

Building Research Partnerships Through NSERC

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 Natural Sciences and Engineering
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences
naturelles et en génie du Canada

Canada



My Goals Today

- Highlight NSERC Partnership Opportunities
- Answer questions



How Does NSERC Help Companies?

- NSERC helps companies solve R&D challenges by connecting them with experts at Canadian universities and colleges
- NSERC offers a suite of programs that fund researchers to work on problems of interest to their industry partners



Building R&D Partnerships Through NSERC

Connect



Connect with Colleges, Polytechnics and Universities (Pre-R&D)

Explore opportunities for business-researcher collaborations.

Engage



Engage with Colleges, Polytechnics and Universities (R&D)

Address a short-term R&D challenge for a quick win.

Collaborate



Collaborative R&D for Colleges, Polytechnics and Universities

Collaborate to solve a specific, research-based industry problem.





Connect with Colleges, Polytechnics and Universities (Pre-R&D)

Explore opportunities for business-researcher collaborations.

Connect Grants:

Help companies and academic researchers meet to define priorities for future joint R&D projects



Connect with Colleges, Polytechnics and Universities (Pre-R&D)

Explore opportunities for business-researcher collaborations.



Engage with Colleges, Polytechnics and Universities (R&D)

Address a short-term R&D challenge for a quick win.



Engage Grants

- Support new collaborations
- Aimed at solving company-specific problem
- Six-month project; up to \$25,000 from NSERC
- No company cash required; just in-kind
- New IP owned by company
- Apply anytime; 4-6 week turnaround



Engage Grants

8,483 new collaborations*

•Overcoming barriers through a simple application, quick turnaround time, high success rate, and no need for IP negotiations

•**1 in 4** Engage projects has led to a longer-term project, such as an NSERC CRD

•**1 in 6** companies have hired a student involved in an Engage Grant project

* From December 1, 2009 to January 31, 2017



Engage Grants

- 94% of companies describe the project as a success
- 86% of companies state their problem was fully or partially solved through the Engage project
- Companies report positive impact of Engage: enhanced R&D activity (66%), new business directions (62%), improved competitive position (49%), attraction of new investment (26%), enhanced knowledge base and skills (83%)
- 2/3 of professors report using the results of the six-month Engage project in a publication and student thesis



Engage Plus Grants

- Awarded to a researcher and company that previously collaborated on an Engage Grant project
- Build on the results of the original Engage project
- NSERC matches company cash up to a maximum of \$12,500
- Application submitted within six months after the original Engage project ends
- IP owned by the company; 4-6 week turnaround





Collaborative Research and Development Grants (universities)

- Focused R&D projects
- Grants range from \$10K to over \$400K per year
- Industry cash required
- Flexible leverage:
\$1 of company cash + \$1 eligible in-kind = \$2 from NSERC
- Apply anytime
- Peer-review; 3 to 5 month turnaround



Applied Research & Development Grants (colleges)

- Grants of up to \$150K per year
- For projects up to three years
- Apply any time
- Industry contributes cash and in-kind:
 - For grants up to \$75K - the company contributes $\frac{1}{2}$ of NSERC's contribution (at least \$10K in cash)
 - For grants between \$75K and \$150K - the company contribution equals the NSERC contribution (company contributes $\frac{1}{2}$ cash, $\frac{1}{2}$ in-kind)



College - University Idea to Innovation (CU-I2I) Grants

- Develop and strengthen research links between colleges, universities and businesses
- Accelerate the development of promising technologies and promote their commercialization into the Canadian marketplace
- Projects focus on improving or extending existing **company** technology, commercial products, processes, and/or services



College - University Idea to Innovation (CU-I2I) Grants

- Awards of up to \$250,000 per year for college and university participants and can span up to three years
- Company must contribute to the direct project costs with cash, in-kind contributions or a combination of both
- Company contributions can be matched at a max. level of 1:1 for both college and university participants

(e.g. If partner contribution is \$100,000, NSERC can award up to \$100,000 for college participants and \$100,000 for university participants.)



Experience Awards

- Hire undergraduate students to conduct research for a 16-week period
- NSERC contribution: \$4,500
- Company contribution: minimum of \$1,125
- Up to 15 students per company per year
- Potential future employees
- Apply anytime; four-week turn-around



Questions?

Frank Nolan

NSERC Prairies Regional Office
435 Ellice Avenue, Suite 430
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1Y6

Tel: **204-984-0426**

E-mail: frank.nolan@nserc-crsng.gc.ca

