creation model is designed to plug in SMEs to the right support, at the right time bringing together an ecosystem of expertise to help companies develop and de-risk new technologies.

HOW WE SUPPORT



AGTECH PROJECTS

Co-creation model where SMEs develop their product with end users, experts and multidisciplinary teams tailored to their needs.



SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Developing technology and agri-food literacy programs, including rapid upskilling programs to support stakeholders in the field.



BC AGTECH NETWORK

Ecosystem for stakeholder collaboration to share best practices, intelligence, and co-create holistic solutions addressing sector challenges

5-YEAR IMPACT

\$27.5M

In funding from government and industry

1,250

HQP to be trained

95+

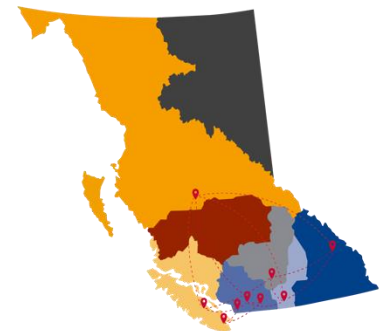
Partners engaged from government, industry & other stakeholders

300+

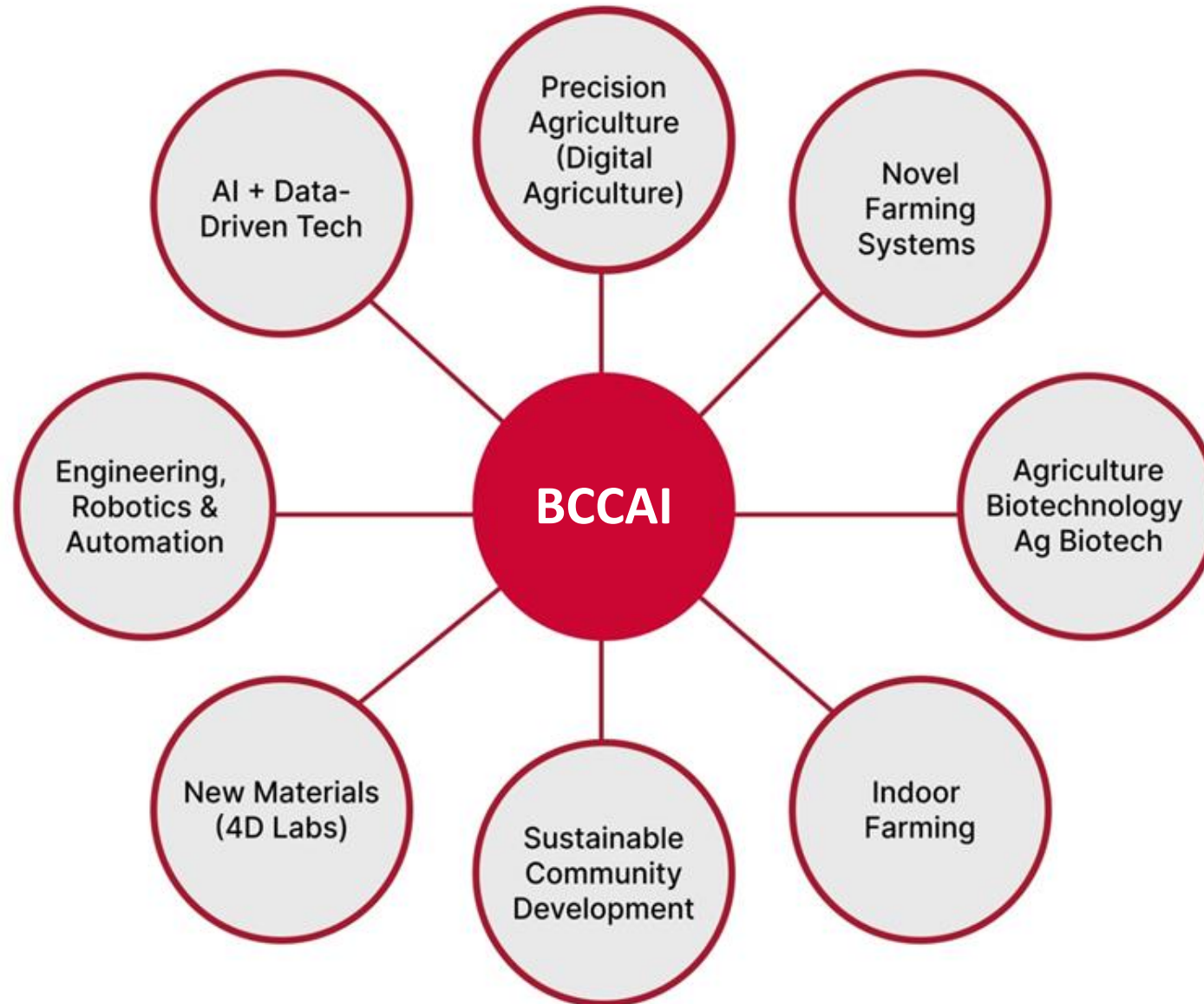
Jobs to be created in BC

45+

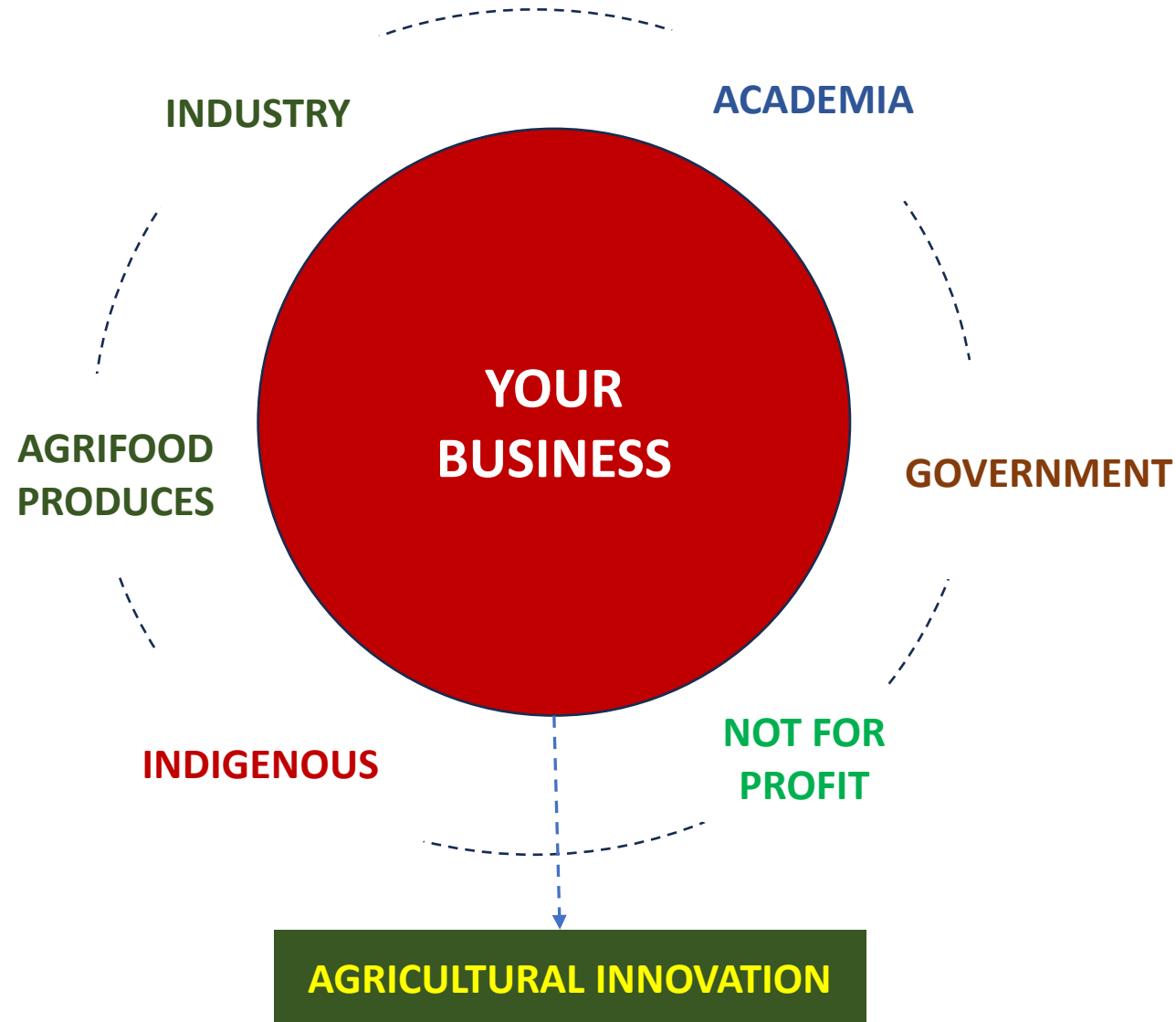
Industry-driven projects



Agriculture Technologies



MODEL: INNOVATION BY CO-CREATION

