

# Industry Canada

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# Aboriginal Business Canada

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/e cd/ab/abc/abcnu-eng.asp>

Aboriginal Business Canada is a program of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). Working with clients and partners, we provide a range of services and support that is helping to promote the growth of a strong Aboriginal business sector in Canada. Our support varies depending upon the needs of the client, the availability, and sources of funding, the eligibility of costs, the economic benefits, and the reasonableness and timing of financial returns on investment.

We can:

- Help you determine whether your proposed project is eligible for Aboriginal Business Canada assistance before you submit an application.
- Help you develop your business plan by providing you with advice as well as financial support.
- Help you access the lenders you will need for the commercial financing requirements of your business. This may include referring you to an Aboriginal Financial Institution.
- Provide financial assistance, most often in the form of a non-repayable contribution.
- Provide advice and financial assistance to facilitate business partnerships.
- Provide financing towards the costs of management training and for business advisors, once your business is operating.
- Provide financial assistance for conferences, workshops, and studies related to Aboriginal Business Canada program objectives.

This publication provides a step-by-step description of what's involved when you apply for assistance for your business proposal.

## Are You Eligible?

Clients must be individuals of Canadian Aboriginal heritage — Status or Non-status Indian (on or off-reserve), Métis or Inuit — or a majority-owned Aboriginal business, financial organization, or development corporation.

To be eligible for support, clients should also be involved full-time with the proposed business in a management capacity and must be able to provide some level of cash equity to support the project.

## What Kind of Support can the Program Provide You?

Many Aboriginal entrepreneurs and communities can qualify for business development support. Depending on the nature of your project, you may be able to obtain funding to assist with a wide range of activities, including:

- Business planning.
- Establishment (capital) costs.
- Business acquisitions.
- Business expansions.
- Marketing initiatives that are local, domestic, or export oriented.

- New product or process development.
- Adding technology to improve operations and competitiveness.
- Operating costs in association with capital costs.
- Financial services, business support, business-related training, and mentoring services.

**How Much Funding is Available?**

Individual Aboriginal entrepreneurs may receive up to \$99,999 in funding assistance. For community-owned businesses, this assistance can be up to \$1 million. The level of support for your business project will depend on a number of factors that you will need to discuss with your Aboriginal Business Canada Development Officer.

Requests for financial support are assessed on each project's viability and merits. Factors include the scope of the project, the need for financing, and whether other sources of financing are available — including funds received from other government departments and agencies. A successful application requires a balanced financial package, involving debt financing from other sources and a minimum level of your own equity.

The minimum level of equity for each project depends on the following factors:

- For youth applicants (over 18 and under 36), the minimum equity requirement is 10 per cent of eligible capital costs.
- For applicants who are 36 years of age or older, the minimum equity requirement is 15 per cent of eligible capital costs.
- For applicants applying as a legal entity, the minimum equity requirement is 15 per cent of eligible capital costs.

Non-commercial projects that promote Aboriginal entrepreneurship such as conferences, special events, and research may qualify for contributions to defray up to 100 percent of costs.

The level of support for your business project depends on a number of factors, which your Development Officer will discuss with you. While there are ceilings for the average contributions offered, the actual investment from INAC will be limited to what is required to ensure your project proceeds and is viable. The following table illustrates typical contribution levels for various costs. These will depend upon need. Talk to your Development Officer about inventory and operating costs.

**Typical Contribution Levels for Various Project Costs**

<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>Typical Contribution Level</b>
Developing business plans, marketing plans or feasibility studies	Up to 75%
Establishing a business or	Between 30% to 50%

acquiring information technology	
Expanding/acquiring a profitable business or developing new products, services or production processes	Between 30% to 50%
Implementing marketing initiatives	Up to 60%
Project-related management	75%
Accounting and professional business advice after you start your business	75%

The vast majority of Aboriginal Business Canada contributions are made to small and medium-sized businesses and are in the form of non-repayable contributions.

In the case of larger, community-based projects, other conditions will be taken into account in order to determine contribution levels and repayments.

What is available for advocacy initiatives?

Financial support may be available if your Aboriginal organization is seeking support for activities designed to improve the business climate for Aboriginal firms in Canada. Suitable activities include:

- Organization or coordination of business-specific conferences, trade shows, or other events or initiatives related to program objectives.
- Private-sector-led development of economic research, sector information and analysis, or other material which increases the data available regarding progress of Aboriginal businesses in Canada.

These activities must result in widespread benefits, not in financial benefits for the applicant. The results of the initiative are expected to be shared in some way — such as through published or on-line reports. It should be noted that for these types of projects, the applicant equity requirement may be waived.

Before you talk to a Development Officer about your specific proposal, you should review our published materials in order to answer your initial questions.

### **How to Apply**

Applying to Aboriginal Business Canada for financial assistance for your business is a three-step process.

#### **Step One:**

Visit the [Information for Applicants](#) section of the INAC Web site for further information on eligibility requirements.

To be eligible:

- You must demonstrate Aboriginal heritage.
- Have a balanced financial package (involving debt financing from other sources, as well as your own equity).

- Have a viable business opportunity and experience in your sector. Additional requirements may also apply. These are explained in our policies and guidelines which are available from your Development Officer.

**Step Two:**

Contact the INAC Aboriginal Business Canada office nearest you to discuss your project with a Development Officer. The Development Officer will provide further clarifications on eligibility requirements and will be your ongoing contact person.

**Step Three:**

If you think you may be eligible for support, submit a completed application form (also referred to as a Business Proposal). A Business Proposal is included with this brochure. You can also download a copy from our website, or you can request a form from the Aboriginal Business Canada office nearest you.

A Development Officer will review your application and present it to a screening committee. If you are eligible for support, you will then be asked to submit a business plan to determine the viability of your business venture.

The time needed to process your application for support will depend on the complexity of your project. Your Development Officer will discuss the timelines when you apply.

**How to Contact Us**

If you require assistance at any stage in the development of your business proposal, please contact your local INAC Aboriginal Business Canada office. You can inquire about our services on-line or by phone, using the numbers listed below:

Halifax.....	(902) 426-2018
Montreal.....	(514) 283-1828
Toronto.....	(416) 973-8800
Ohsweken.....	(519) 445-0470
London.....	(519) 680-2843
Winnipeg.....	(204) 983-7316
Saskatoon.....	(306) 975-4329
Edmonton.....	(780) 495-2954
Calgary.....	(403) 292-8807
Vancouver.....	(604) 666-3871
Yellowknife.....	(867) 669-2624

You can also request assistance through one of our External Delivery or Alternate Service Delivery Organizations. For a list of these, please visit our Web site or call our nearest office for contact information.

Your inquiry will be directed to a Development Officer who serves your particular geographic location, or an officer in an External Delivery or Alternate Service Delivery Organization in your area.

Remember, the Development Officer is your ongoing point of contact with Aboriginal Business Canada. This person is responsible for assisting you through each phase of the financial support process. The Development Officer can provide you information on:

- INAC's support under the ABC program, and how to apply.
- Your eligibility and that of your business venture to receive financial support.
- What personal financial resources you will need before you are eligible to receive support.
- What kind of business experience we expect you to have.
- Other funding and information sources, as well as individuals, groups and organizations that may assist you in planning and implementing your business venture.

When you first contact us about your business idea, you are beginning an ongoing working relationship. Be sure to give us your complete contact information so we can reach you. You can ask our representative to contact you by telephone, fax, e-mail or by regular mail. Once you initiate an inquiry to Aboriginal Business Canada, a Development Officer will call you.

Remember, you should not proceed with any purchases for your project prior to receiving your Letter of Offer from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. **Any costs for which you have made a legal commitment prior to project approval will not be eligible for support.**

## Automotive Innovation Fund

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/auto-auto.nsf/eng/am02257.html>

A new Automotive Innovation Fund (AIF) has been established that will provide automotive firms \$250 million over five years to support strategic, large-scale research and development (R&D) projects to build innovative, greener, more fuel-efficient vehicles.

The AIF will support Canada's environmental agenda in advancing Canadian capabilities in fuel-efficient automotive technologies and greenhouse gas reduction. The Fund demonstrates the government's commitment to implementing Canada's Science and Technology (S&T) Strategy in an automotive context. The AIF also provides an important complement to the Government's agenda to support industry competitiveness, outlined in a plan called *Advantage Canada: Building a Strong Economy for Canadians*. Under the AIF, Industry Canada will consider funding proposals that provide for private sector investment in Canada of more than \$75 million over five years.

Eligible projects will include vehicle and powertrain assembly operations associated with significant automotive innovation and R&D initiatives. Other large-scale automotive innovation and R&D initiatives will also be considered, provided they meet the \$75 million threshold.

Proposals will be assessed based on their contribution to:

- automotive R&D capacity and knowledge-based jobs in Canada;
- the government's S&T Strategy and environmental agenda;
- the development of innovative, fuel-efficient technologies or processes;
- the long-term economic benefit to Canada, including significant job creation/retention; and
- their potential to attract further investments to foster Canadian competitiveness.

Support under the AIF will be provided for major automotive innovation and R&D initiatives to develop and build greener, more fuel-efficient vehicles, inclusive of:

- new product development (e.g., advanced emissions technologies, energy-efficient engines and transmissions, advanced materials, including engineered plastics, and lightweight components and materials);
- leading-edge engineering and design, and prototype development;
- advanced product testing that ensures cleaner, more efficient automotive performance, and reduces greenhouse gases;
- the development of new production methods and process technologies, including advanced flexible manufacturing techniques;
- new or expanded facilities to produce leading-edge and more energy efficient vehicles and powertrains;
- substantive investments in new flexible manufacturing processes; and

- introduction of other new transformative production technologies to substantially increase productivity and efficiency (e.g., robotics and advanced IT systems).

Individual proposals will be evaluated in consideration of the strength of the business case, including with respect to R&D and innovation, environmental and economic benefits.

For further information on the AIF, please contact:

Mary-Lou Simac  
Industry Canada  
613-960-7091

# BDC Start-Up Financing Program

[http://www.bdc.ca/en/my\\_project/Projects/financing/fs\\_start\\_business\\_general.htm](http://www.bdc.ca/en/my_project/Projects/financing/fs_start_business_general.htm)

## Financing possibilities

- Working capital: to supplement an existing line of credit
- Acquiring fixed assets
- Marketing and start-up fees
- Buying a franchise

## How can BDC help?

- Long-term financing
- Consulting services to support your business goals
- Start-up tools ( Business plan , Entrepreneurial self-assessment)
- Benefit from BDC's extensive experience in helping innovative start-ups

## Advantages of doing business with BDC

BDC's start-up financing provides a total solution for small businesses.

Depending on your situation, BDC loans may be able to offer:

- Progressive or seasonal repayment options tailored to your business' cash flow
- Possibility of deferred capital payment
- Guaranteed term: financing cannot be recalled without due cause
- Your choice of floating or fixed interest rates
- Fast-track, no penalty repayment options up to 15% of remaining balance per year.

## Criteria for financing

BDC's financing solution can provide support to entrepreneurs who:

- Are in the start-up or early growth phase (first 12 months of sales)
- Can demonstrate realistic market and sales potential
- Possess experience or expertise in their chosen field
- Demonstrate key personal characteristics of a successful entrepreneur
- Have assembled a competent management team
- Have invested reasonable financial resources in the enterprise
- Can provide personal and credit references

## The next step

Explore your financing options at [www.bdc.ca](http://www.bdc.ca). Alternatively, you can call 1 877 BDC BANX (232-2269) or visit your local branch.

# BDC Innovation Financing

<http://www.bdc.ca/EN/solutions/financing/Pages/default.aspx>

The Business Development Bank of Canada's (BDC) Innovation Financing program provides loans that established businesses can use as working capital to explore new markets and develop new products and new technologies. BDC helps innovative businesses take advantage of new markets and new technologies available to today's global players.

## Eligibility Criteria

Companies with growth potential, a solid business plan, sound management team and a viable strategy may be eligible. The BDC considers each request case by case.

## Eligible Activities

Financing possibilities include:

- increasing inventory to boost sales and receivables;
- providing working capital required to develop new markets and products;
- paying R&D costs associated with introducing these new products or services;
- financing development of e-commerce initiatives, such as Web sites and software integration;
- implementing a marketing plan or growth strategy;
- exploring new export markets;
- adopting quality management standards, such as ISO certifications and HACCP;
- offering consulting services to help evaluate your export and technology needs in order to improve the overall efficiency and productivity of your business.

## Advantages

- Loan with flexible repayment terms.
- Repayment options designed to protect cash flow.
- Possibility of deferred capital payments and seasonal or progressive repayment schedules.

## National Contact(s):

Business Development Bank of Canada

Suite 400, 5 Place Ville-Marie

Montréal, Quebec H3B 5E7

Fax: 1-877-329-9232

Toll-free (information): 1-877-BDC-BANX (1-877-232-2269)

E-mail: [info@bdc.ca](mailto:info@bdc.ca)

Web site: <http://www.bdc.ca/en/home.htm>

## **BizPal**

<http://www.bizpal.ca/about.shtml>

BizPal is a web-based service that allows business clients to easily generate a customized list of the permits and licences they require from all levels of government by answering some simple, generic questions about the business.

The BizPal service is operating in many locations across Canada. BizPal is expanding rapidly across Canada.

### WHY?

#### Problem

Entrepreneurs must go to many different departments within multiple levels of government to find out what permits and licences they need for their business, never being sure if they have missed something.

#### Solution

BizPal provides businesses a way to identify their entire permit and licence requirements from every level and department of government at one time through the website of any partner jurisdiction of their choice, saving them time and money. As BizPal is a self-service tool, meaning governments are able to redirect valuable client service resources. The collaboration within and between governments that is at the core of the BizPal service will ultimately lead to more streamlined and efficient government services.

### HOW?

BizPal provides an easy to use, 'no wrong door' service allowing users to obtain permit and licence information through their local, provincial/territorial, or federal government websites. Each point of access provides the client with comprehensive and customized information collected from all the participating jurisdictions. BizPal also provides all government jurisdictions with a comprehensive on-line administration tool to manage their permit and licence information in a co-ordinated fashion.

### WHEN?

The BizPal Pilot Project was completed with the lead group of participating governments launching the service in December 2005 through the first half of 2006. BizPal is now moving into sustainable program mode and rapidly expanding to other governments across Canada. Interested in participating?

# The Canada Research Chairs Program

[http://www.chairs-chaire.gc.ca/web/home\\_e.asp](http://www.chairs-chaire.gc.ca/web/home_e.asp)

The Canada Research Chairs Program stands at the centre of a national strategy to make Canada one of the world's top countries for research and development.

In 2000, the Government of Canada created a new permanent program to establish 2000 research professorships – Canada Research Chairs – in universities across the country by 2008. The Canada Research Chairs Program invests \$300 million a year to attract and retain some of the world's most accomplished and promising minds.

Chairholders aim to achieve research excellence in natural sciences, engineering, health sciences, humanities, and social sciences. They improve Canadians' depth of knowledge and quality of life, strengthen the country's international competitiveness, and help train the next generation of highly skilled people through student supervision, teaching, and the coordination of other researchers' work.

The Program is committed to ensuring access and opportunities to all qualified candidates, while maintaining standards of excellence. The goals of equity and excellence are not mutually exclusive. Equity ensures that the largest pool of qualified candidates is accessed without affecting the integrity of the selection process.

## **How are Chairs awarded?**

Canadian universities both nominate Canada Research Chairs and administer their funds.

Each eligible degree-granting institution receives an allocation of Chairs. For each Chair, a university nominates a researcher whose work complements its strategic research plan and who meets the program's high standards. Three members of a college of reviewers, composed of experts from around the world, assess each nomination and recommend whether to support it. If you are interested in becoming a Canada Research Chair, please contact a Canadian university.

## **Types of Chair**

There are two types of Canada Research Chair:

**Tier 1 Chairs**, tenable for seven years and renewable, are for outstanding researchers acknowledged by their peers as world leaders in their fields. For each Tier 1 Chair, the university receives \$200,000 annually for seven years.

**Tier 2 Chairs**, tenable for five years and renewable once, are for exceptional emerging researchers, acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to lead in their field. For each Tier 2 Chair, the university receives \$100,000 annually for five years.

**Infrastructure support**

Chairholders are also eligible for infrastructure support from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) to help acquire state-of-the-art equipment essential to their work.

