



New Frontiers in Research Fund  
Fonds Nouvelles frontières en recherche

# 2022 Exploration Competition

## Full Application

## Webinar for Applicants and RGOs

July 2022



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# Overview

1. Funding opportunity description
2. Eligibility and roles
3. Review process
4. Full Application requirements
5. Information for RGOs
6. Questions and resources



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# Funding Opportunity Description

## 2022 Exploration Competition



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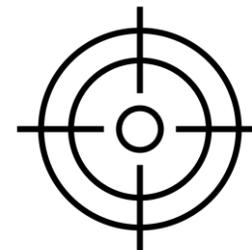
## Program Description

# Exploration Stream Objective

Goal: Inspire research that is **high risk, high reward**, and **interdisciplinary**.

Support projects that:

- **bring disciplines together** beyond traditional disciplinary or common interdisciplinary approaches;
- propose to **explore something new**, which **might fail**; and
- have the **potential for significant impact**.



Range of impacts:

Social, cultural, economic, health-related, technological, etc.

Proposals led from any discipline:

Social sciences and humanities, health, natural sciences and engineering.

## Program Description

# Value and Duration

**Value** → Up to \$125,000 per year (including indirect costs of up to 25% of direct costs).

Funds should be used primarily to support research activities, **not to acquire or maintain infrastructure.**\*1

\*1 [Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration](#)

**Duration** → Up to 2 years.

**Number of grants** → Minimum of 100 grants.

A proportion of awards will be reserved for **Early Career Researchers (ECRs).**\*2

\*2 *Research interruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic are recognized as an eligible delay → **starting on March 1, 2020.***

Funding Opportunity Description

## Competition Timeline

**June 28, 2022**

NOI Deadline (mandatory step)

**Sep 13, 2022**  
8:00 p.m. (EST)

Full Application deadline

**Feb 27- March 3, 2023**

Multidisciplinary review panel meeting

**March 31, 2023**

Start date of awards



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# Eligibility and Roles

## 2022 Exploration Competition



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## Eligibility and Roles

# Project Team Eligibility

At least 2 participants:

- a nominated principal investigator (NPI) who is an [independent researcher](#) at an eligible institution

**AND**

- a co-principal investigator (co-PI), who must also be an [independent researcher](#)

**OR**

- a co-applicant (co-App), who may be a:
  - researcher / professor → [independent researcher](#) ; **or**
  - practitioner, policy-maker, educator, decision-maker, health-care administrator, Indigenous Elder, etc.

## Eligibility and Roles

# Project Team Eligibility

NPIs, co-PIs and co-Apps:

- **must not** be affiliated with a government\* or for-profit company; and
- can participate in **only one Exploration stream application or grant at one time\*\***.

*\*With some exceptions; please refer to our website.*

For a proposal to be considered led by early career researchers (ECRs), **both the NPI and co-PI** (if applicable) must be ECRs.

Active Grants: Final Report submission by August 13 required to eligible for 2022 Competition

Refer to the [Eligibility](#) section of the Competition Overview



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# Review Process

## 2022 Exploration Competition



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## Review Process

# Overview

### Purpose:

- to identify the most meritorious applications to be recommended for funding by the multidisciplinary review panel

**External Reviewers assess the application for its High Risk, High Reward and Feasibility**

**Five members of the Multidisciplinary Review Panel review the application for all criteria, along with the external reviews, to make funding recommendations**

Consult the [Reviewer Manual](#) for more detail



## Review Process

# External Review

External reviewers will provide comments on the proposed project according to **3 criteria**:

- High risk
- High reward
- Feasibility

This process is **double-anonymous** (i.e. the external reviewers are not provided information that identifies the research team and vice versa).

The external reviewers will be provided with the following sections:

- NOI Stage: Summary of the Proposal
- Full Application stage:
  1. EDI-RD section;
  2. research proposal;
  3. budget justification; and
  4. literature references.

## Review Process

# External Review

To ensure anonymity:

- Do **not include any identifying information about the team members** (e.g., names, previous work, research groups, departments, institutions or organizations) in sections provided to the external reviewers.
- When referring to prior research, use non-identifying statements (e.g., “article was published,” “research was conducted on,” etc.)

## Review Process

# Multidisciplinary Review Panel

Adjudication involves scoring according to the evaluation [matrices](#) for the selection criteria:



1. Equity, diversity and inclusion-RD (EDI-RD) (pass/fail);
2. Interdisciplinarity / fit to program (pass/fail);
3. High risk: 40% of overall score;
4. High reward: 40% of overall score; et
5. Feasibility: 20% of overall score.

