



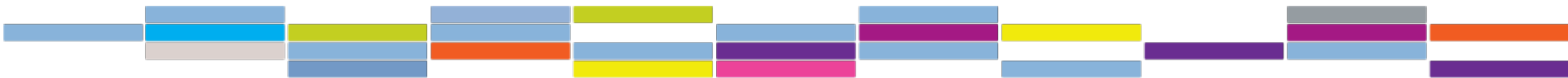
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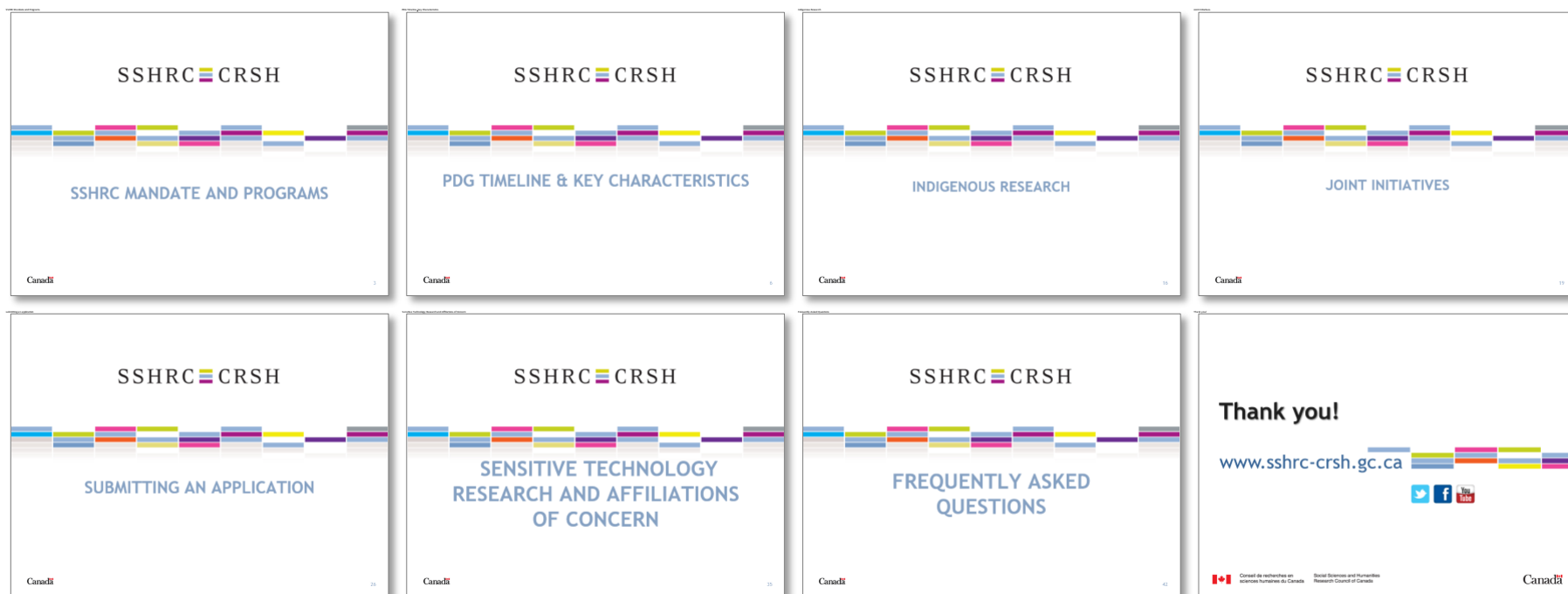
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Partnership Development Grants

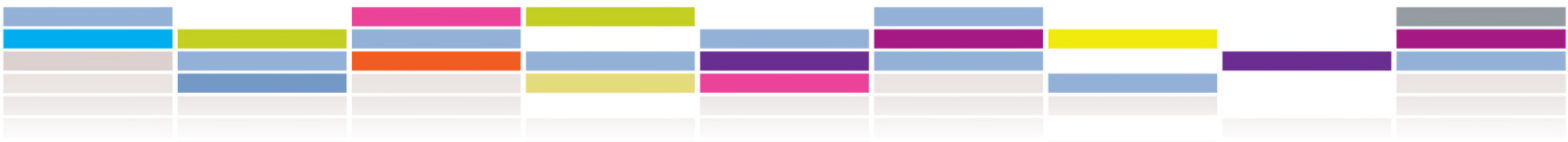
**Webinar Information
September 2025**



Presentation at a glance



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SSHRC MANDATE AND PROGRAMS

Mandate and Programs

SSHRC's overarching funding programs are

- Research Training and Talent Development Program;
- Insight Research Program;
- Research Partnerships Program.