Canada Research Chairs Secretariat  
350 Albert Street, P.O. Box 1610  
Ottawa, ON K1P 6G4  
Tel: 613-943-3087  
Fax: 613-943-3282  
Email: [information@chairs-chaire.gc.ca](mailto:information@chairs-chaire.gc.ca)

**Inquiries about policy and equity:**

David Marchand, Policy and Equity Analyst  
Tel: 613-943-1438  
Email: [david.marchand@chairs-chaire.gc.ca](mailto:david.marchand@chairs-chaire.gc.ca)

## **Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program**

<http://www.cerc.gc.ca/cpov-pcap-end.shtml>

## **Overview**

In 2008, the Government of Canada created a new permanent program to establish 20 prestigious research chairs—Canada Excellence Research Chairs (CERC)—in universities across the country. The CERC program invests \$28 million a year to attract and retain the world's most accomplished and promising minds and help Canada build a critical mass of expertise in the priority research areas of environmental sciences and technologies, natural resources and energy, health and related life sciences and technologies, and information and communication technologies.

## **Program details**

The Canada Excellence Research Chairs (CERC) program was created to recognize that Canada's future prosperity depends on its ability to attract the highest calibre of researchers and scholars to this country. To help Canada's universities compete in the global market for research talent, the Government of Canada designed the CERC program to attract Canadian and international leaders who can positively contribute to this country's global competitiveness, future prosperity and well-being, as well as provide a deeper understanding of the human dimension of technological change.

This prestigious program will award up to 20 chairholders and their research teams with up to \$10 million over seven years to conduct research in areas of strategic importance to Canada. The chairs will be identified through a highly competitive peer-reviewed process. Proposals are invited from a broad range of disciplines in the social sciences and humanities, natural sciences and engineering, and health and related sciences.

Canada's prosperity as a nation is increasingly based on science and technology and the highly skilled and creative individuals whose talents bring innovations to life. Their ideas build understanding and spark the creation of new products, services and policies that support Canada's economic competitiveness, strengthen social foundations, sustain the environment and improve the quality of life. These concepts are central to the Government of Canada's science and technology (S&T) strategy, announced in

May 2007, which set out a multi-year framework to improve Canada's long-term competitiveness. This includes a commitment to: attracting and retaining talent; supporting world-class research; and creating a business, regulatory and social environment that facilitates entrepreneurship and creativity.

The key program objectives are to:

- strengthen Canada's ability to attract the world's top researchers in order to be at the leading edge of breakthroughs in priority research areas expected to generate social and economic benefits for Canadians;
- help Canada build a critical mass of expertise in the priority areas of the S&T strategy including: environmental sciences and technologies, natural

- resources and energy, health and related life sciences and technologies and information and communications technologies;
- create a competitive environment to help Canadian universities attract a cadre of world leading researchers in their pursuit of excellence in their research; and
  - brand Canada as a location of choice for world-leading research, science and technology development.

The Canada Excellence Research Chairs program offers eligible Canadian degree-granting institutions the opportunity to establish highly remunerated research Chairs at their institutions in research areas that are of strategic importance to Canada.

Universities must first compete for the opportunity to establish these Chairs in Phase 1 of the process. Up to 40 applications in Phase 1 will be invited to submit nominations in Phase 2, and up to 20 Chairs will be established. This page explains, step by step, the entire process.

### **Value and duration**

Canada Excellence Research Chairs are tenable for seven years and are not renewable. They are targeted at the world's top researchers and scholars to develop ambitious research programs in the four priority research areas targeted in the Government of Canada's science and technology strategy. For each Chair, the university receives up to \$1.4 million annually for seven years. Chairs are awarded to individuals who take up the Chair on a full-time basis.

### **Eligibility of institutions**

Canadian degree-granting universities are eligible to participate in the CERC program only if they have received, annually, an average of \$100,000 or more from the three federal agencies.

To be considered degree-granting, an institution must meet both of the following criteria:

1. It must be authorized by a provincial or territorial government to grant its own university degrees. A postsecondary educational institution affiliated or federated with another degree-granting institution will be accorded its own independent eligibility, if it receives its operating budget directly from the provincial government (Ministry of Education or Higher Education or equivalent) and has its own board of directors; and
2. It must have conferred degrees during the two calendar years prior to application or have students enrolled who will receive degrees during the calendar year of application or within the three succeeding years. The institution must provide evidence of its authority to confer degrees and evidence that degrees were, or are expected to be, granted within the required time period.

### **Eligibility of nominees**

Nominees must be full professors or associate professors who are expected to be promoted to the full professor level within one or two years of the nomination. Alternatively, if they come from outside the academic sector, nominees must possess the necessary qualifications to be appointed at these levels.

The program imposes no restrictions on nominees with regard to nationality or country of residence. Procedures to allow non-Canadian chairholders to work in Canada have been established by Human Resources and Social Development Canada and Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Other procedures have been established by the government of Québec for foreign researchers taking up a Chair in this province.

Researchers who hold tenured or tenure-track positions at Canadian universities are eligible to be nominated. However, they may not be nominated at the university where they hold a tenured or tenure-track position on the Phase 2 deadline, November 16, 2009.

## **Evaluation criteria**

### **Phase 1**

The program is to be exclusively excellence-based. No special consideration will be given to applications based on region, size of applying university, or factors other than those noted in the following criteria:

1. The institution's research strengths in the proposed field, assessed against global standards of excellence;
2. The promise of the proposed field of research for the Chair, measured in the context of leading global research in the proposed field;
3. The likelihood that the work associated with the proposed Chair will be recognized as globally relevant and will advance the frontiers of research in the field on a global scale;
4. The extent to which the proposal fits in one or more of the priority and sub-priority areas identified;
5. The ability of the university to sustain the research advantage created by the proposed Chair after the seven-year term of the Chair expires;
6. The ability of the institution to leverage additional resources that, together with the CERC program, will enable the university to adequately support the direct and indirect costs associated with a world class program of research; and
7. The potential to apply the research results from the Chair to advance public policy and/or the potential to commercialize research discoveries from the Chair.

### **Phase 2**

Universities invited to participate in Phase 2 will have the opportunity to nominate world-class researchers. The selection will be based on the highest standards of research excellence, and nominations will be assessed based on the following criteria:

1. **Quality of the nominee** - The nominee should demonstrate that he/she:

- a. is an outstanding and innovative researcher whose accomplishments have made groundbreaking impacts in their field, including the application of research findings for social and economic benefit;
  - b. is internationally recognized as a world leader in his/her field; and
  - c. has a superior record of attracting and supervising graduate students and postdoctoral fellows (taking into account practices in the relevant field or discipline).
2. **Quality of the proposed program of research** - The nominee should be proposing a program of research that:
    - a. demonstrates excellence, originality and innovation and is of the highest quality; and
    - b. will attract excellent trainees, students and future researchers.
  3. **Fit with the university's proposal in Phase 1** - The university is required to demonstrate the strong fit between the nominee and its application in Phase 1 to establish a Chair at the institution.

#### **Four priority research areas**

All Chairs will be awarded in the four research priority areas outlined in the Government of Canada's science and technology strategy. The minister of Industry, upon the advice of the Science, Technology and Innovation Council (STIC), has identified sub-priorities to the four priority areas. Proposals that address one or more of the following sub-priority areas will receive higher ranking in the assessment and selection process. Proposals are invited from a broad range of disciplines in the social sciences and humanities; natural sciences and engineering; and health and related sciences.

#### **1. Environmental sciences and technologies**

- Water (health, energy, security)
- Cleaner methods of extracting, processing and utilizing hydrocarbon fuels, including reduced consumption of these fuels

#### **2. Natural resources and energy**

- Energy production in the oil sands
- Arctic (resource production, climate change adaptation, monitoring)
- Biofuels, fuel cells and nuclear energy

#### **3. Health and related life science and technologies**

- Regenerative medicine
- Neuroscience
- Health in an aging population
- Biomedical engineering and medical technologies

#### **4. Information and communications technologies**

- New media, animation and games
- Wireless networks and services
- Broadband networks
- Telecommunications equipment

Not fewer than three Chairs will be allocated to each of the four priority areas, and at least one Chair will be allocated to research under one or more of the priority areas that is of direct benefit to the automotive industry.

**Application and nomination process**

The Chairs will be identified through a highly competitive two-stage process:

**Phase 1:** Universities will compete for the opportunity to establish Chairs by submitting documentation that addresses the evaluation criteria described above. Each eligible institution will be provided with a target number of applications it may submit; the maximum number of allowable applications will be communicated to universities in early October 2008. Up to 40 applications will be invited to proceed to Phase 2 of the competition.

**Phase 2:** Universities will be invited to nominate world-class researchers and to compete for up to 20 Chairs by demonstrating the world-class excellence of the nominee and of his/her proposed research in the priority areas identified. All CERC recruitment and nomination processes at universities must be transparent, open and equitable. In particular, these processes should include open advertising with a statement of commitment to equity in the nomination process.

**General enquiries:**

Canada Excellence Research Chairs  
Secretariat  
350 Albert Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 1610  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 6G4  
E-mail: [information@cerc.gc.ca](mailto:information@cerc.gc.ca)  
Tel.: 613-996-7394  
Fax: 613-943-3282

## Canada Small Business Financing Program (CSBF)

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/csbf-pfpec.nsf/eng/home>

The Canada Small Business Financing Program seeks to increase the availability of loans for establishing, expanding, modernizing and improving small businesses. It does this by encouraging financial institutions to make their financing available to small businesses. Under the Program, a small business must apply for a loan at a financial institution (bank, credit union or *caisse populaire*) of its choice. **Application is not made to the Canada Small Business Financing Program Directorate.** If the loan is granted by the financial institution, the federal government will reimburse 85 percent of the lender's losses in the event of default.

The *Canada Small Business Financing (CSBF) Act* was enacted in April 1999 to build on the success of its predecessor, the *Small Business Loans Act*. The Program's objectives are to streamline loan administration, improve its ability to achieve cost recovery and to extend financing that would otherwise have been unavailable to small-and medium-size enterprises.

While Industry Canada is responsible for the administration of the Program, financial institutions are responsible for all credit decisions and for making the loans.

### Eligible Small Business:

- business carried on in Canada;
- its purpose is for gain or profit, and
- **for an existing business:** the estimated gross annual revenues generated from all the operations within the small business of the borrower must not exceed \$5,000,000 for the business' fiscal year during which the CSBF loan is approved, or
- **for a new business:** the estimated annual gross revenues generated from all the operations within the small business of the borrower must not be expected, at the time the CSBF loan is approved, to exceed \$5,000,000 during the first 52 weeks of operation.

### Ineligible Small Business:

- "farming" as defined in the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification of Statistics Canada, Major Group 01 - Agricultural Industries;
- charitable or religious organization;
- any business not operating for gain or profit (i.e. private club).

### How much financing is available?

Up to a maximum of \$500,000 for any one business, of which no more than \$350,000 can be used for purchasing leasehold improvements or improving leased property and purchasing or improving new or used equipment.

**Interest rates on loans** may be either floating or fixed. The floating rate cannot be more than 3 percent higher than a lender's prime lending rate. Fixed rates cannot be more than 3 percent higher than the lender's residential mortgage rate for the term of the loan.

### **List of Lenders**

Industry Canada administers the CSBF Program through a network of about 1,280 private-sector lenders with about 14,600 points of service in all provinces and territories. Lenders are responsible for all credit decisions, making the loans, providing loan funds, and registering the loans with Industry Canada. Lenders are also responsible for the administration of loans. Listed below is a list of participating lenders:

- ATB Financial
- Bank of East Asia
- Bank of Montreal
- Caisses populaires Acadiennes
- Caisses populaires de l'Ontario
- Canada's Credit Unions
- Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
- Canadian Western Bank
- GE Capital Financial Services
- HSBC
- Laurentian Bank of Canada
- Mouvement des caisses Desjardins
- National Bank of Canada
- Royal Bank of Canada
- Scotiabank
- TD Canada Trust

# Canadian Apparel and Textiles Industries Program

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/catp-pictv.nsf/eng/home>

## **Firm Component**

### **Note:**

Due to demand for program funding, if you are considering submitting an application for funding under the Firm Component or National Initiatives Component of CATIP, please first contact the CATIP representative at 1-866-599-3996.

### **Eligible Clients**

Canadian apparel and textile manufacturing firms are the primary clientele for the program.

CATIP will not duplicate activities which are normally undertaken or considered to be part of the mandate of other government stakeholders.

### **Eligible Projects**

- studies that will identify best practices leading to innovation in design, technology and production;
- projects that will implement the results of these studies;
- development of strategic business plans for financing applications.

### **Eligible Costs**

Contributions may be made of up to 50 percent of eligible costs, to a maximum, non-repayable contribution of \$100 000 per approved project. However, this level of assistance should not be expected in all cases. Contributions will be contingent upon available program funds as well as the frequency of applications to the program.

Eligible costs will include:

- salaries, wages and employee benefits;
- materials and supplies;
- consultants and other professional services.

Cost of fixed assets will not be eligible.

### **Head Office located elsewhere in Canada:**

Industry Canada  
Manufacturing Industries Branch (MIB)  
CATIP Secretariat  
C.D. Howe Building, East Tower, 6th Floor  
235 Queen Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H5  
Website: <http://www.strategis.gc.ca/catip>  
Toll free: 1-866-599-3996  
Fax: 613-954-3107

## **National Initiatives Component**

### **Note:**

Due to demand for program funding, if you are considering submitting an application for funding under the Firm Component or National Initiatives Component of CATIP, please first contact the CATIP representative at 613-948-4065.

### **Eligible Clients**

CATIP will work in partnership with:

- apparel and textile industry associations;
- not-for-profit organizations;
- corporations and consortia of other not-for-profit organizations.

CATIP will not duplicate activities which are normally undertaken or considered to be part of the mandate of other government stakeholders.

### **Eligible Projects**

- Developing a global strategy, including marketing studies and other related activities, to brand Canadian apparel and textile products.
- Branding and marketing Canadian apparel and textile products.
- Establishing electronic business initiatives.

### **Eligible Costs**

Contributions may be made of up to 90 percent of the eligible costs of approved projects:

- salaries, wages and employee benefits;
- materials and supplies;
- consultants and other professional services.

Cost of fixed assets will not be eligible.

### **What Else?**

CATIP funds have been set aside for:

- trade development activities;
- awareness campaigns aimed at sensitizing financial institutions to the specific needs and parameters of the apparel and textile industries.

### **All Applications:**

Industry Canada - Manufacturing Industries Branch (MIB)

CATIP Secretariat

C.D. Howe Building, East Tower, 6th Floor

235 Queen Street

Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H5

Website: <http://strategis.gc.ca/catip>

Toll free: 1-866-599-3996

Fax: 613-954-3107

# Canadian Institute for Advanced Research

<http://www2.cifar.ca/>

The Canadian Institute for Advanced Research incubates ideas that revolutionize the international research community and change the lives of people all over the world. Through its research programs, CIFAR provides leading scholars with the time, direction, freedom and inspiration to pursue fundamental questions concerning society, technology, and the very nature of humanity and the universe.

CIFAR empowers the world's most gifted thinkers to collaborate on groundbreaking, provocative projects and ensures that Canada remain a global leader in advanced research through its international scope. Through regular program meetings CIFAR brings together researchers from different countries, institutions, disciplines and levels of experience. These meetings help to foster new connections, ideas, and long-term relationships that lead to avenues of research whose influence extends far beyond the CIFAR community to the broader research world. CIFAR's cooperative, interdisciplinary approach means that program members delve into issues in a way different from any conventional university or research institution.

CIFAR's annual budget is \$16 million, which funds 12 interdisciplinary programs that bring together a highly unusual and innovative mix of expertise.

These programs are:

- Cosmology and Gravity
- Earth System Evolution
- Experience-based Brain and Biological Development
- Genetic Networks
- Institutions, Organizations and Growth
- Integrated Microbial Biodiversity
- Nanoelectronics
- Neural Computation and Adaptive Perception
- Quantum Information Processing
- Quantum Materials
- Social Interactions, Identity and Well-Being
- Successful Societies

## **Programs & Research**

Paula Driedger

Programs & Information Officer

[pdriedger@cifar.ca](mailto:pdriedger@cifar.ca)

(416) 971-4156

# Canadian Warranty Commitment Program

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/auto-auto.nsf/eng/am02306.html>

## Frequently Asked Questions

Additional questions not covered here related to your vehicle's warranty should be directed to Chrysler Canada Inc. or General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL).