Each application will be adjudicated by 5 members

- 3 with similar area of research expertise
- 2 provide non-expert perspective

Members have access to all content from the NOI and Full application stages, in addition to the External Reviewers' reports

**This is not a double-anonymous review**



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# Evaluation Criteria

## 2022 Exploration Competition



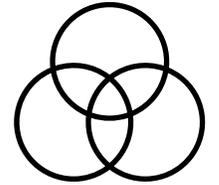
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## Program Description

# Interdisciplinarity / Fit to Program

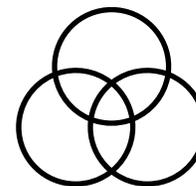


### Interdisciplinarity requirements:

- at least two different disciplines (as defined by the group-level classification of the Canada Research and Development Classification codes, [CRDC](#)); and
- the onus is on the applicant to explain **the novelty** of the interdisciplinary approach to justify the fit to program.

## Program Description

# Interdisciplinarity / Fit to Program



**Interdisciplinarity** can be defined by elements such as, but not limited to:

- Novelty of the Perspective → integrating two or more disciplines not commonly combined.
- Novelty of the Approach → application or adaptation of frameworks/tools/methods/techniques from one discipline to solve a problem in another discipline.
- Project Design → designed from an interdisciplinary perspective.

## **Subcriterion**

- Fit to Program → **pushes the boundaries of what can be funded through the agencies.**

## Program Description

# Multidisciplinary versus Interdisciplinary Research

### Multidisciplinary Teams

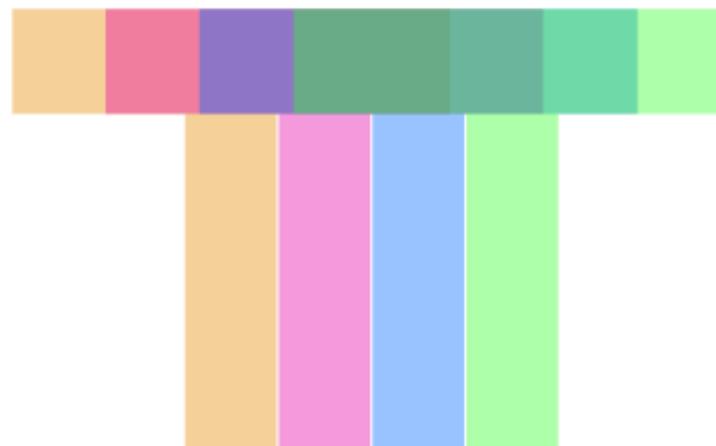
Each member operates as a part of a chain of responsibility



Members working in silo, by disciplines

### Interdisciplinary Teams

Individuals from different fields are expected to contribute ideas to the entire project stack



Members listen to and learn from others

## Program Description

# Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research Practice (EDI-RP)

\*referred to as EDI in previous Exploration competitions

EDI-RP is a core element of the NFRF program and is comprised of **3 key areas**:

1. team composition and recruitment processes;
2. training and development opportunities; and
3. inclusion.

For each of the three key areas above, applicants must explain:

- what actions they will take;
- the outcomes expected; and
- the assessment planned.

## Program Description

# Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research Practice (EDI-RP)

\*referred to as EDI in previous Exploration competitions

Actions proposed are expected to:

- **remove barriers**; and
- **provide opportunities** for the meaningful integration of individuals from all groups, including the four designated groups (women, Indigenous peoples, members of visible minorities and persons with disabilities).

Refer to the

[NFRF Best Practices in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research](#)

## Review Process

# High Risk



**High risk** can be defined by elements such as, but not limited to:

- proposing unique directions;
- challenging current research paradigms;
- enhancing understanding of complex and challenging issues;
- bringing new disciplines together with different perspectives, to use novel approaches for solving existing problems; and/or
- developing or adapting frameworks, methods and techniques.

## Review Process

# High Reward



**High reward** can be defined by elements such as, but not limited to:

- having an economic, scientific, artistic, cultural, technological or health impact;
- impacting and/or affecting large communities, or unique communities or subpopulations with the potential to provide lessons for other contexts;
- transforming and/or disrupting conventional thinking;
- resolving a longstanding issue or debate; and/or
- significantly advancing current knowledge, methods and/or technologies.