PDG proposals must meet the objectives of the **Research Partnerships program.**

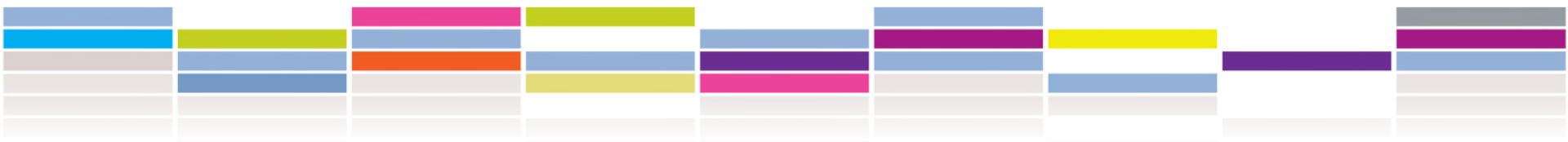


Partnership Suite

Funding Opportunity	Grant type	Adjudication	Partnership eligibility	Value	Duration
Partnership Engage Grants	Individual	One stage	Formal partnership with a single partner from the public, private or not-for-profit sectors	\$7K to \$25K	1 year
Partnership Development Grants	Individual	One stage	Formal partnership	\$75K to \$200K	1 to 3 years
Partnership Grants	Institutional	Two stages	Formal partnership	\$500K to \$2.5M	4 to 7 years



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PDG TIMELINE & KEY CHARACTERISTICS

Timelines for the PDG competition

- The deadline is **November 17th, 2025**, at 8 PM Eastern Standard Time
- The adjudication meetings will take place in late February to early March 2026
- The results will be announced in the Spring of 2026
- Results will be posted to the secure site and can be accessed by the research grants officers



PDG : Key Characteristics

Purpose: To foster research and/or related activities with new and/or existing partners.

Scope & Value: \$75,000 to \$200,000 over 1 to 3 years

Cash and in-kind contributions: Applicants and partners are expected to demonstrate that a formal partnership exists or will be developed, in part through the financial and non-financial commitments made by partners.



PDG : Key Characteristics (cont.)

- **This is an individual grant:** this means that the applicant holds the grant and not the institution they are affiliated with
- **Individuals:** the project director, co-directors, co-applicants or collaborators
- **Organizations:** partners or supporting organizations. A partner is always an organization according to SSHRC's definition



Partnership Approaches



Disciplinary and interdisciplinary research partnerships



Cross-sector co-creation of knowledge and understanding



Networks for research and/or related activities



Partnered knowledge mobilization



Merit Review

- Multidisciplinary selection committee includes expertise from the academic community, as well as the public, private and non-profit sectors.
- Evaluation criteria include Challenge, Feasibility, and Capability. Their weight is attributed in the following way:



Tools for Research and Related Activities



SSHRC defines research and related tools as vehicles that broadly facilitate research and related activities.



These tools enable researchers to collect, organize, analyze, visualize, mobilize and store quantitative and qualitative data and creative outputs.



In PDG, a maximum of **\$7000** can be requested for tools.