### **Q. What is the Canadian Warranty Commitment Program?**

A. The Canadian Warranty Commitment Program is a federal initiative that ensures consumer warranties are honoured on new vehicles purchased from General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) and Chrysler Canada. In the event of a failure by GMCL or Chrysler Canada any time over the next 12 months to honour their consumer warranties, an auto service provider will be appointed by the Canadian Warranty Commitment Program to supply the warranty services.

### **Q. When does this new program start?**

A. The Canadian Warranty Commitment Program started on April 7, 2009.

### **Q. Which automakers' warranties are covered by the Program?**

A. GMCL and Chrysler Canada are the only participants under the Canadian Warranty Commitment Program.

### **Q. How long is this limited period?**

A. In the event of a failure by GMCL or Chrysler Canada any time over the next 12 months to honour their consumer warranties, an auto service provider will be appointed by the Canadian Warranty Commitment Program to supply the warranty services.

### **Q. Do I have to apply for this warranty coverage?**

A. No, coverage under the program is automatic upon the purchase of a new vehicle from either GMCL or Chrysler Canada.

### **Q. What if the company I buy my car from goes bankrupt in the next year? Will my full warranty be covered?**

A. This program will cover warranty costs if the vehicle was purchased between the start date of the Canadian Warranty Commitment Program (April 7, 2009), and the time the company declares bankruptcy.

### **Q. I think something should be covered under my warranty, but the company disagrees. Does the program step in and cover the costs?**

A. Details of any warranty agreement are between the consumer and the company. Warranty work will be carried out as per the agreement between the two at the time of purchase.

Under the Canadian Warranty Commitment Program, the federal government is simply ensuring funds are available for companies to carry out their warranty commitments to consumers.

**Q. Is there a limit to how much the warranty program will cover?**

A. Details of any warranty agreement are between the consumer and the company. Warranty work will be carried out as per the agreement between the two at the time of purchase.

Under the Canadian Warranty Commitment Program, the federal government is simply ensuring funds are available for companies to carry out their warranty commitments to consumers.

**Q. Will I have to pay a deductible in order to get any work done on my new vehicle?**

A. Details of any warranty agreement are between the consumer and the company. Warranty work will be carried out as per the agreement between the two at the time of purchase.

Under the Canadian Warranty Commitment Program, the federal government is simply ensuring funds are available for companies to carry out their warranty commitments to consumers.

**Q. I bought a new vehicle from GMCL or Chrysler prior to April 7, 2009. Am I covered under the Canadian Warranty Commitment Program? If not, why not?**

A. Under the Canadian Warranty Commitment Program, the federal government is committed to honouring consumer warranties on new vehicles purchased from GMCL and Chrysler Canada after April 7, 2009, and only for a limited period while improved restructuring plans are put in place.

# Canadian Youth Business Foundation

<http://www.cybf.ca/>

The Canadian Youth Business Foundation (CYBF) is a national charity providing start-up **mentoring, financing and business resources** for young Canadians, age 18-34, to create their own successful businesses. It's an organization that supports youth who would not otherwise have the opportunity to realize their full potential and launch a business. It's an organization that is helping to drive the Canadian economy by leading the future development of youth entrepreneurship both domestically and internationally.

Modeled after the UK's Prince's Trust, CYBF is an accredited member of Youth Business International, and has been recognized as one of the most efficient organizations of its kind globally. As such, CYBF is often called upon to mentor other countries with their youth entrepreneurship programs.

## The CYBF Program

CYBF provides **loans of up to \$15,000** and **on-line business resources** that provide the foundation for new business start-ups. Additionally, what makes the critical difference between a new company's sustainable success and failure is our **mandatory world-class mentoring program**. CYBF individually qualifies, interviews and trains every volunteer mentor with a hand-matched CYBF entrepreneur for a minimum of 2 years during the critical start-up period.

## CYBF Team

Successful businesses are not developed alone. By working collaboratively through existing infrastructure, with generous support from the private and public sectors, and with our network of more than 150 local Community Partners and 2,000 volunteer business mentors, CYBF delivers its vital program coast to coast.

## The Program

Our program is intended for young people who do not qualify for conventional funding. Financing is available through CYBF's Community Partner (CP) network. Local CPs, together with our volunteer Loan Review Committees (LRC), review all loan applications and look first and foremost at the integrity of the person, their business idea and plan, as well as the local market demand to make recommendations to the governing CYBF loan adjudication team.

## Flexible Start Up Financing

In combination with our mandatory mentoring program, CYBF provides aspiring entrepreneurs with start-up financing of up to \$15,000, low interest rates, flexible 3-5 year repayment schedules, and no principal payments for the first year. CYBF's

investment enables young business owners to leverage additional sources of capital to make their dreams of starting their own business a reality.

### **Expansion Financing**

Existing CYBF entrepreneurs who want to grow their business and require additional financial help, can now apply for CYBF's Expansion Financing program to receive up to \$10,000.

#### **Criteria**

- Between the age of 18-34\*
  - Must have a viable business plan with 2-year cash flow projections
  - Legally eligible to work in Canada (work permit holders not eligible)
  - Not a full-time student
  - Training or experience relevant to business start-up
  - Agree to work with a mentor for a minimum of 2 years
  - Business start-up should lead to full-time employment
  - Business is new or less than 1 year old
  - Applicants will be subject to a CYBF credit check
  - CYBF will review applicants without a credit history
  - No bankruptcies within the last 5 years
- \*If business partner(s) are over the age of 34, then the qualifying CYBF applicant must own 51% of the voting shares of the business.

#### **How to Get Started**

1. Visit [www.cybf.ca](http://www.cybf.ca), 'Entrepreneur' section for complete details
2. Create a viable business plan with 2-year cash flow projections - available online
3. Contact your nearest CYBF or Community Partner to begin the application process  
- contact info online
4. Complete the CYBF application form - available online

**[www.cybf.ca](http://www.cybf.ca)**

**Email: [info@cybf.ca](mailto:info@cybf.ca).**

**Tel: 1-800-464-2923.**

## **CANARIE Inc.**

<http://www.canarie.ca/>

CANARIE Inc., based in Ottawa, is Canada's advanced network organization. It facilitates the development and use of its network as well as the advanced products, applications and services that run on it. The CANARIE Network serves universities, colleges, schools, government labs, research institutes, hospitals and other organizations in a wide variety of fields in both the public and private sectors. By promoting and participating in strategic collaborations among key sectors, and by partnering with peer networks and organizations around the world, CANARIE Inc. stimulates and supports research, innovation and growth, bringing economic, social, and cultural benefits to Canadians. The national organization was created in 1993 by the private sector and academia under the leadership of the Government of Canada. CANARIE Inc. is supported by membership fees, with major funding of its programs and activities provided by the Government of Canada through Industry Canada.

Contact:

110 O'Connor St.

Ottawa, Ontario

K1P 5M9

Canada

(613) 943-5454

[info@canarie.ca](mailto:info@canarie.ca)

# Communications Research Centre Canada (CRC)

<http://www.crc.gc.ca/>

## **CRC Vision**

National leadership in collaborative research and development on innovative communications, broadcasting and information technologies for a strong Canadian knowledge-based economy.

## **CRC Mission**

To be the federal government's centre of excellence for communications R&D, ensuring an independent source of advice for public policy purposes.

To help identify and close the innovation gaps in Canada's communications sector by:

- engaging in industry partnerships;
- building technical intelligence;
- supporting small and medium-sized high technology enterprises.

The Technology Transfer Office (TTO) is the primary point of contact for companies and other entities that wish to acquire technologies and make use of CRC's expertise and facilities under various forms of collaborative agreements and license arrangements.

## **CRC offers:**

- Innovative technologies and prototype development
- R&D collaboration
- Specialized engineering consulting services
- Unique R&D facilities and testbeds
- More than 90 inventions protected by more than 200 patents, available for licensing
- An Innovation Centre for start-ups and other SMEs

## **Collaborative R&D opportunities are available in the following fields:**

- Advanced antennas
- VLSI/ASICS/FPGA
- Wireless Systems Engineering
- Microwave integrated circuits, MMIC/MHMIC
- Software Defined Radio
- Audio quality testing
- Video image processing
- Optical components and devices

Jeet Hothi  
Manager, Technology Transfer Office  
Communications Research Centre Canada  
3701 Carling Ave.  
Ottawa, Ontario K2H 8S2

Tel: (613) 990-2089  
Fax: (613) 990-7671  
E-mail: [jeet.hothi@crc.ca](mailto:jeet.hothi@crc.ca)

## Community Access Program

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cap-pac.nsf/eng/home>

The Community Access Program (CAP) is a Government of Canada initiative, administered by Industry Canada, which aims to provide Canadians with affordable public access to the Internet and the skills they need to use it effectively. With the combined efforts of the federal, provincial and territorial governments, community groups, social agencies, libraries, schools, volunteer groups and the business community, CAP helps Canadians, wherever they live, take advantage of emerging opportunities in the new global knowledge-based economy. Under CAP, public locations like schools, libraries and community centres act as "on-ramps" to the Information Highway, and provide computer support and training.

The program plays a crucial role in bridging the digital divide; contributing to the foundation for electronic access to government services; encouraging on-line learning and literacy; fostering the development of community based infrastructure; and, promoting Canadian e-commerce.

CAP projects are based on a competitive process that best meet the criteria below. Funding will be directed only towards the support of existing CAP sites that provide:

1. Effective support for the delivery of public access: Funding will only be directed toward sites that meet the operating requirements for CAP sites as described in Appendix A of the Application Guide, including the requirements to be open to the general public, to provide training and assistance to users of the site, and to display signage identifying the public access centre as a CAP site.
2. Success in reaching Canadians that face the Digital Divide: Funding will be directed to sites and networks that can demonstrate that they provide access to Digital Divide populations, namely Canadians who do not have access to the Internet because of economic, social or geographic barriers: identified low income Canadians, residents of rural areas, older Canadians, Francophones, Aboriginal Canadians, recent immigrants, and Canadians with limited education as being less likely to use the Internet than the general population.
3. Support for other service delivery objectives of the federal government: Funding will be directed toward CAP sites that support the federal government's online service delivery objectives for initiatives such as Government on Line (GOL). CAP sites and networks have supported GOL through partnerships with government departments or by providing training and assistance to the public.

4. Support for enhanced accessibility for people with disabilities: Networks are encouraged to coordinate with CAP sites in their area to provide an appropriate number of sites with enhanced accessibility to meet the broad range of needs of persons with disabilities. For example, it is encouraged to provide hardware and software to ensure people with specific disabilities such as impaired vision can have computer access, as well as offering barrier-free accessibility for persons with disabilities

**Eligibility of Applicants**

- Applicants must be legal entities.
- Applicants must have met the requirements of the statement of work and submitted all required deliverables under any previous contribution agreements with Industry Canada relating to CAP.

155 Queen Street  
14th Floor  
Ottawa Ontario  
K1A 0H5  
Fax : (613) 941-1232  
Phone : 1-800-575-9200  
TTY : 1-800-465-7735  
E-mail: [comaccess@ic.gc.ca](mailto:comaccess@ic.gc.ca)

## CAP Youth Initiative

[http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cap-pac.nsf/eng/h\\_00011.html](http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cap-pac.nsf/eng/h_00011.html)

Industry Canada's CAP YI receives funding from Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC) annually to hire youth between the ages of 15 to 30. Youth are hired either through the Summer Work Experience stream or the Career Focus stream:

- **Summer Work Experience** targets students who were in school prior to the internship and who are planning to return to school full-time after the internship. Funding from the Summer Work Experience Stream may be spent in the summer, fall or winter; and
- **Career Focus** stream targets high-school graduates that have some post-secondary education.

Youth work as interns at CAP Sites across Canada, helping individuals, community organizations and small businesses improve their knowledge and effective use of the Internet and related information technologies. Specific activities may include:

- Delivering Internet training sessions;
- Researching and developing Web sites;
- Drafting publicity materials;
- Organizing information fairs and special events; and
- Providing technical support to the CAP site.

All existing CAP Sites are eligible to apply for CAP YI funding. All applications for the CAP Youth Initiative must be sent to the Delivery Organization in each province. You can find these organizations under [CAP YI Across Canada](#). CAP Sites applying for youth funding must demonstrate that they can meet both the Criteria for Youth Interns and Criteria for CAP Sites (below) in order to be successful. The application must be complete and must contain current information.

Adjudication committees from each province or territory will use the criteria below as a checklist when reviewing applications for funding from CAP Sites.

### Criteria for CAP Sites

- CAP Sites must be open to the public at least 20 hours per week;
- CAP Sites must demonstrate the capacity to directly supervise youth intern;
- CAP Sites must show a need for ICT skills at the CAP Site or network cluster;
- CAP Sites must demonstrate sufficient administrative support and provide adequate workspace and equipment to the youth intern;
- CAP Sites must provide youth intern with meaningful work related to ICT;
- CAP Sites must provide an appropriate job description for the youth intern that reflects the CAP Site and community needs; and

- CAP Sites must ensure that the youth intern has email access since most communication from the Provincial Coordinator is through the Internet.

### **Criteria for Youth Intern**

- Youth must be between the ages of 15 to 30;
- Youth must be a Canadian citizen, a permanent resident, or is legally entitled to work in Canada;
- Youth must not be collecting Employment Insurance benefits during their internship;
- Youth must be a student intending to return to school full-time after the internship if hired under the Summer Work Experience; and
- Youth must be a high school graduate with some post-secondary education if hired under Career Focus stream.
- Priority will be given to youth facing employment barriers - Aboriginal people, members of a visible minority group, persons with disabilities, and women.
- Priority will be given to first time applicants to the CAP Youth Initiative.

Not eligible are persons who are family members of a CAP Site employee.

155 Queen Street

7th Floor

Ottawa Ontario

K1A 0H5

Fax : (613) 941-1232

Phone : 1-800-575-9200

TTY : 1-800-465-7735

E-mail: [comaccess@ic.gc.ca](mailto:comaccess@ic.gc.ca)

## Community Futures Program (Ontario)

[http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/fednor-fednor.nsf/eng/h\\_fn01468.html](http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/fednor-fednor.nsf/eng/h_fn01468.html)

Community Futures (CF) is a program that supports community economic development and builds the capacity of communities to realize their full sustainable potential.

The purpose of the CF Program is to help communities develop and implement local solutions to local problems. The program provides financial support to Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDCs) and CF Organizations that, in collaboration with other partners and stakeholders, can assess their situation and develop strategies to meet their needs, to provide support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and Social Enterprises and to undertake appropriate community economic development initiatives.

CFDCs offer a wide variety of programs and services supporting community economic development and small business growth, including:

- strategic community planning and socio-economic development
- support for community-based projects
- business information and planning services and
- access to capital for small and medium-sized businesses and social enterprises.

### Eligibility Criteria

Organizations, entrepreneurs, small-to-medium businesses and social enterprises located in Northern Ontario and rural Southern Ontario residing within the boundaries of the 61 Community Futures Development Corporations are eligible for CFDC support and services.

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### Target Groups

- small-to-medium business owners and entrepreneurs
- export firms
- municipalities
- local economic development organizations
- social enterprises
- third party organizations that provide advice or services to the above

### Summary

FedNor is a federal regional development organization in Ontario that works with a variety of partners, as both a facilitator and catalyst, to help create an environment in which communities can thrive, businesses can grow and people can prosper.

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Delivered through FedNor, the Government of Canada's Community Futures Program supports 61 Community Futures Development Corporations –

24 located in Northern Ontario, and the remaining 37 serving rural Southern Ontario.

The Community Futures Program provides funding to CFDCs to support one or more of the following activities:

- strategic community economic development planning
- business development
- skills development
- access to capital
- retention and attraction of youth
- technological enhancements
- economic development projects

What are some of the terms and conditions of the financing offered to small businesses by CFDCs?

CFDCs administer local investment funds to help finance new or existing small businesses and social enterprises for start-up, expansion or stabilization plans that help maintain or create jobs.

Repayable financing of up to \$150 000 on commercial terms through loans, loan guarantees or equity investments is available when financing from other sources is insufficient. All CFDC financing decisions are made at the community level by the local boards of directors.

With locations throughout Northern Ontario and rural Southern Ontario, CFDCs are well positioned to offer local solutions to local needs.

### **CFDC in Ontario - FedNor**

#### **Ontario Contact(s):**

Ontario Association of Community Futures Development Corporations Inc.