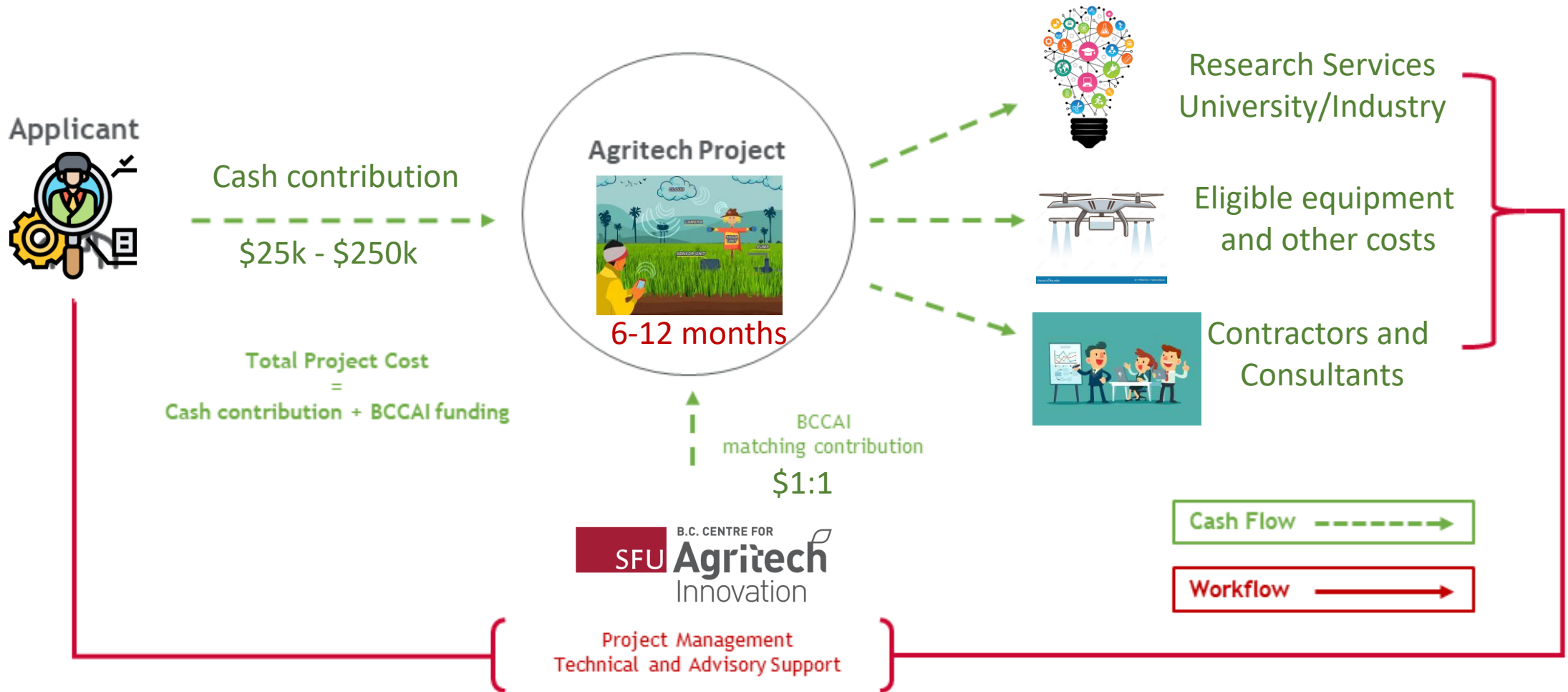


PROJECT CRITERIA

We prioritize commercialization and job creation

- Product development or pilot testing
- Total value of project ranges from \$50K to \$500K
- Involves 2 to 5 partners (e.g. Industry, academic institutions, etc.)
- Proposal submitted by SME
- Short duration – 6 to 12 months
- BCCAI will match SME cash contribution dollar for dollar up to \$250K
- Projects have Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of 5 – 9



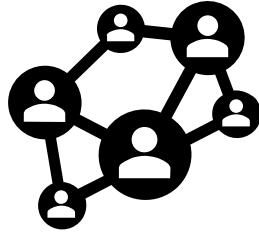


BCCAI - A Focus On Capacity Building & Workforce Development

- A key pillar in BCCAI's mandate is to build workforce capacity to benefit the agriculture and agri-food (AAF) sectors.
- In creating upskilling offerings for agri-producers and SMEs who want to harness competency and skill transferability within the AAF sectors.
- BCCAI initiatives will address labour knowledge gaps and systemic workforce challenges facing the AAF sectors, including technology adoption and integration.
