Sollio Next Generation Award

2024-2025 Edition

Application Form

Member of Sollio Component
New Farm Enterprise Category

Every farm has its own story.
Tell us yours.

Sollio Cooperative Group

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Conditions

In order to be eligible for the Sollio Next Generation Award, the enterprise must:

- Be a member and client of a cooperative in the Sollio Cooperative Group for at least one year;
- Have at least one member of the young generation aged 40 or under;
- For the New Farm Enterprise category, be established for less than 10 years.

Selection process

Step 1: Application package

- The farm's representatives must duly complete the application form found on the following pages.
  - All information will be taken into consideration in the judging panel's evaluation
  - It is important to fill out each section and provide as much detail as possible
  - We recommend having someone from your cooperative who supports your nomination review your application before sending it in
- You must include a letter of recommendation from your cooperative's board of directors, signed by the chair, listing the reasons why your farm deserves the award.
- Your application must be received by April 1, 2024.

Step 2: Selection of semi-finalists

- A panel of judges will confidentially review all entries and select the semi-finalists.
- The judges will contact each semi-finalist for an interview.

Step 3: Selection of finalists and winners

- Based on the interviews, the judges will select the finalists.
- The finalists will be visited by a journalist, a film crew and a photographer to produce a short video and an article for publication in Coopérateur magazine. The farm's representatives will be asked to give their consent in accordance with our privacy policy, available in French at: https://sollio.coop/en/privacy.
- The representatives for the finalist farms will be invited to the Sollio Cooperative Group annual general meeting banquet in late February 2025, where the winners will be announced.

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APPLICATION FORM

Please email your completed application form to: **prix.releve.sollio@sollio.coop**

Farm business information

Name of business:

Business address:

City :

Postal code:

Date founded:

Cooperative information

Name of cooperative:

Agri-advisor:

Agri-advisor's email address:

Farm business team

Please provide the following information for each owner.

Person 1

Full name:

Age :

% of business shares held:

Roles and responsibilities:

Education (program and school):

Off-farm activities (e.g., social, community, business) (optional):

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Person 2

Full name:

Age :

% of business shares held:

Roles and responsibilities:

Education (program and school):

Off-farm activities (e.g., social, community, business) (optional):

Person 3

Full name:

Age :

% of business shares held:

Roles and responsibilities:

Education (program and school):

Off-farm activities (e.g., social, community, business) (optional):

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APPLICATION PACKAGE

Please answer the following questions in detail so that the judges can evaluate how well your farm meets the award criteria for new farm enterprise planning and implementation. Include any information you feel is relevant.

SECTION 1 – TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ANALYSIS (10%)

Please provide the following information about your farm. Answer only for the production types that apply to your farm. For each applicable production type, please specify the percentage of your total farm operations that it represents (for example: 50% beef production + 50% crop production).

Documents required: Please provide a performance report for each production type. This will be used to complete the technical and financial analysis of your farm business. Your agriadvisor will be able to help if needed.

Production type

Livestock production	Percentage (%) of total perations	Volume Specify unit of measure	Owned or rented
Dairy production			
Pork production farrowing, nursery and growing-finishing			
Poultry production broilers and layers			
Beef production cows, calves and fattening			
Ovine production			
Equine production			
Other:			
Crop production	Percentage (%) of total operations	Volume or area Specify unit of measure	Owned or rented
Field crop production Please specify:			
Forage crop production Please specify:			
Vegetable production Please specify:			
Maple syrup production			
Food processing Please specify:			

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SECTION 2 – INTERPERSONAL (25%)

Team profile

1. Describe your team and how you work together (for example, the relationships between the owners and other team members, including parents, siblings, children, spouses, etc., if applicable and relevant).

2. Describe a challenge your team has faced and how you overcame it.

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SECTION 3 – MANAGEMENT (25%)

1. Briefly describe the main steps you took to establish your new farm enterprise, including key dates.

   1.1 Initial conversations and factors that led to the decision.

   1.2 Official steps and actions taken.

2. When preparing to establish your new farm enterprise:

   2.1 From the list below, select all the parties who helped you. Check all that apply.

   - ☐ CRÉA advisor
   - ☐ Cooperative agri-advisor
   - ☐ Agri-environmental agri-advisor
   - ☐ Notary
   - ☐ Accountant
   - ☐ Financial advisor
   - ☐ MAPAQ or La Financière agricole du Québec advisor
   - ☐ Local business development centre
   - ☐ Lactanet advisor
   - ☐ Advisory club
   - ☐ Union des producteurs agricoles (UPA) advisor
   - ☐ None
   - ☐ Other, please specify: _____

   2.2 Describe how each of the parties helped you

3. After your farm enterprise was established, did you receive help from any of the above parties? If so, how did they help you?

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4. How does your relationship with your local cooperative help your business?

5. What is your management style? How do you ensure that information flows well (formal or informal meetings, board of directors, corporate vision, decision-making, etc.)?

6. Are you a member of an equipment-sharing association? Or do you share farm equipment in any other way?

   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No

   If so, please list the machinery and equipment that you share.

7. Do you use custom work?

   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No

   If so, please specify.

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SECTION 4 – FINANCIAL (25%)

1. What were the main steps in terms of budget planning?

2. What investments did you need to make?

3. What are your plans for the coming years and what do they involve, financially?

4. How do you see your farm's future in the long run?

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SECTION 5 – ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES (10%)

1. Which of the following agri-environmental methods have you used in the past two years?

- ☐ Pallet recovery
- ☐ Farm plastics recovery
- ☐ Used oil recovery
- ☐ Herbicide container recovery
- ☐ Seed bag recovery
- ☐ Feed bag recovery
- ☐ Silos to reduce the use of mineral/feed bags
- ☐ Planting of windbreak hedges
- ☐ Managed and/or unmanaged riparian buffers
- ☐ AEFP/phosphorus balance
- ☐ Pesticide logbook
- ☐ Other, please specify:

Details:

2. Which of the following sustainable farming methods have you used in the past two years?

- ☐ 4R
- ☐ Green manure
- ☐ Direct seeding
- ☐ Crop rotation
- ☐ Cover crops
- ☐ Minimum tillage
- ☐ Sprayer calibration
- ☐ Controlled-release fertilizer
- ☐ Lime/fertilizing residual materials
- ☐ Variable-rate lime and fertilizer application
- ☐ Expert advice
- ☐ E-commerce
- ☐ AgConnexion
- ☐ Other, please specify:

Details:

3. What are your animal welfare practices (if applicable)?

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SECTION 6 – CONCLUSION AND ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS (5%)

1. Explain how your new farm enterprise is a model of financial and personal success.

2. Why should you be chosen as a finalist for the Sollio Next Generation Award?

3. Additional documents required. Please send by e-mail with your application form.
   - ☐ Letter of recommendation signed by the chair of the board of directors of your cooperative
   - ☐ Performance report by production type (Section 1 – Technical and Financial Analysis)
   - ☐ A document containing up to 10 photos with a short caption for each (for example, team, different production types, buildings and facilities, agri-environmental practices, etc.)

Signature

I hereby confirm that all persons named in this application form have agreed to apply for the award and agree with all statements made and documents enclosed as part of this application.

I understand that my personal information will be handled with discretion by Sollio Cooperative Group in accordance with all applicable laws: https://sollio.coop/en/privacy

Full name:

Date:

Signature:

Please submit this completed application form by April 1, 2024, to: **prix.releve.sollio@sollio.coop**

Thank you for your interest in the Sollio Next Generation Award. Wishing you the best of luck!

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