Community Futures Development Corporation

300 South Edgeware Road

St. Thomas, Ontario N5P 4L1

Telephone: 519-633-2326

Fax: 519-633-3563

Toll-free (information): 1-866-668-2332

E-mail: [info@oacfdc.com](mailto:info@oacfdc.com)

Web site: <http://www.ontcfdc.com>

#### **National Contact(s):**

FedNor

Industry Canada

Toll-free (information): 1-877-333-6673

Web site: <http://fednor.ic.gc.ca>

## Community Futures Program (Quebec)

[http://www.canadabusiness.ca/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=CBSC\\_FE/display&c=Services&cid=1131429709470&lang=en](http://www.canadabusiness.ca/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=CBSC_FE/display&c=Services&cid=1131429709470&lang=en)

The Community Futures Program (CFP) supports local economic development and strengthens the ability of communities to realize their full potential in a sustainable way.

### Summary

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Community development organizations benefiting from the CFP are:

- 57 Community Futures Development Corporations, located in designated rural regions;
- the 10 Community Business Development Corporations, located in the suburban areas;
- the 15 Community Economic Development Corporations, located in disadvantaged urban areas;
- the CFDC Network and the Quebec CFDC Common Fund.

Its main objectives are to promote:

- stability, economic growth and job creation;
- diversified, competitive local economies in rural areas;
- sustainable communities.

Through its network of partners, Canada Economic Development ensures that most communities in Quebec have local access to information on federal government programs and services.

See <http://www.dec-ced.gc.ca/eng/business-offices/business.html> for a list of regional contacts.

## Computers for Schools

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cfs-ope.nsf/eng/Home>

Computers for Schools (CFS) is a national, federal government-led initiative that operates in cooperation with all provinces and territories, the private and volunteer sectors. CFS collects, repairs and refurbishes donated surplus computers from government and private sector sources and distributes them to schools, public libraries and not-for-profit learning organizations throughout Canada.

CFS was co-founded in 1993 by Industry Canada and the TelecomPioneers, the largest industry-related volunteer organization in the world.

In preparing students and citizens for the demands of a world that is increasingly dependent on information technology, access to computers is essential. CFS assists in ensuring an equitable distribution of IT resources to Canadian public schools, libraries and not-for-profit learning organizations, and can help to stretch IT procurement budget. CFS ensures that every computer provided is “user ready”; that is, computers consist of the computer processing unit, colour monitor, mouse, keyboard and operating system software.

Your high school or community college can become part of the national repair network by partnering with CFS to establish a computer repair centre or computer club. These repair centres and computer clubs help CFS improve the quality and quantity of computers delivered locally. They provide technological skill-building opportunities in computer assembly, troubleshooting and repair.

By working together, we can:

- Improve the ratio of students to computers in your school.
- Improve students and citizens’ access to information technology (IT) resources, such as software programs and the world wide web.
- Integrate the assembly and repair of hardware components into your curriculum by establishing or liaising with local CFS repair and refurbishment workshops.
- Incorporate Computers for Schools into provincial/territorial training and employment programs.

Computers for Schools Program  
Industry Canada  
155 Queen Street, 14th Floor,  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H5  
Toll Free: 1-888-636-9899  
Fax: (613) 957-1201  
E-mail: [cfs.ope@ic.gc.ca](mailto:cfs.ope@ic.gc.ca)

# Computers for Schools – Technical Work Experience Program

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cfs-ope.nsf/eng/00005.html>

## Program Description

The Technical Work Experience Program (TWEP) hires students and recent graduates from college/university information technology program. The Program provides young people with a maximum of 52 weeks paid, practical, first job experience in Computers for Schools (CFS) repair centres throughout Canada.

## Eligibility

The Program is targeted at young Canadians, aged 15 to 30, who have acquired, or are in the process of acquiring a degree, diploma or certificate in Information Technology.

## Job Description

Under the supervision of CFS Repair Centre managers, young technicians will repair and refurbish computer equipment, sort and test computer software, prepare and package computers for shipment. The young technicians will also provide technical support to local school boards. In addition to practical, marketable work experience, each young technician will be allowed and encouraged to search for full-time work continually throughout their employment with the program.

## Application

To apply, contact [Computers for Schools in your province or territory](#) or look for job postings at your local Human Resources Development Centre or in your local newspaper. For more information about the Technical Work Experience Program, call Computers for Schools at 1-888-636-9899.

## **FedNor (Federal Economic Development Initiative in Northern Ontario)**

[http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/fednor-fednor.nsf/eng/h\\_fn02348.html](http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/fednor-fednor.nsf/eng/h_fn02348.html)

FedNor's Northern Ontario Development Program (NODP) promotes economic growth throughout a large and diverse geographic area – stretching from Muskoka Lakes to James Bay, and from the Manitoba border to western Quebec. Program contributions are available to support projects in six areas:

- community economic development;
- innovation;
- information and communications technology;
- trade and tourism;
- human capital; and
- business financing.

### **Community Economic Development**

FedNor is committed to efforts that create employment and stimulate growth in the North through partnerships with community groups and not-for-profit organizations. FedNor knows that by strengthening the capacity for Northern Ontario's communities to undertake effective community economic development, and that the supporting of community based planning projects and the implementation of strategic plans can result in long-term benefits, enhanced business competitiveness and job creation. FedNor also provides special assistance for economic adjustment, to develop and implement recovery or diversification strategies for communities that have been adversely affected by sudden or severe downturns in their local economy.

### **Innovation**

FedNor is committed to increasing the overall competitive position of the North by promoting interaction between science and industry. To help Northern companies bring new products and services to market, FedNor provides additional support for early stage research and development.

FedNor focuses on building innovation capacity in communities. FedNor provides assistance to organizations that attend to the necessary infrastructure, environment and conditions to facilitate applied research and development and the development, application and transfer of new technologies to the North. Past areas of FedNor support have included state-of-the-art mining technology, medical research and biotechnology.

### **Information and Communications Technology**

FedNor is committed to enhancing telecommunications infrastructure and networks throughout the North. This is an effort to increase opportunities for local business, build high speed data linkages to rural areas and to facilitate community economic development.

FedNor's goal is to ensure Northerners can compete on both a local and global scale by connecting Northern communities to the world by developing and enhancing telecommunications infrastructure networks, and information and communications technology (ICT) applications. Support and assistance may be provided to increase opportunities for local businesses, and establish high-speed data linkages to rural areas, which will facilitate community economic development and access to services.

### **Trade**

FedNor is committed to increasing Northern Ontario's share of international and interprovincial trade. By assisting with trade skills development, trade expansion and export development, FedNor helps Northern firms enter world markets. FedNor also encourages the application of electronic commerce and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises' export capacity as ways for businesses in Northern Ontario to compete in global trade.

### **Tourism**

To stimulate higher levels of tourism activity and tourism revenues in Northern Ontario, FedNor is committed to supporting and enhancing the tourism industry through infrastructure development, marketing and promotions, product development, training and education. FedNor's goal is to build upon existing local/regional initiatives which respond to marketplace needs and strengthen Northern Ontario's tourism industry.

### **Youth Internship Program**

FedNor realizes that Northern Ontario's greatest resource is its people. As a result, FedNor supports initiatives that assist people to remain in their home communities and provide them with the skills and networks to succeed in their local economy.

Through this program FedNor assists employers to provide recent post-secondary school graduates with valuable experience within both not-for-profit organizations engaged in economic development and with small businesses related to innovation. It is expected that these internships will lead to permanent employment within Northern Ontario curbing out-migration and nourishing the future.

### **Business Financing Support**

FedNor is committed to improving access to capital for small and medium-size enterprises in the North by working through a wide range of partners that provide financial assistance to Northern Ontario businesses that may not have the conventional means to finance.

FedNor knows that many Northern businesses need financial assistance to compete globally or to sometimes simply expand their horizons locally. FedNor stimulates investment in higher-risk enterprises by providing capital to community-based investment funds.

In addition, Community Future Development Corporations (CFDCs) located in Northern Ontario can provide access to capital via loans, loan guarantees or equity investments in order to create or maintain employment.

**National Contact(s):**

FedNor

Industry Canada

Toll-free (information): 1-877-333-6673

Web site: <http://fednor.ic.gc.ca>

# Industrial Technologies Office

<http://ito.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/ito-oti.nsf/eng/Home>

Innovation is vital to improve productivity in today's knowledge-based economy. Vigorous competition, rapidly evolving technology, and the ease with which investment and knowledge move around the world make it essential for Canadian companies to be innovative.

Research and development (R&D) is a key force spurring economic growth, and innovative companies are more likely to be part of that growth. In order to benefit all Canadians, the Government of Canada is investing in strategic R&D projects through the Industrial Technologies Office (ITO).

ITO will help advance leading-edge R&D by Canadian industries through the new Strategic Aerospace and Defence Initiative (SADI) program, as well as through projects already contracted under the Technology Partnerships Canada program and the Hydrogen Early Adopters Program. ITO also acts as the administrator for Industry Canada's Program for Strategic Industrial Projects.

The Strategic Aerospace and Defence Initiative (SADI) has three main objectives:

1. to encourage strategic research and development (R&D) that will result in innovation and excellence in new products and services;
2. to enhance the competitiveness of Canadian A&D companies;
3. to foster collaboration between research institutes, universities, colleges and the private sector.

Strategic R&D projects under SADI will use technologies that either:

- support the development of next-generation A&D-related products and/or services;
- build on existing Canadian strengths in A&D technology development;
- enable Canadian companies to participate in major platforms and supply chains; or
- assist the A&D industries in achieving Canada's international obligations (e.g. development programs supported by Canada).

SADI provides Canadian aerospace and defence (A&D) industries with repayable contributions for strategic R&D projects.

ITO calculates the contribution amount for each project on the basis of it being the minimum amount of assistance required to ensure that the project proceeds successfully and generates benefits for Canadians.

Contributions to SADI projects will equal approximately 30 percent of a project's total eligible costs. ITO is not required to distribute specific amounts of funding or percentage funding levels by region.

**Contact Industrial Technologies Office:**

**Address:** Industrial Technologies Office Industry  
Canada  
235 Queen Street, 7th Floor  
Ottawa ON K1A 0H5

**Email:** [info@ito.ic.gc.ca](mailto:info@ito.ic.gc.ca)

**Toll free hearing impaired only** 1-866-468-1669

**TTY:**

**Toll free (Canada):** 1-800-266-7531

**Fax:** (613) 954-5649

# Knowledge Infrastructure Program

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/696.nsf/eng/home>

The Knowledge Infrastructure Program is a two-year, \$2 billion economic stimulus measure to support infrastructure enhancement at post-secondary institutions across Canada. The program is part of the \$12 billion Government of Canada stimulus package announced in Budget 2009. Funds of up to \$1 billion in 2009–10 and \$1 billion in 2010–11 are available under this program.

For the university component, the program gives preference to projects that can improve the quality of research and development at the institution. For the college component, which includes publicly funded polytechnic schools, CEGEPs, and institutes of technology, funding is available for projects that strengthen their ability to deliver advanced knowledge and skills training.

## Eligibility

Knowledge Infrastructure Program applications are open to all institutions that are directly or indirectly authorized by agreement, under the terms of provincial or territorial statutes to deliver post-secondary courses or programs that lead to recognized and transferable post-secondary credentials. This includes public and not-for-profit private institutions, including Aboriginal-controlled and Government of Canada controlled post-secondary institutions.

## Eligible Projects

Projects eligible under the Knowledge Infrastructure Program are those that support deferred maintenance, repair and expansion projects at post-secondary institutions that improve the quality of research and development and the ability to deliver advanced knowledge and skills training. Eligible projects will need to be materially completed by March 31, 2011. Project eligibility is defined in the context of the two components of the program: the university component and the college component.

### (i) University Component

The Program gives preference to university projects that can improve the quality of research and development at the institution.

These include projects intended to improve the scale or quality of research and development<sup>1</sup> facilities; and projects intended to improve the health and safety, environmental, or waste-management aspects of research and development facilities.

Examples of projects enhancing university research and development facilities include:

- research laboratory renewals and upgrades to advanced training laboratories;

- expansion of buildings to meet research and development program needs, growth needs, and research and development needs;
- upgrades to building systems associated with research laboratories (such as improvements to electrical systems and to mechanical systems including heating, ventilation and air-conditioning, natural gas, and plumbing systems);
- enhancement of information technology services and data centre renewals and upgrades;
- renewal and expansion of office and meeting space for graduate students who are conducting research and development in the final stages of thesis preparation;
- research library renewal and expansion;
- research and development classroom renovations (such as renewing seats, finishes, sound and light);
- conversion of vacated space (e.g. a former library) to research and development space;
- conversion of old auditoria / lecture halls into research and development space; and
- renewal or expansion of research and development space for technology transfer offices, business incubators, and facilities supporting university-business collaboration.

Examples of projects enhancing the health and safety, environmental or waste management aspects of university research and development facilities include:

- installation of new technologies and implementation of approaches for improved energy efficiency in laboratories and classrooms (such as installation of energy efficient windows, lighting, pumps and motors, and conversion of heating plant burners to cleaner, more efficient fuels);
- asbestos removal, mould abatement and installation of emergency systems to support existing research; and
- ensuring research and development and related student training infrastructure meets current building and safety codes.

## **(ii) College Component**

The Program supports projects at colleges and other post-secondary institutions including publicly funded polytechnic schools, institutes of technology and CEGEPs that strengthen their institution's ability to deliver advanced knowledge and skills training.

These include projects intended to improve the quality of training facilities or projects intended to improve health and safety, environmental or waste-management aspects of teaching and training facilities.

Examples of projects intended to improve the quality of college facilities include:

- classroom and facility renewals and upgrades;
- expansion of buildings to meet training program and growth needs;

- upgrades to building systems for facilities (such as improvements to electrical systems and to mechanical systems including heating, ventilation and air-conditioning, natural gas, and plumbing systems);
- enhancement of information technology services and data centre renewals and upgrades;
- renewal and expansion of office and meeting space for students;
- library renewal and expansion;
- classroom renovations (such as renewing seats, finishes, sound and light);
- renewal of vacated space (e.g. a former library);
- renewal of old auditoria / lecture halls; and
- renewal and expansion of incubation facilities for industry and research.

Examples of projects intended to improve the health and safety, environmental, or waste-management aspects of college facilities include:

- installation of new technologies or implementation of approaches for improved energy efficiency in classrooms and facilities (such as installation of energy efficient windows, lighting, pumps, and motors, and conversion of converting heating plant burners to cleaner, more efficient fuels);
- asbestos removal, mould abatement and installation of emergency systems; and
- ensuring existing facilities meet current building and safety codes.

### **Eligible Costs**

The following project costs are eligible under the Knowledge Infrastructure Program:

- capital costs of constructing or renovating tangible capital assets, as defined and determined according to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) in Canada;
- costs of communication activities, project-related signage, lighting, project markings and utility adjustments;
- costs of engineering and environmental reviews;
- planning and assessment costs, including costs for environmental planning, surveying, remedial activities, engineering, architectural supervision, testing and management consulting services; and
- recipient audit and evaluation costs.

Knowledge Infrastructure Program  
 Room 931D  
 235 Queen Street  
 Ottawa, Ontario  
 K1A 0H5  
 Tel.: 1-866-978-2584  
 Email: [knowledge-infrastructure@ic.gc.ca](mailto:knowledge-infrastructure@ic.gc.ca)

## Life Sciences Gateway

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/lsg-pdsv.nsf/eng/home>

**The Life Sciences Branch (LSB)** seeks to stimulate the economic growth and competitiveness of Canadian biotechnology and health industries in the areas of bio-industrial products and processes, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, bio-pharmaceuticals, and e-health. The Branch examines and influences a range of business climate issues, while delivering on core trade and investment branding and promotion programs. In depth knowledge and analysis of the sector underpin LSB's initiatives in support of a positive business environment for the biotechnology and health industries.