- Building workforce capacity for the AAF sector's labour needs is crucial to grow B.C.'s economy and our shared efforts to increase B.C.'s food security.



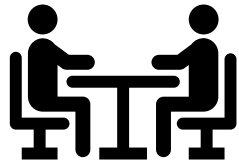
Training and Upskilling Program Overview



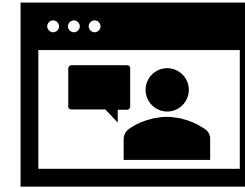
Provincial AgriTech Events



AgriTech Co-op



Training Co-creation Partnership



BCCAI Training Hub

THE BCCAI ADVANTAGE

TURNING CHALLENGES INTO BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

facilitating collaborations that remove complexity for business growth and accelerate solutions to the marketplace.

BUILDING SECTOR CAPACITY

new jobs, solutions, workforce development and open markets for B.C. business.

LEVERAGING NETWORK

academia, industry, government, non-profits, associations and Indigenous communities.

TESTBED FOR MODELING AGRITECH SOLUTIONS

validating technology and de-risking growth pathways for SMEs.

CO-CREATION MODEL

providing on-demand innovation support, reducing barriers and enabling SMEs to compete in the agritech economy.

1:1 CASH MATCH INCENTIVE

to expand SME impact, job creation, and innovation commercialization in B.C.'s agritech sector.

MARKETABILITY

ecosystem-wide exposure, brand visibility, introductions, and access to new potential markets.

CULTIVATE SECTOR AGILITY

responsiveness to business needs, and achieve broader objectives and impact

Ecofarm: Transforming Rice Farming for Green Sake Production

Ecofarm, in collaboration with Granville Island's Artisan Sake Maker, is pioneering rice cultivation in B.C. Using previously unused marshy land, the project developed sustainable weed management strategies with BCCAI's support. This initiative enhances local sake production and contributes to crop diversification.

STATUS: COMPLETED

- \$52,000 in funds
- HQP(s) trained:3

PROJECT PARTNERS:



AeroWalls: Elevating Basil Cultivation Success

Aeroroot collaborated with BCCAI in developing aeroponic basil through their AeroWalls, a technology that allow farmers to grow crops anywhere with no soil and up to 90% less water.

STATUS: COMPLETED

- \$34,000 in funds
- HQP job(s) created: 4



PROJECT PARTNERS:

CONNECT WITH US

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