## Program Description

# Feasibility



Feasibility considers elements such as the:

- research problem being addressed;
- knowledge, expertise and capacity of the research team;
- current research in the field;
- workplan and timeline;
- proposed approach, including EDI in research design **(EDI-RD)\*** where appropriate;
- project's engagement and reciprocity with First Nations, Inuit and/or Metis peoples (for [Indigenous research](#)), where appropriate; and
- suitability of the research environment.

**\*referred to as GBA+ in previous Exploration competitions**



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# Full Application Requirements

## 2022 Exploration Competition



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Full Application Requirements

## Deadline

**Application deadline** for submission to NFRF:

**September 13, 2022 at 8:00pm EST**

Check with your **RGO**, who may set an earlier **internal deadline**.

**Note: for participants currently named on an active Exploration Grant; the Final report must be received by August 13, 2022, and approved by Full Application deadline**

## Full Application Requirements

# Participants and Suggested External Reviewers

- Additional members can be added e.g. co-PI (if one not already invited), co-Applicants and/or Collaborators (new members will need to complete Convergence profiles).
- Update the list of suggested or excluded external reviewers (a minimum of 3 from each primary research field)
  - Be mindful of **conflicts of interest**
  - Identify appropriate **expertise; min of 3 experts from each primary research field.**
  - Ability to review with confidence (including language).
  - Experts familiar with the various disciplinary approaches in the interdisciplinary project.
  - Consider **diversity** in your selection (Canadian and international; private, government and public sectors; gender; under-represented groups; established, mid- and early-career researchers)

## Full Application Requirements

# Application Components in the Convergence Portal

1. Budget Table
  2. Equity, diversity and inclusion in Research Design; EDI-RD (previously GBA+)
  3. 4. Equity, diversity and inclusion in Research Practice; EDI-RP (previously EDI)
  4. Certifications, licences and permits
    - [Agreement on the Administration of Agency Grants and Awards by Research Institutions](#)
    - [Requirements for Certain Types of Research](#)
  5. Supporting Documents
    - [Impact Assessment Form \(Appendix A\)](#)
    - a. Research Proposal
    - b. Biographical Information
    - c. Budget Justification
    - d. Literature references
- 

## Full Application Requirements

# Application Components in the Convergence Portal

https://www.convergence.gc.ca/en/applications-demands/nfrfe-fnfre/app-demande/proposed-budget-budget-propose/?applicationid=fb260788-88db-ec11-b823-005056ae3a54&fundingopportunityid=7725d964-01a...

Home > Application > Proposed Budget

## Proposed Budget

- Application Details
- ✓ Invitations
- ✓ Participants
- ✓ Collaborators
- Fields of Research
- Keywords
- Summary of Proposal
- ✓ Suggested Reviewers
- ✓ Reviewer Exclusions
- Proposed Budget**
- Equity, diversity and inclusion in research design (EDI-RD)\*
- Equity, diversity and inclusion in research practice (EDI-RP)\*
- Certifications, Licenses and Permits
- Supporting Documents
- Finalize Application

PDF view

<b>Application ID:</b>	NFRFE-2022-00100	<b>Administering organization:</b>	ZZZ-INTERNAL TESTING ENVIRONMENT
<b>Applicant:</b>	Gucciardi, Catherine	<b>Funding opportunity:</b>	New Frontiers in Research Fund - Exploration
<b>Title:</b>	Tree strength against freck winds in Ottawa		

The maximum budget for the direct costs of the research project is \$100,000 per year, for up to 2 years. In addition, you can request up to 25% of the value of the direct costs of research to cover indirect costs. For more details, consult the [Value and duration](#), and the [Regulations, policies and related information section](#) in the competition overview.

You must enter budget details for at least the first year.

Direct Costs Year 1	Direct Costs Year 2	Total Direct Costs
\$ 0	\$ 0	\$0
Indirect Costs Year 1	Indirect Costs Year 2	Total Indirect Costs
\$ 0	\$ 0	\$0
Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Total
\$0	\$0	\$0

Save

## Full Application Requirements

# Application Components in the Convergence Portal

Home > Application > Equity, diversity and inclusion in research design (EDI-RD)\*