**Mailing Address:**

The Life Sciences Branch  
Industry Canada  
235 Queen Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0H5

**Phone:** (613) 954-3077

**Fax:** (613) 952-4209

# Marquee Tourism Events Program

[http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/dsib-tour.nsf/eng/h\\_qq00160.html](http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/dsib-tour.nsf/eng/h_qq00160.html)

Canada's Economic Action Plan unveiled in Budget 2009 was designed to provide timely economic stimulus when it is needed most: now and in the next 24 months. The **Marquee Tourism Events Program (MTEP)** has been established to provide targeted, time-limited support to assist existing marquee tourism events to enhance their offering and deliver world-class programs and experiences. By the summer of 2009, Industry Canada will provide initial funding to marquee events that significantly promote tourism, in time to respond to the many events that bring tourists to Canada during the summer vacation period. Through this program, we will assist marquee events attract international audiences, which may have been impacted by the global economic downturn. The program defines a marquee event as an annually recurring world-class event that is well established and has a long-standing tradition of programming and management excellence. A marquee tourism event generates significant levels of tourism and aims to attract a significant amount of international media attention to Canada as a tourism destination. This support will contribute to the short-term and long-term growth and viability of Canada's visitor economy by increasing or sustaining the number level of tourism and tourism-related spending, providing an economic stimulus to ensure that tourism events can remain competitive from within and outside Canada.

## How the Program Works

Different program streams have been established, each with their own program parameters and funding levels:

- [Tier 1 Events](#)
- [Tier 2 Events](#)

Funding under the MTEP is available to support costs associated with new activities, programs or experiences that enhance a tourism event. Tier 1 applicants can receive funding up to \$3 million per fiscal year. Tier 2 applicants can receive funding up to \$1 million per fiscal year. Funding cannot be greater than 20% of a tourism event's previous year cash operating budget.

## Who Is Eligible?

Funding under the MTEP is available to for-profit corporations, not-for-profit corporations and First Nations Government organizations that organize recurring marquee tourism events.

## How Does My Organization Apply?

If you believe that your tourism event may be eligible for funding under this program, we invite you to submit an application using the [Program Guide](#) and [Application Form & Annex](#) provided.

### **The Application Deadline**

The deadline for Tier 1 and Tier 2 applications under the first call for proposals is **May 8, 2009**. Funding decisions for events taking place at the beginning of the summer will be made in a timely fashion, given the economic stimulus nature of the program. Additional calls for proposals will be launched later this year. Details to follow.

### **Monitoring and Reporting Obligations**

Tourism events that apply for and receive funding will be required to comply with a number of requirements to ensure that government funds will be applied as intended to help deliver enhanced world-class programs and experiences for tourists. Applications must include audited financial statements and a letter from the event's chairperson attesting to their commitment to adhere to the program's requirements. If funding is provided, all applicants will be required to provide annual audited financial statements for the two years following the completion of the proposed project and an independent study examining the economic impact of the funding. Applicants will also be subject to monitoring and independent audit for the funds received.

### **What Are the Eligible Expenses?**

Eligible expenses are project-based and directly linked to activities that support the expected results of this program by helping to deliver enhanced programs and experiences. Categories of eligible expenses include:

- capital projects (e.g. new stage);
- equipment;
- marketing and promotion;
- audit and reporting expenses for funds provided through the program;
- programming costs (e.g. artist fees); and
- other costs are deemed reasonable and are required to complete the project.

Please refer to the [Program Guide](#) for further details.

### **Contact Us**

Industry Canada  
Small Business and Marketplace Services  
235 Queen Street  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0H5  
Telephone: Ontario: 613-954-3588  
                  Quebec: 613-946-0848  
                  Other regions: 613-952-9412  
E-mail: [MTEP-PMTR@ic.gc.ca](mailto:MTEP-PMTR@ic.gc.ca)  
[www.ic.gc.ca/tourism](http://www.ic.gc.ca/tourism)

## **Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) Program**

<http://www.nce.gc.ca/>

Mobilizing research excellence for the benefit of Canadians, the NCE bring together researchers and partners from the academic, private, public and non profit sectors in areas of strategic importance for Canada: Information and Communication Technologies; Engineering and Manufacturing; Environment and Natural Resources; and the Health and Life Sciences

### **Awards**

Introduced in 2006, the NCE Chairs' Award recognizes brilliant researchers who have contributed to achieving NCE goals with the support of their network, mobilized the excellence of Canada's research talent in the academic and private sectors, and achieved economic and social benefits for Canadians. This tax-free \$15,000 award is made possible through the generous contributions of NCE industry partners in recognition of the significant value they derive from their ongoing collaborations with NCE researchers.

### **Chairs' Award Process**

Phase I – Each participating NCE organizes an internal competition and decorates one medalist who submitted an outstanding essay.

Phase II – NCE Awards Selection Committee reviews essays from all NCE medalists and identifies ultimate winner of NCE Board Chairs' Award – prize \$15 K.

### **Young Innovators Award**

The Young Innovator Awards program recognizes the young entrepreneurs by honouring outstanding individuals who, with the help of their networks, have been exceptionally successful in transferring their innovative research to a business, process, or service to benefit society at large. The award selection takes into account the needs of the users and constraints of their context of activities, the adaptation of research dissemination for the needs of users, and the depth of the mechanisms of exchange, including the social or institutional mechanisms of linkages between the candidate and the users.

### **Contact:**

Networks of Centres of Excellence  
350 Albert Street, 16th floor mailroom  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
K1A 1H5  
Phone: 613-995-6010  
Fax: 613-992-7356  
Email: [info@nc.gc.ca](mailto:info@nc.gc.ca)

## **NRC Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP)**

[http://www.canadabusiness.ca/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=CBSC\\_FE/display&c=Finance&cid=1081944191023](http://www.canadabusiness.ca/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=CBSC_FE/display&c=Finance&cid=1081944191023)

The NRC Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP) provides a range of both technical and business oriented advisory services along with potential financial support to growth-oriented Canadian small - and medium-sized enterprises. The program is delivered by an extensive integrated network of 260 professionals in 100 communities across the country. Working directly with these clients, NRC-IRAP supports innovative research and development and commercialization of new products and services.

NRC-IRAP views SMEs as the strategic backbone of the Canadian economy and is committed to working with them while they realize their full potential and turn knowledge and innovation into strategic opportunities, jobs and prosperity for all Canadians.

Recognized globally for research and innovation, NRC is a leader in the development of an innovative, knowledge-based economy for Canada through science and technology.

### **Services**

The IRAP portfolio of services has four main components:

- Technology Expertise and Advisory Services
- Financial Assistance for R&D activities
- Networking
- Partnerships

Canadian small and medium-sized enterprises (SME's) with under 500 employees and industrial associations desiring to enhance their technological capability are eligible for support.

#### **Technology Expertise and Advisory Services:**

NRC-IRAP Industrial Technology Advisors (ITAs) NRC-IRAP Industrial Technology Advisors (ITAs) help to identify and address the technical and research needs of SMEs, as well as their sustainable development issues, at each stage of the R&D development process and the innovation cycle. Chosen for their skills in technology and science as well as their experience in business, ITAs provide customized solutions to clients.

#### **Financial Assistance for R&D activities**

## **NRC-IRAP offers 2 kinds of financial assistance**

### Research and Technology Development Activities

NRC-IRAP provides non-repayable contributions to Canadian SMEs interested in growing by using technology to commercialize services, products and processes in Canadian and international markets. NRC-IRAP also provides mentoring support and invests on a cost-shared basis for research and pre-competitive development technical projects, upon assessment of a project and firm by a team of Industrial Technology Advisors. NRC-IRAP's partner organizations also receive contributions to provide technical and research assistance to Canadian SMEs.

### Youth Employment Strategy Programs:

IRAP's Internship Program with Innovative Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and Collaborative Research Internships Program provide firms with support to hire post-secondary graduates. Both firms and graduates benefit from these programs: firms benefit from the graduate's expertise in a diverse variety of disciplines and graduates gain valuable work experience that will help open the doors for future employment. NRC-IRAP delivers this youth initiative on behalf of the Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy (YES) Programs with funds from the Department of Human Resources and Skills Development (HRSD).

## **Networks**

The NRC-IRAP Network plays a critical role in bringing together the key players in the Canadian Innovation System for the benefit of SMEs. This extensive network links entrepreneurs, research and development (R&D) institutions, technology brokers and technology transfer centres to those with knowledge and information about local sources of financing.

The reach of the NRC-IRAP network extends past Canada's borders, with international connections forged by technology trade missions, linkages with Technology Development Officers (TDOs) and numerous visits and collaborations.

## **NRC-IRAP Partners**

NRC-IRAP maintains strong partner relationships with organizations at the regional, national and international level whose capabilities extend and complement NRC's contributions to the Canadian Innovation System for the benefit of SMEs.

Through its links with more than 100 partner organizations NRC-IRAP taps into the full power of Canada's Innovation System, both nationally and internationally, for the benefit of Canadian SMEs. IRAP continues to strengthen its connections with Canada's universities, technical and community colleges.

For Information on IRAP, or to reach an Industrial Technology Advisor (ITA) please contact the IRAP regional office nearest to you or call our toll-free number: 1-877-994-4727

## Paperwork Burden Reduction Initiative

<http://reducingpaperburden.gc.ca/eic/site/pbri-iafp.nsf/eng/Home>

The Paperwork Burden Reduction Initiative (PBRI) involves measuring the costs and impact of regulatory compliance on small business and pursuing opportunities to reduce, rationalize and simplify regulatory requirements across federal departments and agencies. It was launched in February 2005 in response to the Government of Canada's 2004 Budget commitment to create a working group of government officials and small business representatives to measure the impact of regulatory compliance on businesses and make measurable reductions in paperwork burden.

The PBRI has three key components:

- Advisory Committee on Paperwork Burden Reduction (ACPBR)
- *Survey of Regulatory Compliance Costs*
- Annual progress reports to the Minister of Industry

The Paperwork Burden Reduction Initiative builds on the recommendations of the External Advisory Committee on Smart Regulation (EACSR) presented in *Smart Regulation: A Regulatory Strategy for Canada*, released in September 2004. Specifically, the EACSR advocated that further work be done on issues relating to compliance and enforcement, including harnessing the potential of e-government as a vehicle for single-window access to government regulatory programs.

The PBRI contributes to the Government of Canada's Smart Regulation Strategy as it

- Addresses the regulatory burden imposed by federal departments and agencies;
- Encourages better coordination across federal government to reduce regulatory burden and manage unintended duplication of regulatory requirements;
- Examines the cumulative impact of regulations; and
- Establishes baseline data on the cost of compliance facing small businesses.

The Paperwork Burden Reduction Initiative (PBRI) involves two core objectives: measuring the cost of regulatory compliance on small business and pursuing opportunities to simplify regulatory requirements across federal departments and agencies. In order to meet these objectives, the PBRI consists of a number of projects to ensure results. These include a Statistics Canada *Survey of Regulatory Compliance Costs*, annual progress reports, the Inventory of Requirements and Obligations and a survey conducted by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB).

**Contact**

Paperwork Burden Reduction Initiative Secretariat  
Small Business and Tourism Branch  
Industry Canada  
235 Queen Street, 5th Floor  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H5

Email: [info@pbri-iafp.gc.ca](mailto:info@pbri-iafp.gc.ca)  
Industry Canada Help Desk Telephone: 613-954-5031  
Toll-free: 1-800-328-6189  
Industry Canada Help Desk TTY: 1-866-694-8389  
Fax: 613-946-1035

# Small Business Internship Program

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/sbip-pspe.nsf/eng/home>

## **What is Industry Canada's Small Business Internship Program?**

The Small Business Internship Program provides small and medium-sized businesses financial support to hire a post secondary student intern to assist them in their adoption of information and communications technologies to increase their productivity and competitiveness.

Industry Canada's Small Business Internship Program is a collaborative effort with Canadian small businesses, post-secondary institutions, and non-government organizations that offer promising post-secondary students hands-on experience working on e-commerce projects under the mentorship and coaching of entrepreneurs. Student interns will gain an appreciation of entrepreneurship, and an opportunity to explore career possibilities.

## **How does the Small Business Internship Program work?**

Small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) submit an application to the organization delivering the program in their area. If their application is approved, they can hire a student intern to help them take advantage of information and communications technologies (ICT) to help grow their business. SMEs will have the flexibility to hire the interns that possess the skills and abilities for their specific project or needs. We encourage them to hire from employment equity groups.

The SME negotiates the salary of the intern, and the benefits they may receive. Once the 12-week internship is over, the Government of Canada will reimburse 75 percent of their eligible costs, up to a total of \$10,000. The SME gets the information and communications technologies help they need to grow their business, and the student gets valuable on-the-job experience.

## **What are the eligible costs?**

Eligible costs that can be claimed by participating SMEs are the student interns' wages and related expenses such as statutory employee benefits.

## **How does the Small Business Internship Program address the ICT needs of SMEs?**

A significant number of SMEs are currently simply connected to the Internet or are passively on-line, and might not be taking advantage of the possibilities offered by e-business. The Small Business Internship Program seeks to improve the competitiveness of SMEs by supporting businesses to actively market on-line and improve their competitiveness with e-business practices and technologies.

## **Where to apply**

We are currently accepting applications for organizations who wish to deliver the Small Business Internship Program. A list of successful recipients will be available in May 2009. Once the delivery organizations have been selected, they

will start the process to seek and select projects proposed by the SMEs within their region, province or territory. Once projects/SMEs are approved, the SMEs will begin the advertisement and hiring process for students.

## Businesses

### **What are the eligibility criteria?**

To be eligible for this program, your firm must:

- be a small or medium-sized enterprise with less than 500 employees;
- be incorporated;
- wish to enhance your e-business capability.

### **What are the benefits of this program?**

Your firm will receive financial support towards the employment of post-secondary students who will work on information and communication technologies (ICT) projects. The Government of Canada will reimburse 75 percent of the eligible wages and related expenses such as statutory employee benefits, up to a total of \$10,000. Your firm is responsible for covering other expenses such as fringe benefits and overhead costs.

### **What is the process?**

Your firm will develop and submit a project proposal to your local delivery organization. Support will be available for twelve weeks.

### **How can employers participate in the SBIP?**

SMEs that are planning an ICT project, and would like to have a student intern help them make it a reality can submit an application form electronically, by mail or fax for project approval to their local delivery organization.

The delivery organization will assess the projects against the following criteria:

- Will the internship meet SBIP's objectives?
- Will it give a student intern meaningful work experience?
- Will it give the student intern 12 weeks of work?
- Will the employer provide a minimum of 25 percent of intern wages and related eligible costs?
- Will the internship run between May 1, 2009 and March 31, 2010?

All employers will be notified as soon as possible whether their project was approved or unsuccessful. The SME is then responsible for hiring and advertising their student intern position at universities and colleges, on job boards or other job advertisements as the SME sees appropriate.

## Students

### **How can students become SBIP interns?**

Students interested in being a part of the SBIP must meet the following criteria:

- be under the age of 30;
- be enrolled in a post secondary education program (or have recently graduated from such a program) AND intending to return to school;
- be pursuing education in an information and communications technology-related field where information technology (IT) knowledge and skills are important, e.g. business, e-commerce studies, computer science;
- be legally entitled to work in Canada (this includes permanent residents of Canada but does not include those awaiting permanent status, or persons with temporary work visas, such as students who have graduated and have temporary work visas); and
- be willing to compete for the positions.

### **How to apply?**

Hiring for the SBIP will be done by the SMEs who are involved in the program. Post-secondary students should check job boards at their local universities and colleges as well as any places where job advertisements may be placed by businesses looking for student interns.

Interested post-secondary students who meet the criteria can send their résumé along with a covering letter to the participating small and medium-sized businesses.

### **What are the student interns' obligations?**

SBIP student interns are expected to:

- demonstrate motivation, shared responsibility and commitment to achieving project goals;
- submit a short project report to the employer by the completion of the project;
- provide their consent to participate in the evaluation/assessment of the project;
- complete and submit the Participant Information Form (PIF); and
- not be in receipt of Employment Insurance at the commencement of Internship.

### **How many students will get placements?**

The SBIP will award approximately four hundred student placements across Canada. Each placement will last 12 weeks.

## The SME Financing Data Initiative

[http://www.sme-fdi.gc.ca/eic/site/sme\\_fdi-prf\\_pme.nsf/eng/home](http://www.sme-fdi.gc.ca/eic/site/sme_fdi-prf_pme.nsf/eng/home)

In 1996, the federal government commissioned the Task Force on the Future of the Canadian Financial Services Sector (MacKay Task Force) to examine public policies affecting this sector. With regard to SME financing, the MacKay Task Force concluded there was insufficient data available and recommended a concerted effort to improve the quality and quantity of information on SME financing.

The government's response in 1999 mandated Industry Canada, Statistics Canada and Finance Canada to work together in an ongoing effort to gather data on SME financing. To this end, the government departments have established the SME Financing Data Initiative (SME FDI), the most current and comprehensive data collection regime on SME financing in Canada. Through this Initiative, other research and analysis, a comprehensive picture of SME financing, covering the entire spectrum of financing products and services, is provided.