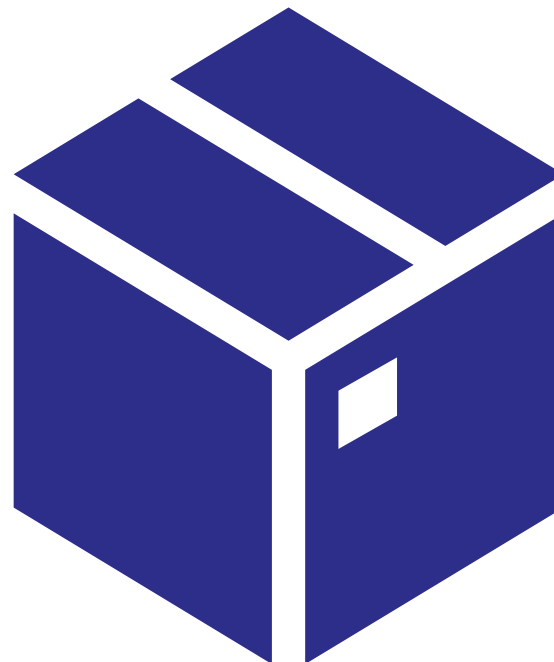
Research-creation and Salary Research Allowances

- Research-creation proposals are eligible and can include supporting documents
- Salary Research Allowances are available for Canadian not-for-profit organizations with a project director or co-applicant on the proposal. The research allowance is intended to compensate a non-profit organization for the time lost due to the participation of one of its employees. **This is not an actual salary (please see SSHRC's definition).**



Partnership Tool-kit

- The tool-kit includes:
 - o tips for applicants
 - o tips for managing partnerships
 - o resources such as webpages, documents, tools, reports, briefs, newsletters, videos
 - o frequently asked questions
 - o brief videos with project directors

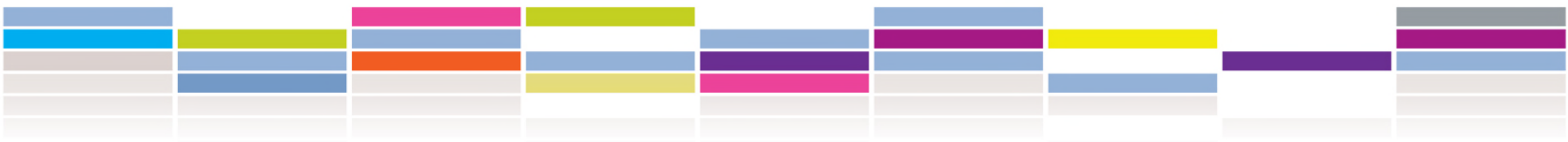


Reminders

- Research Contributions and Relevant Experience PDFs are 1 document (maximum 5 pages)
- Postdoctoral researchers and doctoral candidates interested in applying to PDG with no affiliation are asked to contact the Partnerships team before starting their application



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INDIGENOUS RESEARCH

Indigenous Research

SSHRC has tools specifically intended to support applicants working in Indigenous research; merit reviewers assessing applications related to Indigenous research; and communities and other research partners engaged in Indigenous research.

These include:

- SSHRC's [definition of Indigenous research](#)
- [Guidelines for the Merit Review of Indigenous Research](#)
- [Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans, Chapter 9: Research Involving the First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples of Canada](#)



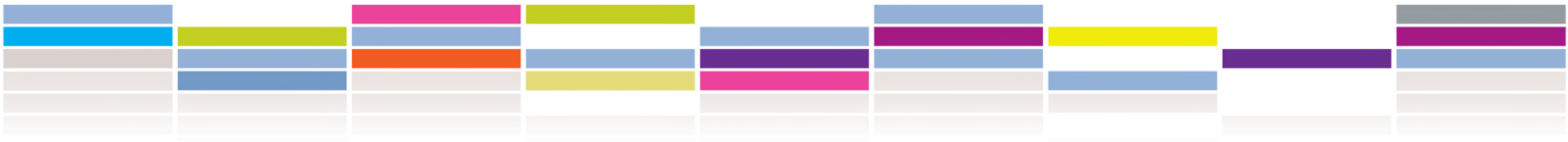
Indigenous Research (cont.)

Additional resources :

- [Royal Commission Report on Aboriginal Peoples](#)
- [Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada](#)
- [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- [Universities Canada principles on Indigenous education](#)
- [Indigenous Education Protocol for Colleges and Institutes](#)
- [Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences: Reconciliation and the Academy](#)
- [Parks Canada Indigenous Affairs Branch](#)



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JOINT INITIATIVES

Joint Initiatives

- **Belmont Forum:** an opportunity to link up with international researchers working on global environmental change research
- **MITACS:** supports research internships for students and postdoctoral researchers at Canadian non-academic organizations .
 - Each internship is cost-shared by Mitacs and the organization hosting the internship.
 - Internships can be applied for simultaneously with a SSHRC application **and** during the life of an active SSHRC grant.