## Equity, diversity and inclusion in research design (EDI-RD)\*

PDF view

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Application Details</li> <li> Invitations</li> <li> Participants</li> <li> Collaborators</li> <li> Fields of Research</li> <li> Keywords</li> <li> Summary of Proposal</li> <li> Suggested Reviewers</li> <li> Reviewer Exclusions</li> <li>Proposed Budget</li> <li style="background-color: #e0e0e0;">Equity, diversity and inclusion in research design (EDI-RD)*</li> <li>Equity, diversity and inclusion in research practice (EDI-RP)*</li> <li>Certifications, Licenses and Permits</li> <li>Supporting Documents</li> <li>Finalize Application</li> </ul>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"><b>Application ID:</b></td> <td style="width: 25%;">NRFPE-2022-00100</td> <td style="width: 25%;"><b>Administering organization:</b></td> <td style="width: 25%;">ZZZ-INTERNAL TESTING ENVIRONMENT</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Applicant:</b></td> <td>Gucciardi, Catherine</td> <td><b>Funding opportunity:</b></td> <td>New Frontiers in Research Fund - Exploration</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Title:</b></td> <td colspan="3">Tree strength against freek winds in Ottawa</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>*This was referred to as GBA+ in previous competitions.</b></p> <p>EDI in research design (EDI-RD) involves designing research so that it takes EDI into account, through approaches such as intersectionality, gender-based analysis plus (GBA+), antiracist approaches and disaggregated data collection. Analysis should include consideration of diversity and identity factors such as age, culture, disability, education, ethnicity, gender expression and gender identity, immigration and newcomer status, Indigenous identity, language, neurodiversity, parental status/responsibility, place of origin, religion, race, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status. The purpose of EDI-RD is to promote rigorous research that is sensitive to sex and gender, as well as many other identity factors, such as race, ethnicity, religion, age, and mental or physical disability. These considerations <b>must be integrated into the research design, when appropriate.</b></p> <p>Applicants and reviewers should refer to SSHRC's <a href="#">Guide to Addressing Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Considerations in Partnership Grant Applications</a>, as well as NSERC's <a href="#">Equity, diversity and inclusion considerations at each stage of the research process</a>. These are similar to the guidance that health researchers would be familiar with under SGBA/GBA+, as described in CHIR's <a href="#">Sex- and Gender-Based Analysis (SGBA) website section</a>.</p> <p>The NPI must ensure that the summary of the proposal (submitted at the NOI stage), the research proposal, the budget justification and literature references do not contain any identifying information about the team. The external review process is double-anonymous, with the applicants not knowing the identity of the external reviewers and the external reviewers not provided information identifying the research team.</p> <p><b>Indicate whether EDI in research design (EDI-RD) are appropriate considerations for the project, and whether they have been integrated into the proposed research. A rationale must be provided in cases where a research team believes no aspect of their research may benefit from an analysis to take into consideration sex, gender or other identity factors. These fields must be completed before your application can be submitted. (required)</b></p> <p> <input type="radio"/> Yes  <input checked="" type="radio"/> No         </p> <p><b>Justification (required)</b></p> <p>Maximum character count: 500   Characters remaining: 500</p>	<b>Application ID:</b>	NRFPE-2022-00100	<b>Administering organization:</b>	ZZZ-INTERNAL TESTING ENVIRONMENT	<b>Applicant:</b>	Gucciardi, Catherine	<b>Funding opportunity:</b>	New Frontiers in Research Fund - Exploration	<b>Title:</b>	Tree strength against freek winds in Ottawa		
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<b>Title:</b>	Tree strength against freek winds in Ottawa												

## Full Application Requirements

# Application Components in the Convergence Portal

### Convergence Portal

Home > Application > **Equity, diversity and inclusion in research practice (EDI-RP)\***

## Equity, diversity and inclusion in research practice (EDI-RP)\*

🔒 Application Details
✅ Invitations
✅ Participants
✅ Collaborators
🔒 Fields of Research
🔒 Keywords
🔒 Summary of Proposal
✅ Suggested Reviewers
✅ Reviewer Exclusions
Proposed Budget
Equity, diversity and inclusion in research design (EDI-RD)*
<b>Equity, diversity and inclusion in research practice (EDI-RP)*</b>
Certifications, Licenses and Permits
Supporting Documents
Finalize Application

PDF view

<b>Application ID:</b>	NRF-2022-00100	<b>Administering organization:</b>	ZZZ-INTERNAL TESTING ENVIRONMENT
<b>Applicant:</b>	Gucciardi, Catherine	<b>Funding opportunity:</b>	New Frontiers in Research Fund - Exploration
<b>Title:</b>	Tree strength against free winds in Ottawa		

**\*This was referred to as EDI in previous competitions.**

An application must **not** include any personal information about members of the research team (including the number of team members belonging to each of the designated groups) in the EDI-RP section; the focus is on the team's commitment to EDI in its research practice, not on the team's EDI profile. See the program's [Best Practices in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research guide](#) for more details.