### **Contact**

SME Financing Data Initiative  
Small Business Policy Branch  
Industry Canada  
235 Queen Street, 5th Floor  
Ottawa Ontario K1A 0H5

Email: [info@smefdi-prfpme.gc.ca](mailto:info@smefdi-prfpme.gc.ca)  
Industry Canada Help Desk Telephone: 613-954-5031  
Toll-free: 1-800-328-6189  
Industry Canada Help Desk TTY: 1-866-694-8389  
Fax: 613-946-1035

# Strategic Aerospace and Defense Initiative

[http://www.sme-fdi.gc.ca/eic/site/sme\\_fdi-prf\\_pme.nsf/eng/home](http://www.sme-fdi.gc.ca/eic/site/sme_fdi-prf_pme.nsf/eng/home)

## Program Overview

The Strategic Aerospace and Defence Initiative (SADI) has three main objectives:

1. to encourage strategic research and development (R&D) that will result in innovation and excellence in new products and services;
2. to enhance the competitiveness of Canadian A&D companies;
3. to foster collaboration between research institutes, universities, colleges and the private sector.

Strategic R&D projects under SADI will use technologies that either:

- support the development of next-generation A&D-related products and/or services;
- build on existing Canadian strengths in A&D technology development;
- enable Canadian companies to participate in major platforms and supply chains; or
- assist the A&D industries in achieving Canada's international obligations (e.g. development programs supported by Canada).

## Types and Amounts of Contributions

SADI provides Canadian aerospace and defence (A&D) industries with repayable contributions for strategic R&D projects.

ITO calculates the contribution amount for each project on the basis of it being the minimum amount of assistance required to ensure that the project proceeds successfully and generates benefits for Canadians.

Contributions to SADI projects will equal approximately 30 percent of a project's total eligible costs. ITO is not required to distribute specific amounts of funding or percentage funding levels by region.

## Contact Information

Strategic Aerospace and Defence Initiative  
Industrial Technologies Office  
235 Queen Street, 7th Floor  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H5  
Email: [info@ito.gc.ca](mailto:info@ito.gc.ca)  
Toll free: 1-800-266-7531  
TTY (hearing impaired): 1-866-468-1669  
Fax: 613-954-5649

# Structured Financing Facility for the Canadian Shipbuilding and Industrial Marine Industry

[http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/sim-cnmi.nsf/eng/h\\_uv00002.html](http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/sim-cnmi.nsf/eng/h_uv00002.html)

The Government has extended the Structured Financing Facility (SFF) to March 2011.

The objective of the Structured Financing Facility (SFF) is to help ensure that shipyard capability exists for federal marine procurement and maintenance requirements in keeping with the Buy Canada procurement policy.

## **Objective:**

The objective of the SFF is to help ensure that shipyard capability exists for federal marine procurement and maintenance requirements in keeping with the Buy Canada procurement policy. Additional expected outcomes are:

- Creation of demand for Canadian shipyard work;
- maintenance or increase in number of Canadian shipyard jobs;
- maintenance or development of skill level of Canadian shipyard workers;
- development of innovation, adoption of new technology and improvement of productivity in Canadian shipyards.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

The applicant must be a purchaser or lessee of a vessel or offshore marine structure. The payment for the newly built or modified vessel or offshore marine structure must be financed by a lender or lessor who will receive the SFF contribution to reduce the applicant's interest or leasing costs.

## **What are the eligible products?**

Eligible products are new vessels or offshore marine structures and existing vessels and offshore marine structures undergoing major refurbishment, conversion or other major modification and constructed in Canada. The following additional criteria apply:

- The shipyard must be in Canada on a water way accessible to ocean-going traffic.
- The vessel is not constructed mainly of wood or fibreglass and is not a wind powered craft.
- The vessel is at least 25 metres in length.
- The price paid for the shipyard work is at least \$5 million.
- The vessel is solely intended for commercial use and not any private use.
- If it is a marine structure, it must be one used in the development or exploitation of offshore oil, gas and/or mineral resources.
- The vessel or offshore marine structure will be constructed and delivered by March 31, 2011.

Pleasure craft, as defined in the *Canada Shipping Act*, are not included.

## **SFF Description**

The SFF provides **financing support** in the form of a buy-down of financing costs. Subject to the limitations below, this support can be up to 15 percent of the purchase price paid to the Canadian shipyard for the construction or modification of an eligible vessel or offshore marine structure. The support is in the form of a non-repayable contribution.

The financing support is subject to the following limitations:

- The buy-down of interest or leasing costs cannot exceed 75 percent of total interest or leasing costs.
- If the vessel or offshore marine structure is for export, and a fixed-rate loan is used to finance the acquisition or modification, then the interest rate of the loan cannot normally be bought down below the Commercial Interest Reference Rate (CIRR) as defined by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

For Canadian applicants, the Canadian income tax regulations remove the right to accelerated capital cost allowance for vessels whose construction or modification was supported by SFF.

### **Contact:**

André Bernier  
A/Director, Defence and Marine Directorate  
Aerospace, Defence and Marine Branch  
Industry Canada  
235 Queen Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H5  
Telephone: 613-954-3774  
Fax: 613-998-6703  
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Aerospace, Defence and Marine Branch  
Industry Canada  
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Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H5  
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**Quebec Region**

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Industry Canada  
5 Place Ville-Marie  
Montreal, Quebec H3B 2G2  
Telephone: 514-283-7861  
Fax: 514-283-2269  
Email: [Dominique.Leroy@ic.gc.ca](mailto:Dominique.Leroy@ic.gc.ca)

**Ontario Region**

Jan Tremblay  
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4th Floor  
151 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario M5C 2W7  
Telephone: 416-973-5075  
Fax: 416-954-1385  
Email: [Jan.Tremblay@ic.gc.ca](mailto:Jan.Tremblay@ic.gc.ca)

**Pacific Region**

Richelle Dabrowski  
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Industry Canada  
300 Georgia Street West  
Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 6E1  
Telephone: 604-666-2768  
Fax: 604-666-8330  
Email: [Richelle.Dabrowski@ic.gc.ca](mailto:Richelle.Dabrowski@ic.gc.ca)

## Technology Road Maps

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/trm-crt.nsf/eng/Home>

The Technology Roadmap (TRM) concept is a consultative process that is designed to help industry, its supply-chain, academic and research groups, and governments come together to jointly identify and prioritize the technologies needed to support strategic R&D, marketing and investment decisions. These technologies will be of critical importance to an industry in the next five to ten years.

In developing a TRM, companies within a sector come together in a joint commitment to identify the critical technologies as well as the skills required to properly utilize the technologies of the future. The TRM, there, is a means to achieve a joint decision on future research and development, future skills development, and to establish a commitment to work together to address these challenges.

The TRM process in Canada is led by industry and facilitated by government. For more information, visit: <http://www.ic.gc.ca/epic/site/trm-crt.nsf/en/home>

# Federal Partners in Technology Transfer (FPTT) Awards

<http://www.fptt-pftt.gc.ca/eng/success/objectives/index.html>

Established in 1998, the FPTT annual awards program reflects the best practices employed by individuals in the public and private sectors, whether separately or as a team, to develop techniques, services and products that create jobs in Canada and new markets beyond our borders.

Each recipient of an FPTT Award stands alone as an example of the type of entrepreneurial drive and daring that are the lynchpins of innovative success. Together, they illustrate the depth and breadth of technological talent in Canada.

## **Purpose of the Awards:**

- Recognize Canadian federal employees for their outstanding achievements in the transfer of federal research and its subsequent exploitation.
- Demonstrate the impact of R&D undertaken in the Canadian federal government.
- Raise the profile of technology transfer activities in Canadian federal research organizations.

## **FPTT Technology Transfer Awards**

**FPTT Excellence in Technology Transfer Award** – Award recognizes the successful transfer of technology from Canadian federal research organizations leading to significant public good or economic impact. *(Up to 5 awards bestowed upon nominee(s) from FPTT Partner organizations who are actively involved in technology transfer and when appropriate the private sector firms who have successfully exploited the technology).*

**FPTT Leadership in Technology Transfer Award** – Award recognizes outstanding skill in technology transfer and/or excellence in technology transfer management. *(One award bestowed upon nominee(s) from FPTT Partner organizations who are actively involved in technology transfer).*

## **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- Nominee(s) are employee(s) of a FPTT Partner organization. A private sector firm may be included if they are the receptor of the technology.
- At least 50% of the research was conducted within a Canadian federal science-based department or agency, and at least 75% of the transfer effort was undertaken by staff within a FPTT Partner organization.
- Technology transfer is defined in its broadest sense and may include knowledge transfer.
- The nominated achievement must be submitted by a FPTT Partner organization.
- A maximum of six individuals to be included per nominated achievement *(note – one individual may represent an entire organization).*

- The nominated achievement must be endorsed by a senior official from the FPTT Partner organization confirming that they support the nomination for an award and will approve costs for attendance of at least one member of the winning team at the awards ceremony. (*Must be at the director general level or higher*).
- Letters from technology receptors endorsing the nominated achievement are encouraged.

Claude Morasse  
Director  
Federal Partners in Technology Transfer  
Telephone: 613-998-5285  
E-mail: [claudio.morasse@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca](mailto:claudio.morasse@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca)

## The James H. Bocking Memorial Award

[http://www.cba.org/CBA/Awards/jamesh\\_bocking/](http://www.cba.org/CBA/Awards/jamesh_bocking/)

The James H. Bocking Memorial Award is established by the National Competition Law Section (the "Section") of The Canadian Bar Association in memory of the late James H. Bocking (1947-1999), former Assistant Deputy Director of Investigation and Research at the Competition Bureau, to recognize his contribution to Canadian competition law and policy during many years as an official of the Bureau.

### Award

The award consists of a monetary prize in an amount based on the income and assets of the James H. Bocking Memorial Fund (see below), as well as a complementary registration for the Section's Annual Conference (usually held in late September) at which the award will be presented. The Competition Bureau generously pays reasonable travel and accommodation expenses incurred by the recipient (or by one of the recipients in the case of a joint paper) in connection with his or her participation in the Conference at which the award is presented.

### Criteria & Eligibility

The award is presented annually for the best scholarly paper submitted to the Section on a subject directly relating to Canadian competition law or policy. The papers should specifically address competition law and policy, rather than a more general law or economics topic. All full time students or lawyers within two years of their call to the Bar as of June 30, 2009, are eligible to enter. Only one award will be granted to the chosen paper, regardless of the number of authors, and all authors must meet the above eligibility criteria.

### Submission & Selection Process

- The author's name should not appear on the paper itself, but should instead be submitted under separate cover letter setting forth the author's full name, address, school or employer, daytime telephone number, fax number and e-mail address.
- The paper should be a maximum of 40 pages, double spaced, in length.
- Submissions may be sent by mail, fax, or email.
- The deadline for submissions is **5:00 p.m. (Ottawa time) on June 30**. Any entries received after the deadline will not be considered.
- The recipient of the award will be selected by a jury comprised of The Hon. Howard Wetston, Q.C. (Chair), The Hon. William P. McKeown Q.C., Dr. Stanley Wong, Prof. Jeffrey Church and Prof. Abraham Hollander.

### Entries may be submitted to:

Holly Doerksen  
Director - National Sections & Conferences  
The Canadian Bar Association

Suite 500 - 865 Carling Ave.  
Ottawa, ON K1S 5S8  
Telephone: (613) 237-2925 or (613) 237-1988  
Toll Free: (800) 267-8860  
Facsimile: (613) 237-0185

**The James H. Bocking Memorial Fund**

The award is made possible by the James H. Bocking Memorial Fund established by the Section and consisting of contributions from family, friends, colleagues, law firms, business organizations and government agencies. The fund is used exclusively for the purpose of financing the award and incidental expenses relating thereto.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: July 30, 2010**

## Young Entrepreneur Awards

[http://www.bdc.ca/EN/about/events/young\\_entrepreneur\\_awards/Pages/young\\_entrepreneurs\\_awards.aspx](http://www.bdc.ca/EN/about/events/young_entrepreneur_awards/Pages/young_entrepreneurs_awards.aspx)

Created by the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) in 1988, the YEA pay tribute to outstanding Canadian young entrepreneurs who have distinguished themselves not only by their success in business, but also by their creativity, innovative spirit and community involvement. There is one YEA per province and territory.

The YEA nomination campaign will be launched during Small Business Week 2010 (October 17 - 23) and will end on November 30, 2010.

The YEA winners will also be eligible to two special awards:

**The Export Development Canada Export Excellence Award**, presented to the winner with the most outstanding export results. This special award comes with a \$10,000 grant.

**The Corporate Social Responsibility Award**, presented to the winner whose company stands out in terms of practices and policies promoting environmental protection, sound human resources management or community well-being.

### To be eligible, you must:

- be a Canadian citizen
- be between 19 and 35 on December 31, 2010
- be a manager and have been actively involved in the company's daily management for a minimum of two years as of December 31, 2010
- own at least 20% of your business's capital stock

The YEA winners will benefit from:

- nationwide media visibility
- unparalleled opportunities for networking with other entrepreneurs
- valuable media relations training
- many skills development opportunities

### Contact

Email: [yea@bdc.ca](mailto:yea@bdc.ca)

Phone: 1 888 INFO BDC (1 888 463-6232)

# Collaborative Research and Development Grants

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/CRD-RDC\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/CRD-RDC_eng.asp)

## Objectives

To give companies that operate from a Canadian base access to the unique knowledge, expertise, and educational resources available at Canadian postsecondary institutions and to train students in essential technical skills required by industry. The mutually beneficial collaborations are expected to result in industrial and/or economic benefits to Canada.

## Eligible Region(s)

Canada

## Eligible Recipients

Universities and Colleges (and their students)

## Overall Fund Size

\$30 million per year.

## Fund Duration

Renewed annually.

## Target Technology Area(s)

Non-exclusive.

## Projects are evaluated on:

- scientific merit (the project must be scientifically sound, technically feasible, and promise either to generate new knowledge or to apply existing knowledge in an innovative manner),
- industrial relevance (the proposal must identify how the work will benefit the company and demonstrate that exploitation of the project results will benefit the Canadian economy and/or society within a reasonable time frame),
- training,
- research competence,
- private sector support, and
- benefit to Canada.

## Eligible Activities

CRD projects can be at any point in the R&D spectrum that is consistent with the university's research, training and technology transfer mandate.

Eligible collaborations include focused projects with specific short- to medium-term objectives as well as discrete phases in a program of longer-range

research. Projects that focus on the routine application of existing technology, provide routine analysis, collect data without interpreting underlying mechanisms, or provide professional practice or consulting services (contract research) are not eligible.

### **Funding Limits**

\$10 million available for new awards each year. The industrial partner must contribute to the direct project costs in an amount equal to or greater than the amount requested from NSERC.

The industrial cash must be at least one half of the NSERC request with the balance provided in in-kind contributions to the project by the industrial partner(s).

Typical NSERC awards range from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per year with no lower or upper limit. The maximum length of a project is 5 years, but 2 to 3 years is the typical cycle.

### **Eligible Costs**

NSERC funds are awarded to the post-secondary research institutions for the direct costs of the research program or project for which the funds were awarded, such as salaries, stipends, and related federal, provincial and institutional non-discretionary benefits for research work performed by research personnel (e.g., students, research associates, technicians), material and laboratory costs, field work and travel expenses.

### **Repayment Terms**

Non-repayable support (grant)

### **Application Cycle**

Open.

The committee meets 4 times a year to review applications in March, June, September and December.

Decisions are reached within 3-5 months after receiving a complete application

# Department of National Defense (DND)/NSERC Research Partnership Program

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/RPADND-EPRMDN\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/RPADND-EPRMDN_eng.asp)

## Introduction

A key strategic goal of the Department of National Defence (DND) and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) is to collaborate fully in the development of an innovative, knowledge-based economy.

To achieve this goal, DND and NSERC have established a jointly managed and funded DND/NSERC Research Partnership Program that aims to:

- capitalize on the complementary R&D capacity existing in the universities and in DND in order to generate new knowledge and support the development of new technical capabilities relevant to the development and application of dual-use technologies in selected areas of interest to both DND and NSERC;
- build strong two- and three-way linkages and create synergy between researchers in DND and universities and the private sector;
- achieve the efficient and effective transfer of research results and technology to identified receptors in the public and the private sector; and
- train and develop highly qualified personnel in priority areas consistent with the future human resource requirements in the public and private sectors.

