



FARM DEBT MEDIATION SERVICE

The **Farm Debt Mediation Service (FDMS)** offers financial counselling and mediation services to **farmers who are having difficulties meeting their financial obligations.**

What are the benefits?

- **Free, voluntary, private and confidential** service.
- Support in developing a **recovery plan**.
- Meet with your **creditor(s)** in a **neutral forum**.
- Help get your **debt repayment** back on track.
- Potential for a **temporary suspension** of **creditor collection actions**.

About

65%

of **farmers** who reach out to the **FDMS** are able to successfully **negotiate an arrangement** with their creditors.

It's OK to ask for help.

Early intervention provides the best results.

Who is eligible?

To be eligible for the **FDMS**, you must **farm commercially** and you must meet one of the following two criteria :

- You have **ceased or are unable to make** financial payments on time; or
- **If sold, the value of your assets** would not be enough to pay out your debts.

How does it work?

The **FDMS** offers **two application processes**:

- Financial review and mediation with a **stay of proceedings** which temporarily suspends **creditor collection actions**; or
- Financial review and mediation without a **stay of proceedings**.

Once you decide which **FDMS application process** best meets your needs, you must complete an **application form**.

- If your application is **accepted**, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) **will arrange for a qualified, independent financial expert to meet with you and review your financial information.**
- The financial expert will come up with a clear picture of **your financial situation**, help you **explore your options**, and **work with you to develop a recovery plan.**
- AAFC will also assign a mediator who will work with you to **help you and your creditor(s) find mutually acceptable solutions.**

To learn more:

 agriculture.canada.ca/FDMS

 1.866.452.5556



Use the **camera on your mobile device** to scan the **QR code**.



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