If relevant, information that reveals the affiliation of the team members (including departments, lab groups, etc.) may be included in this section.

### Analysis of Context

The description should relate to the specific circumstances of your research team, environment, institution and/or field.

**Explain your team's specific challenges in relation to EDI-RP. (required)**

Maximum character count: 2500 | Characters remaining: 2500

### Team Composition and Recruitment Process

## Full Application Requirements

# Application Components in the Convergence Portal

## Supporting Documents

🔒 Application Details
✓ Invitations
✓ Participants
✓ Collaborators
🔒 Fields of Research
🔒 Keywords
🔒 Summary of Proposal
✓ Suggested Reviewers
✓ Reviewer Exclusions
Proposed Budget
Equity, diversity and inclusion in research design (EDI-RD)*
Equity, diversity and inclusion in research practice (EDI-RP)*
Certifications, Licenses and Permits
<b>Supporting Documents</b>
Finalize Application

<b>Application ID:</b>	NRFRE-2022-00100	<b>Administering organization:</b>	ZZZ-INTERNAL TESTING ENVIRONMENT
<b>Applicant:</b>	Gucciardi, Catherine	<b>Funding opportunity:</b>	New Frontiers in Research Fund - Exploration
<b>Title:</b>	Tree strength against freck winds in Ottawa		

PDF view

### Preparing Your Supporting Documents

Prepare your attachments following the requirements below.

1. All acronyms and abbreviations must be explained.
2. Pages must be 8 1/2" x 11" (216 mm x 279 mm).
3. Text must be single-spaced, with no more than 6 lines of type per inch.
4. All text must be in 11 pt Arial font; condensed fonts will not be accepted.
5. Margins must be set at a minimum of 3/4" (1.87 cm).
6. Pages must be numbered sequentially.
7. The application ID (i.e. NRFRE-xxxx-xxxx) must appear at the top of each page.
8. Do not include any identifying information in the headers and/or footers (e.g., name, PIN, institution, etc.).
9. The document name must appear at the top (e.g., Research proposal (maximum 4 pages)).

All attachments, including references (where applicable), must conform to these standards.

### Converting Your Documents

All attachments must be converted to Portable Document Format (PDF) before they can be attached to the application. If you have questions about converting your documents to PDF, please contact your institution's technical support staff.

For more information or to download a free conversion program, you may visit [PrimoPDF](#). Macintosh users have a PDF conversion option in the print menu.

**Please note:** You **must** preview all attachments you upload to the Convergence Portal to ensure that they have been uploaded correctly and the content is viewable. Corrupted or protected files that cannot be opened or viewed will not be accepted.

Refer to the [instructions](#) on how to submit an application for more information on what you will need in order to prepare your supporting documents.

The list of documents is ordered specifically according to the application stage.

Document Name	Stage	File	Actions
Research proposal (maximum 4 pages)	Application	Required	<a href="#">Upload file</a>
Biographical information about the research team (maximum 2 pages)	Application	Required	<a href="#">Upload file</a>
Budget justification (maximum 1 page)	Application	Required	<a href="#">Upload file</a>
Literature references (maximum 5 pages)	Application	Required	<a href="#">Upload file</a>

## Full Application Requirements

# Research Proposal

## Maximum 4 pages

- Describe the project and address why it is:
  - Interdisciplinary
  - High Risk
  - High Reward
  - Feasible
    - Discuss the approaches to Indigenous Research and EDI-RD (if appropriate)

**Do not include any information that could identify team members**

- State the objectives
- Describe the project:
  - methodology and design
  - work plan and timeline

## Full Application Requirements

# Biographical Information

### Maximum 2 pages

- Provide an overview of the research team's knowledge, background and expertise
- Identify the anticipated contributions of each team member
- Explain how their contributions will be coordinated and integrated
- If self-identifying information is relevant, it may be included in this section **only with the members' consent**

## Full Application Requirements

# Budget Justification

### Maximum 1 page

- Provide a breakdown & explanation of the direct costs
  - provide sufficient information to assess appropriateness of requested resources
- Other resources can also be described, if necessary, e.g. funding, materials, equipment
- Breakdown of indirect costs is not required