## Grants Available

DND and NSERC will provide funding for university-based research, research training and research-related activities carried out in collaboration with DND and Canadian-based companies. In exceptional cases, the industrial collaboration may not be secured, i.e., the industrial capacity/potential industrial users may not yet exist in Canada. In such cases, applicants must specify in their application, why the proposed research represents an exceptional opportunity and how the research results will be exploited to the benefit of Canada. The maximum value of the research grants made available under this program is normally limited to \$500,000 per project. Requests exceeding this amount will only be considered under special circumstances and on a case-by-case basis.

Eligible activities include research projects and research programs (composed of a number of related research projects).

## Terms of Support

Approved activities may be supported for terms of up to five years with funding beyond the first year contingent upon evidence of satisfactory progress and, where applicable, evidence of continuing support from the industrial partner(s).

## **Eligibility**

The program is open to academic staff members of Canadian universities. Applicants must satisfy normal NSERC Eligibility Criteria as outlined in NSERC's *Program Guide for Professors*.

To be eligible for support, a proposal must involve a collaborative effort with at least one eligible industrial partner and/or at least one DND Scientific Authority; it must also include information about intellectual property agreement(s) being negotiated or in place that specifically address the disposition of intellectual property rights coming into and/or emanating from the proposed research project. An eligible industrial partner is a single Canadian-based firm or consortium of companies incorporated and operating in Canada. The industrial partner(s) must include at least one eligible industrial partner but can include other eligible and non-eligible companies.

## **Research Priorities**

The program will support unclassified university-based research dedicated to the development of non-weapon specific technologies with dual-use applications oriented towards the objectives of DND and with broader commercial applications.

Proposals should address the following priority research areas as agreed by DND and NSERC:

Electronics, Undersea Systems, Information Systems, Air Vehicles, Naval Platforms, Mobility Systems, Surveillance Systems, Human Systems Integration, Life Support Systems

## **Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Relevance to DND and NSERC Research Priorities
2. Merit of the Research Proposal
3. Interactions and Partnerships
4. Training
5. Management and Budgeting

## **Intellectual Property**

With regards to the ownership of the rights to intellectual property resulting from the research, refer to NSERC's Policy on Intellectual Property in the *Program Guide for Professors*.

When applying for grants, applicants must describe any agreements being negotiated or in place concerning the protection and disposition of intellectual property, exploitation of research results, and publications. In addition, provisions for the ownership of intellectual property resulting from the research must be included in the application and are subject to approval by the participants. The participants recognize that DND will normally seek rights to use or have used resulting intellectual property for defence purposes. A separate intellectual property agreement will be established between DND and the participants of

each research project supported through this program. Awards will be made on the condition that the parties reach an agreement on the disposition of intellectual property acceptable to DND and NSERC. DND, as a co-founder of the program, must be a signatory to the intellectual property agreement.

### **Application Procedures**

As a first step, applicants must contact the DND scientific authority to ensure that the proposed research activity aligns with the DND research priorities.

Research proposals must be submitted on NSERC forms. Applicants are required to meet all NSERC regulations described in its *Program Guide for Professors*. Proposals can be submitted at any time using Forms 100, 101 and 183A. Full instructions for professors and their industrial sponsors on how to complete the forms and on-line submission are found on NSERC's On-line Services page.

DND support to the project must be documented by filling the appropriate section of Form 101, Part I.

Before submitting an application, applicants and industrial partners are invited to discuss their proposals with the NSERC program officer, who can also comment on written drafts. The program officer does not assess the scientific or technical content, which will be done by peer reviewers, but can suggest changes that may strengthen the proposal. Applicants should ensure that their proposals include all the necessary information, since they may not have the opportunity to clarify their proposals during the review process.

The original application plus six copies can be submitted at any time throughout the year.

DND/NSERC Research Partnership Program  
Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council  
350 Albert Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 1H5

It is not necessary to submit an additional application to DND.

Questions about the program, its objectives, policies, completion of forms, etc. should be addressed to:

Rémy Chabot  
Program Officer, Research Partnerships Programs  
DND/NSERC Research Partnership Program  
Tel.: 613-995-5667  
Fax: 613-992-5337  
E-mail: [remy.chabot@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:remy.chabot@nserc-crsng.gc.ca)  
Web site: [www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca)

## Idea to Innovation Program

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/I2I-INNOV\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/I2I-INNOV_eng.asp)

### Objective

The objective of the Idea to Innovation (I2I) Program is to accelerate the pre-competitive development of promising technology and promote its transfer to Canadian companies. The program supports research and development projects with recognized technology transfer potential by providing crucial assistance to college and university faculty members in the early stages of technology validation and market connection.

### Description

The program provides funding to college and university faculty members, through defined stages, for research and development activities leading to technology transfer to a new or established Canadian company. Two distinct funding phases are proposed which are characterized by the maturity of the technology or the involvement of an early-stage investment entity (see [Partner Eligibility](#) below for definition) or an industrial partner. These phases are limited in time. In the first phase, the direct costs of research will be entirely supported by NSERC; in the second phase, they will be shared with a private partner. The technology development may begin with a Phase I (Reduction-to-Practice Stage – i.e., demonstrating that the innovation is sufficiently tested and will work for its intended purpose) project followed by a Phase II (Technology Enhancement) project or, if the development is at a later stage, it can start directly with a Phase II project. In any case, a maximum of three years' funding will be available for any given project.

Eligible research and development activities include (but are not limited to):

- refining and implementing designs;
- verifying application;
- conducting field studies;
- preparing demonstrations;
- building engineering prototypes; and
- performing beta trials.

The discoveries must be disclosed by the investigators according to institution policy and the industry liaison office (ILO) (or its equivalent) must endorse each proposal. All proposals must include a technology transfer plan, appropriate to the maturity of the technology, that describes how the work will proceed through the next stages in the validation process up to the eventual market entry. The ILO assists the applicant(s) in evaluating and protecting the new technology, service or process; developing proposals; preparing a technology transfer approach; making business contacts; and negotiating licensing or other such

arrangements with potential partners. Up to a maximum of 10 per cent of the award may be used to **co-support** some of the activities undertaken by the ILO. Eligible technology transfer activities include (but are not limited to):

- market studies;
- consulting fees (for business plan, market survey);
- patenting expenses; and
- expenses associated with creating a partnership (travel).

Half the cost of the technology transfer activities may be supported by NSERC up to a maximum of 10 per cent of the total award. **The institution must justify these expenses and commit itself to bear at least half of their cost.** Staff activities are not considered an eligible expense and cannot be used to leverage NSERC funds.

### **Phase I – Reduction-to-Practice Stage**

Phase I reduction-to-practice projects are designed to advance promising scientific concepts or technologies in order to attract early-stage investment and/or to build the intellectual property (IP) (e.g., broadening patent claims or strengthening licensing opportunities) in anticipation of transferring the technology to a new or established company. Any technology proposed in Phase I projects must be sufficiently mature, have its basic parameters already explored and have undergone sufficient testing to establish its potential to work in a product environment. Funding is available for up to 12 months, at a maximum of \$125,000, and is non-renewable. NSERC will assume 100 per cent of the direct costs of research for Phase I projects.

Each project is expected to have a “go/no-go” decision point at the end of Phase I when either seed funding will be provided by an early-stage investment entity or the technology will be further developed with an established or start-up company. All Phase I proposals require a plan describing how a partnership will be established with a Canadian company that has the capacity to commercialize the research results. Although a business partner is not a prerequisite for Phase I applications, a demonstration of interest may strengthen the proposal. It is expected that technologies implicitly or explicitly committed to a specific receptor organization or industrial partner will be submitted as Phase II applications. This may not apply if the intention is to create a spin-off company.

### **Phase II – Technology Enhancement**

Phase II projects are designed to provide scientific or engineering evidence establishing the technical feasibility and market definition of the technology, process or product. Phase II projects require an early-stage investment entity (Phase IIa) or a company (Phase IIb) to share the costs of the project. The supporting organization is expected to participate actively in the planning of the project. The proposals fall into two categories according to the partner involved as described below.

### **Phase IIa – Early-stage Investment Partner**

Proposals with an early-stage investment entity must be designed with a “go/no-go” decision point, after six to 18 months, representing the achievement of a predefined scientific or engineering milestone that justifies moving forward by further developing the technology either through a new (i.e., start-up) or established company. NSERC can support up to two-thirds of the costs of the project with the early-stage investment entity providing the balance in cash. Funding requested from NSERC should not exceed an average of \$125,000 per year.

Projects that achieve critical milestones may be pursued during another 12- to 24-month period with either the newly created company or an established Canadian company providing the cost-sharing arrangement for Phase IIb projects are met.

### **Phase IIb – Partnership with a Canadian Company**

Phase IIb proposals with a Canadian company are expected to be completed within two years and funding requested should not exceed \$350,000 for the duration of the project. NSERC may fund up to half the cost of the project, with the company providing the other half through a combination of cash and in-kind contributions. Each case will be evaluated on its merits; however, it is expected that the cash component should equal at least 40 per cent of the amount requested from NSERC.

The industrial partner must have, or be able to acquire by the end of the project, the technical capability to undertake any further development necessary to take the product or process to market. The company receiving the technology should be prepared to carry out the preliminary market study, product/process development, engineering, and sales and marketing planning required to establish that a technology is viable, and to enter the market successfully.

The industry liaison office is expected to assist the applicant(s) and the partner in developing proposals, identifying markets and negotiating licensing or other such arrangements.

### **Application Procedures**

Application forms and guidelines for this program are available on the [http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/Index\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/Index_eng.asp)

Applications are submitted by a college or university researcher (or research group) and, for Phase II projects, in association with an eligible partner. In the latter case, the institution and early-stage investment partner or company should have in place, prior to application, a licensing (or similar) agreement relating to the right to exploit the invention or discovery. All proposals are expected to be developed in close collaboration with the institution's industrial liaison office or its equivalent. The industry liaison officer involved in the application must be identified in the technology transfer section of the proposal.

## Review Procedures

All proposals are reviewed by the program's Selection Committee with input from external reviewers as required. The program's Selection Committee is composed of individuals with expertise in business areas such as academic and industrial project management, early-stage investing, marketing, and technology transfer. External reviewers are chosen for their scientific/technical knowledge and/or practical experience in the research field.

## Selection Criteria

All applications (Phase I and Phase II) will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- **Scientific/technical merit**
  - scientific basis for the expected commercial application;
  - clarity and focus of research objectives;
  - novelty, technical complexity, technical risk and feasibility; and
  - appropriateness of work plan, milestones, deliverables and decision points.
- **Team expertise and project management**
  - breadth and depth of team expertise in the proposed fields of activity;
  - adequacy of personnel and material resources allocated for research and technology transfer activities; and
  - quality of project management.
- **Potential for technology transfer and commercial benefits**
  - commitment of the institution through its technology transfer office (or equivalent);
  - appropriateness of the technology management and transfer plan;
  - anticipated benefits for a Canadian company; and
  - justification of the benefits of NSERC financing.

Criteria specific to each phase are detailed further in the application guidelines.

## Partner Eligibility

NSERC will evaluate the eligibility of sponsors before accepting proposals for review. The following organizations may be considered as eligible partners in the program.

**Early-stage investment group:** This term refers to either venture capital, a seed capital funding entity, angel investors, university technology transfer corporations, incubators or other similar funding or technology transfer organizations. Organizations that have received public funds as seed funding, but are functioning in a competitive environment and are required to achieve self-sufficiency within a pre-determined time period, may be considered as equivalent to industry.

**Companies:** Normally, participating companies must be Canadian. Companies outside Canada may also be considered as partners provided they can demonstrate that there will be clear and direct benefits to the Canadian economy as a result of their participation. As partners, companies must demonstrate that

they have, or have the potential to acquire, the capability to commercialize the technology under development.

**Researcher-owned companies:** A researcher's own consulting company or sole proprietorship is not eligible to collaborate on a project in which the researcher is the applicant or co-investigator. Situations where the researcher is a part owner are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and the company's stage of development will be taken into consideration in determining the eligibility. The commercial activity must conform to the institution's established policies relating to the disclosure of commercial interest and conflict of interest.

### **Reporting**

A report to assess the practical and financial outcomes of funded projects will be required at the end of all projects. The report requires the input of the technology transfer office. For Phase II projects, the amount of the second instalment is negotiable; consequently, the applicant(s) must provide an interim report as well as statements of actual expenditures and of anticipated future costs. Based on the results obtained or problems encountered, grantees may propose amendments to the project objectives, milestones or budget. The next instalment will not be released until the partner has confirmed that it has met its current year's commitment and that it intends to support the project in the next year.

### **Contact**

Tel.: 613-947-9485

E-mail: [i2i@nserc.ca](mailto:i2i@nserc.ca)

## Research Tools and Instruments Grants

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RTII-OIRI/RTI-OIR\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RTII-OIRI/RTI-OIR_eng.asp)

### Objectives

Research Tools and Instruments (RTI) Grants foster and enhance the discovery, innovation and training capability of university researchers in the natural sciences and engineering by supporting the purchase of research equipment and installations.

### Description

RTI Grants are one-year awards that assist in buying or developing research equipment that costs more than \$7,000. In exceptional cases, multiple-year requests will be accepted. The onus is on the applicant to clearly explain the rationale. Items costing less than \$7,000 each can be purchased with Discovery Grant funds or be included as a complement to a main piece of equipment being requested.

RTI grants are divided into three categories according to the total net cost of the equipment, i.e., excluding taxes, shipping, and handling. These categories are:

- RTI – Category 1: \$7,001 to \$150,000;
- RTI – Category 2: \$150,001 to \$325,000; and
- RTI – Category 3: more than \$325,000.

A moratorium on Categories 2 and 3 is in effect. <sup>1</sup>During this moratorium, NSERC will accept applications under Category 1 for equipment whose total net cost is up to \$250,000, provided that the applicant is able to secure funding from other sources to bring the amount requested from NSERC to \$150,000 or less. Such sources may include contributions from NSERC Discovery Grants held by the applicant or co-applicants. The use of other types of NSERC grants is permitted, provided that prior written authorization is obtained from NSERC.

NSERC will pay some or all of applicable taxes, as well as some or all of the shipping and handling expenses, as long as the overall grant does not exceed \$150,000. The applicant will be responsible for any amount in excess of \$150,000.

NSERC may assign applications to a different category for comparison with similar applications or to ensure the most appropriate review.

The eligibility of specialized facilities such as large environmental chambers and mobile laboratories is considered on a case-by-case basis. Applicants or research grants officers should contact NSERC before submitting proposals. Research Tools and Instruments grants must be used only to purchase the specific type of equipment for which the grant was awarded. Grantees who wish to purchase equipment different from that specified in the application must obtain written permission from NSERC prior to its purchase. Grantees may, however,

buy a model different from that requested in the application without prior NSERC approval.

NSERC recognizes that equipment may have to be purchased at any time during the year to avoid an unnecessary delay in a research program. Grantees should explore all possible avenues, such as the institution's General Research Fund, to cover the cost of replacement (refer to the paragraph on Residual Balances in Agency Accounts under Administrative Matters in the Financial Administration section of the *Program Guide for Professors*).

NSERC will accept applications only for equipment that has not yet been purchased, or that has been purchased within the one-year period immediately prior to the current deadline for receipt of applications. All applications are reviewed on a competitive basis.

NSERC will not accord any preferential treatment for equipment already purchased at the time of application and is under no financial obligation should such an application be unsuccessful in the competition. The applicant must indicate whether equipment has already been purchased and justify why a purchase prior to the application was necessary.

### **Application Procedures**

To apply, submit an Application for a Grant (Form 101) and a Personal Data Form (Form 100) for the applicant and each co-applicant.

Only applications from researchers who currently hold or are applying for an NSERC research grant (e.g., Discovery, Strategic, Research Partnership) at the time of application will be accepted.

For all RTI categories, if a cash contribution towards the purchase of the equipment is provided by an organization (other than the applicants' institutions(s)), a letter is required from the organization confirming this commitment.

A letter from the department must accompany every RTI – Category 2 application. The letter must indicate the importance and priority that the department places on the proposed equipment and the extent to which the department proposes to provide support.

Applications for RTI – Category 3 Grants must be accompanied by a letter from the university president indicating the importance and priority placed on the proposed equipment or facilities. The letter should explain the support the university will provide, such as the provision of space, financial contributions to the purchase and installation, the purchase of ancillary equipment, funding of technical support staff, etc.