**Do not include information  
that could identify team members**

# Literature References

### Maximum 5 pages

- List of references cited in the application

## Full Application Requirements

# Instructions for Attachments

- All documents must be converted to Portable Document Format (PDF) before they can be attached to the application
- Be mindful of [formatting requirements](#) (page length, font size, margins, no personally identifying information, etc.) 
- Applications that do not adhere to the requirements can be withdrawn

## Full Application Requirements

# Finalizing the Application

- Review your application and submit it
- Accept the Terms and Conditions
  - Status will change to Received by Administrator
- If changes are needed – ask your institution's RGO to return it to you
- RGO approves and submits to agency
  - Status will change to Received by Agency
  - No further changes can be made



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# Information for RGOs

## 2022 Exploration Competition



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Information for RGOs

## RGO Role

### RGOs can:

- view applications from NPIs at their institution (expired, in progress and submitted);
- return submitted applications to the NPI; and
- forward submitted applications to the agency.

Before forwarding an application to the agency, **you will be asked to confirm:**

- that the participants meet the eligibility requirements; and
- that the proposed research project meets the eligibility requirements.

## Information for RGOs

# RGO Role

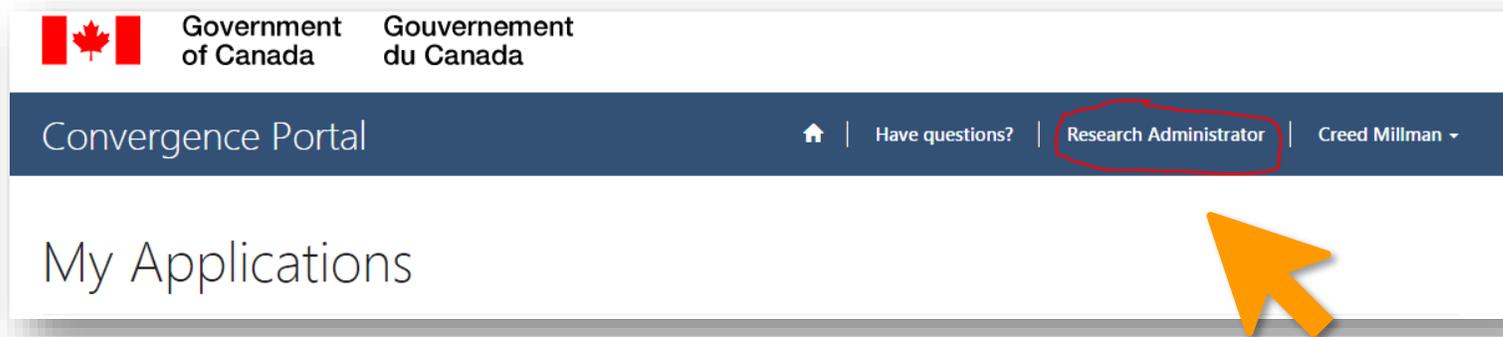
By forwarding the application, you will also be certifying, on behalf of the institution, that the NPI:

- is affiliated with the institution or organization;
- has the necessary time and resources to carry out the activity; and
- will notify NFRF by email (NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaires.gc.ca) of any changes during the tenure of the grant, including changes in the composition of the partnership, such as the addition of new co-principal investigators, co-applicants or collaborators.

Information for RGOs

## RGO Role

Use the “Research Administrator” button to access your institution’s applications



If you do not have this option, please contact [websupport@chairs-chaire.gc.ca](mailto:websupport@chairs-chaire.gc.ca)

[NFRFE 2020 Full Application Convergence Walkthrough \(11:45\)](#)



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# Questions and Resources

## 2022 Exploration Competition



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Questions and resources

# Questions?



Questions and resources

## Resources

### Contact Information

[NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaire.gc.ca](mailto:NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaire.gc.ca)

### On-line Services Helpdesk

[websupport@convergence.gc.ca](mailto:websupport@convergence.gc.ca)

613-995-4273



### Program Links

[NFRF Website](#)

[2022 Exploration Competition Overview](#)

[Full application guide](#)

[Reviewer Manual](#)

[Evaluation Matrices](#)



Questions and resources

## Resources

### Other EDI Resources

- SSHRC's [Guide to Addressing Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Considerations in Partnership Grant Applications](#)
- NSERC's [Equity, diversity and inclusion considerations at each stage of the research process](#)
- NSERC's [Equity, diversity and inclusion considerations for research teams](#)
- [GBA+ at CIHR](#)
- [GBA+ Training Module at Status of Women Canada](#)



Questions and resources

## Video Capsule

[NFRFE 2020 Full Application  
Convergence Walkthrough](#)