Letters from supporting organizations, if submitted, should clearly explain the support that the organizations will provide, such as their involvement in the

research, their financial contribution (cash or in-kind) to the purchase and installation of the equipment, etc.

### **Review Procedures and Selection Criteria**

Applications for RTI – Category 1 Grants are reviewed by Grant Selection Committees (GSCs). Applications for RTI – Category 2 and 3 Grants are normally reviewed by an interdisciplinary committee, with advice from grant selection committees. External reviewers may be consulted and ad hoc visiting committees may be appointed for RTI – Category 3 applications.

Criteria for review are as follows:

- Excellence of the applicant(s)
- Merit of the proposed research program(s)
- Need and urgency for the equipment, including availability of and access to similar equipment<sup>2</sup>
- Suitability of the proposed equipment for the proposed research program(s)
- Importance of the equipment for the training of highly qualified personnel

Additional criteria for RTI – Categories 2 and 3 Grants are as follows:

- Clearly defined organizational structure that will ensure the equipment is well operated and maintained
- Synergy with existing equipment or facilities. Synergy is defined as the extent to which a grouping of equipment and staff enhances the value and capability of each piece of equipment and enables researchers to obtain results or carry out studies that would otherwise be very difficult or impossible. Synergy of the equipment is viewed as a positive factor, but is not a necessary requirement for funding.
- Accessibility to other users

For more information on eligible expenses under the RTI Program, see the [instructions](#) on how to complete an RTI application.

<sup>1</sup> This moratorium does not apply to applications in subatomic physics; these are evaluated within the subatomic physics envelope, and applications in Categories 2 and 3 will still be accepted.

<sup>2</sup> If you report anticipated use by, or benefit to, other sectors, you should describe the support secured from these sources or demonstrate the efforts made to obtain it.

## Strategic Network Grants (SNG)

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/SNG-SRS\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/SNG-SRS_eng.asp)

NSERC launched a **supplemental competition for Strategic Network Grants (SNG-SC)** this year in manufacturing. Funding is available for up to three networks. The deadline for submitting preliminary applications is past. For more details, review the **Strategic Network Grants Supplemental Competition** program description.

### Objective

The objective of the Strategic Network Grants Program is to increase research and training in targeted areas that could strongly enhance Canada's economy, society and/or environment within the next 10 years.

### Expected Results

It is expected that this program will:

- generate new knowledge/technology with the strong potential to strengthen Canada's industrial base, generate wealth, create employment, and/or influence Canadian public policy;
- increase the number of highly qualified personnel in the areas targeted by this program;
- foster the increased participation of Canadian-based companies and/or government organizations in academic research;
- result in the transfer of knowledge/technology and expertise to Canadian-based companies that are well positioned to apply the results for economic gain or to government organizations to strengthen public policy.

### Description

Strategic Network Grants fund large-scale, multi-disciplinary research projects in targeted research areas that require a network approach and that involve collaboration between academic researchers and Canadian-based organizations. The applicant should be an established researcher with a solid track record in collaborative research, student training and grant management, and who demonstrates the leadership and other skills necessary for managing a complex, interdisciplinary, multi-institutional project.

Strategic Networks may be local, regional or national. Strategic Networks require a minimum of \$500,000 and a maximum of \$1 million annually from NSERC and are funded for up to five years. These grants are not renewable for a second term.

To be funded, a Strategic Network Grant proposal must meet the following requirements:

- The network must support the objective of the Strategic Network Grants Program and fall within one of the targeted areas defined below.

- The objectives and scope of the network must be well-defined and the research results achievable within a five-year time frame.
- The network must involve a minimum of five academic researchers who are eligible to receive NSERC funding, from at least three separate departments, faculties or institutions.
- The network must have the strong commitment and active involvement of Canadian-based partners from relevant sectors (industrial, government), as appropriate for the research area. These organizations must be involved in all stages of the network, from development of the proposal to exploitation of the research results for the benefit of Canada.
- The network must offer opportunities for enhanced training of highly qualified personnel that takes advantage of the multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral environment of a network.
- The network must have an appropriate management structure to direct, manage, and integrate its activities.

### **Collaboration outside the Natural Sciences and Engineering**

The Government of Canada has called for its granting agencies to adopt a more strategic approach and increasingly support multidisciplinary collaborative research to address complex issues and create a real advantage for Canada. The agencies have agreed to collaborate to combine the strengths of various disciplines and achieve the greatest impact.

Consequently, and in recognition that the ability to implement policy or directly apply the research results can depend on socio-economic considerations as well as scientific understanding, applicants are encouraged to collaborate with experts who work in fields other than the natural sciences and engineering, where appropriate. Academic researchers outside the natural sciences and engineering may participate in Strategic Network proposals as co-applicants if they meet NSERC's eligibility requirements with respect to type, duration and nature of appointment. Research costs for these collaborations may comprise up to 30 per cent of the project costs and must be identified in the budget. All project expenditures will be subject to NSERC's Use of Grant Funds guidelines.

### **International Collaborations**

In its efforts to increase the impact of Canadian natural sciences and engineering research within the global research community, NSERC encourages applicants to incorporate international collaborations into their proposals. Current policies enable researchers to interact with foreign colleagues in a variety of ways to enhance the project and increase its impact on international research. Please refer to NSERC's guidelines on the *Use of Grant Funds*.

### **Partner Organizations**

A partner organization:

- is a Canadian-based company that can apply the research results in a way that generates wealth and/or employment (organizations without

- Canadian R&D or manufacturing operations will not be considered), or is a government organization that can apply the results in a way that strengthens public policy;
- collaborates in all stages of the research project, i.e., is involved in the development of the proposal and, as the project unfolds, interacts regularly with the academic researchers, students and other research personnel and provides input on the project; and
  - validates the results of the research and/or provides guidance concerning the exploitation of the results.

The network may also include other participants such as non-governmental organizations, government research laboratories, foreign research institutions, venture capitalists, implementation sites, or potential customers, but these participants **do not** qualify as supporting organizations.

Given that interaction between personnel from academic institutions and other sectors contributes to knowledge sharing and the development of highly qualified personnel, NSERC encourages secondments, cross-appointments, co-supervision of students, internships, reciprocal laboratory visits and joint workshops.

### **Target Areas**

**For the 2010 competition, only preliminary applications in the three following target areas will be accepted.**

- Advanced Communications and Management of Information
- Healthy Environment and Ecosystems
- Sustainable Energy Systems (Production, Distribution and Utilization)

**Applications will not be accepted in the following four target areas.**

- Biomedical Technologies
- Competitive Manufacturing
- Quality Foods and Novel Bioproducts
- Safety and Security

### **Application and Review Procedures**

#### ***Preliminary Application***

NSERC must receive the preliminary letters of intent no later than May 1, 2010. Successful applicants will then be invited to apply.

A complete preliminary application includes:

- an Application for a Grant (Form 101) (pages 1 and 2 only, including the appropriate signatures from the applicant's and key co-applicants' universities);
- a description of the proposed Strategic Network (maximum of ten pages) providing details regarding the:
- a Personal Data Form (Form 100) for the applicant and the key co-applicants; and

- a Statement of Interest – signed letter from each partner involved.

You can prepare an Application for a Grant (Form 101) (pages 1 and 2) using the electronic submission system, but you must print it out and submit the paper version (two copies). Preliminary applications cannot be submitted on-line.

### ***Preliminary Application Review***

Preliminary applications are reviewed by the Strategic Projects Selection Panels. Based on this review, applicants may be invited to submit full proposals.

### ***Full Proposal***

Applicants invited to submit a full proposal must do so within six months of the notification of acceptance of the preliminary application. NSERC will review requests for up to \$25,000 to assist in defraying the costs of preparing a full Strategic Network proposal. This should be sent to the Program Officer assigned to the file in the form of a one-page itemized request estimating the preparation costs and the portion to be paid by NSERC and the partners.

A full application includes:

- an Application for a Grant (Form 101);
- a Personal Data Form (Form 100) for the applicant and each co-applicant; and
- an Information Required from Organizations Participating in Research Partnerships Programs (Form 183A) and a letter of support from each partner. (See [Completing Form 183A](#) for details.)

Please refer to the [instructions for completing a Strategic Network application](#).

### ***Full Proposal Review Procedures***

Each Strategic Network proposal is reviewed by external referees and a Site Visit Committee. NSERC will assemble a committee of appropriate experts to evaluate the applications, taking into account the comments from external referees and the Site Visit Committee report in making funding recommendations to NSERC. Decisions on funding Strategic Network Grants are usually made within six months of receipt of the full application.

### ***Selection Criteria***

Strategic Network proposals are evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Merit of the Research Proposal
- Need for a Network Approach
- Interactions and Partnerships
- Training
- Management and Budget
- Benefits to Canada and the Partners

### ***Reporting***

Grantees must submit a mid-term progress report to NSERC, which will be reviewed by members of the original Site Visit Committee and the Strategic

Network Selection Committee. Continuation of funding is contingent upon satisfactory progress. Partners are required to confirm their commitment to the network annually.

Three months after the completion of network funding, all grantees must submit a final report on the network's achievements with respect to its objectives. Each partner in the network will be asked to evaluate it. Grantees are informed of the requirements for such reports at the appropriate time.

## Strategic Project Grants (SPG)

[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/SPG-SPS\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/SPG-SPS_eng.asp)

This will be the fifth and final competition using the current target areas. A review will be undertaken to determine the target areas that will be in effect for competition years 2011 to 2015.

### Objective

The goal of the Strategic Project Grants Program is to increase research and training in targeted areas that could strongly enhance Canada's economy, society and/or environment within the next 10 years.

### Expected Results

It is expected that this program will:

- generate new knowledge/technology with the strong potential to strengthen Canada's industrial base, generate wealth, create employment, and/or influence Canadian public policy;
- increase the number of highly qualified personnel in the areas targeted by this program;
- foster the increased participation of Canadian-based companies and/or government organizations in academic research; and
- enable the transfer of knowledge/technology and expertise to Canadian-based companies that are well positioned to apply the results for economic gain or to government organizations to strengthen public policy.

### Requirements

The Strategic Project Grants Program funds early-stage project research in targeted areas. To be funded, a research project must meet the following requirements:

- The project must support the goal of the SPG Program and fall within one of the targeted areas defined below.
- The objectives and scope of the project must be well-defined. The duration may be from one to three years.
- At least one academic researcher and **at least one** supporting organization must collaborate in the project.
- The supporting organization must be actively involved in all stages of the project; therefore, in-kind contributions are required, but cash is not.

### Collaboration Outside the Natural Sciences and Engineering

The Government of Canada has called for its granting agencies to adopt a more strategic approach and increasingly support multidisciplinary collaborative research to address complex issues and create a real advantage for Canada. The agencies have agreed to collaborate to combine the strengths of various disciplines and achieve the greatest impact.

Consequently, and in recognition that the ability to implement policy or directly apply the research results can depend on socio-economic considerations as well as scientific understanding, applicants are encouraged to collaborate with experts who work in fields other than the natural sciences and engineering, where appropriate. Academic researchers outside the natural sciences and engineering may participate in SPG proposals as co-applicants if they meet NSERC's eligibility requirements with respect to type, duration and nature of appointment. Research costs for these collaborations may comprise up to 30 per cent of the project costs and must be identified in the project budget. All project expenditures will be subject to NSERC's Use of Grant Funds guidelines.

### **International Collaborations**

In its efforts to increase the impact of Canadian natural sciences and engineering research within the global research community, NSERC encourages applicants to incorporate international collaborations into their proposals. Current policies enable researchers to interact with foreign colleagues in a variety of ways to enhance the project and increase its impact on international research. Please refer to NSERC's guidelines on the Use of Grant Funds.

NSERC recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) in France to foster France-Canada collaboration in scientific research. NSERC and ANR have agreed to establish a scheme for joint funding of Canadian/French collaborative research and innovation projects. In 2009, priority will be given to the following target areas: Advanced Communications and Management of Information Systems, Biomedical Technologies, Competitive Manufacturing, and Healthy Environment and Ecosystems. Interested researchers will prepare complementary proposals to their respective agencies in parallel following the normal application process for the Strategic Project Grants program at NSERC and the Programme blanc international at [ANR](#). For more information, refer to the [detailed instructions](#) or contact [SPG\\_France@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:SPG_France@nserc-crsng.gc.ca)

### **Supporting Organizations**

Each project must have at least one supporting organization that:

- is a Canadian-based company that can apply the research results in a way that generates wealth or employment (organizations without Canadian R&D or manufacturing operations will not be considered), or is a government organization that can apply the results in a way that strengthens public policy;
- collaborates in all stages of the research project, i.e., helps to develop the proposal and, as the project unfolds, interacts regularly with the academic researchers, students and other research personnel and provides input on the project; and
- validates the results of the research and/or provides guidance concerning the exploitation of the results.

The project may also include other participants such as non-governmental organizations, government research laboratories, foreign research institutions,

venture capitalists, implementation sites, or potential customers, but these participants **do not** qualify as supporting organizations. Given that interaction between personnel from academic institutions and other sectors contributes to knowledge sharing and the development of highly qualified personnel, NSERC encourages secondments, cross-appointments, co-supervision of students, internships, reciprocal laboratory visits and joint workshops. (For details, see the [Policy and Guidelines on the Assessment of Contributions to Research and Training](#).)

### **Target Areas**

1. [Advanced Communications and Management of Information](#)
2. [Biomedical Technologies](#)
3. [Competitive Manufacturing](#)
4. [Healthy Environment and Ecosystems](#)
5. [Quality Foods and Novel Bioproducts](#)
6. [Safety and Security](#)
7. [Sustainable Energy Systems \(Production, Distribution and Utilization\)](#)

### **Competition Budget**

The competition budget is expected to be approximately \$18 million per annum with each target area allocated a minimum of \$1.7 million. The remaining funds will be allocated according to priorities of the Government of Canada. These priorities are identified within each target area description. Priority will be given to applications that address the research topics identified in each target area. Projects that make a compelling case for research within the general target area, but are outside the research topics, will be considered “exceptional” and may be funded subject to the availability of funds. No more than 20 percent of the budget will be allocated to “exceptional opportunities.” “Exceptional opportunities” that respond to the STIC priorities will not be subject to this limitation.

### **Application Procedures**

NSERC must receive the application no later than April 15, 2010

A complete application includes:

- an Application for a Grant (Form 101);
- a Personal Data Form (Form 100) for each applicant and co-applicant (when completing Form 100, academic researchers outside the natural sciences and engineering may provide the requested information related to “Contributions” in an alternate format within the five-page limit); and
- an Information Required from Organizations Participating in Research Partnerships Programs form (Form 183A) for each supporting organization (see [Completing Form 183A](#) for details).

Please refer to the [instructions for completing an SPG application](#).

Applicants who require equipment to conduct the research must incorporate their request for equipment into the research proposal and justify the need for the equipment to conduct the research. Separate equipment requests will not be accepted.

## **Review Procedures**

NSERC evaluates applications in an annual competition, applying a pre-selection process if the number of applications is very high. External reviewers evaluate the proposals that pass the pre-selection. In September, selection panels review the proposals and make recommendations to NSERC. The awards are announced in October.

## **Selection Criteria**

Applications are evaluated according to the following criteria. More details on each criterion, along with a rating scale, are provided in the application [instructions](#). Each criterion is given equal weight in the evaluation.

- [Originality of the Research](#)
- [Quality of the Research](#)
- [Project Work Plan](#)
- [Quality of the Applicants as Researchers](#)
- [Training Potential](#)
- [Interactions with the Supporting Organizations](#)
- [Benefits to Canada and the Supporting Organizations](#)

## **Reporting**

During the second year of the project, all grantees must submit a progress report and supporting organizations will be asked for their feedback. NSERC will pay the final installment of the grant only if satisfactory progress and collaboration with the supporting organizations has been demonstrated.

Three months after the project end date, all grantees must submit a final report on the project's achievements with respect to its objectives. Each supporting organization in the project will be asked to evaluate the project. NSERC may use the supporting organization's evaluation when reviewing subsequent Strategic Project Grant applications from the same applicants.

During the five years after project completion, NSERC will collect information on the impacts of the funded research. Of particular interest is the fate of the trainees involved in the project; the benefits derived by users from outside the university sector; and tangible evidence of knowledge and/or technology exploitation resulting from the research.