Joint Initiatives - Mitacs Accelerate Joint Initiative

Main advantages of pursuing this joint initiative:

- Strengthen training and mentoring plans;
- Access additional funding for student and postdoctoral resources;
- Reinforce engagement with partners and stakeholders; and,
- Develop skills and qualifications of students and postdoctoral researchers.



Joint Initiatives - Mitacs Accelerate Joint Initiative

- Select “**Mitacs Accelerate**” from the JI drop-down list and submit a completed Accelerate application form to Mitacs within one week of the deadline
 - To access the Accelerate application form, contact a [Mitacs Advisor](#), noting that you intend to apply through this joint initiative.
- Merit review committees will consider the associated Mitacs internships as part of the application’s overall training and mentoring plans, but they will not be evaluating the Accelerate applications.
- If unsuccessful but recommended, applicant retains option of pursuing funding for the Accelerate internships



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IMAGINING CANADA'S FUTURE



Through the [Imagining Canada's Future](#) (ICF) initiative, SSHRC mobilizes social sciences and humanities research to address Canada's future, long-term societal challenges in a global context.



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Global challenges horizon scan: 16 emerging challenges



Working in the Digital Economy



Global Health and Wellness for the 21st Century



The Emerging Asocial Society



Shifting Dynamics of Privilege and Marginalization



Building Better Lives Across the Gender Spectrum



Inhabiting Challenging Environments



Balancing Risks and Benefits in the Emerging Surveillance Society



Humanity+



The Evolving Bio-Age



Living Within the Earth's Carrying Capacity



The Pervasive Contamination of the 'Natural'



Envisioning Governance Systems that Work



The Changing Nature of Security and Conflict



Truth Under Fire in a Postfact World



The Arts Transformed



Evolving Narratives of Cultures and Histories

**IMAGINING
CANADA'S
FUTURE**

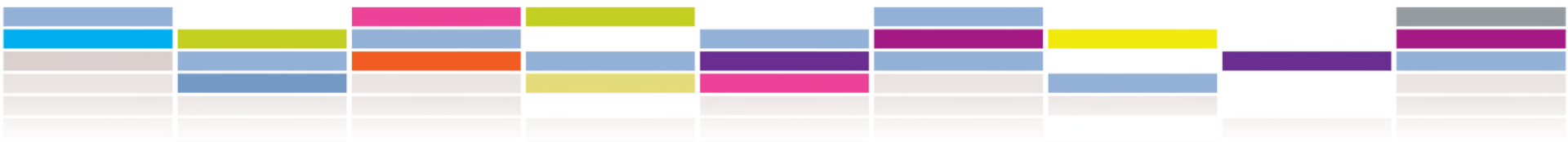
Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Interagency harmonization of the collection of self-identification data

- Age, gender, Indigenous identity, disability, visible minority
- Canada Foundation for Innovation, Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Genome Canada, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (including the Tri-Agency Institutional Programs Secretariat) have used a harmonized questionnaire
- Closely aligned with StatCan
- Mandatory for applicants, co-directors, co-applicants and collaborators
- Option “I prefer not to answer.”



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SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION

Tips to know before you apply

- **Institutional eligibility:** If you are not a Canadian post-secondary institution used to applying to SSHRC, but would like to apply, you will have to apply for institutional eligibility prior to your application; please contact our Corporate group. You will need to give SSHRC at least 5 business days' notice.
- **Indigenous non-profit organizations:** Please begin the application process at least two months before the application deadline.
- **Partner eligibility:** Your partner organization does not need to hold institutional eligibility with SSHRC.
- **Participants:** Please see SSHRC's definitions of co-directors, co-applicants and collaborators.



Tips to know before you apply (cont.)

- **CVs:** PDG requires the SSHRC CV
- **Partners:** Partners are required to confirm their participation on the application, by providing a letter of support to be uploaded to the site and by accepting the invitation online to partner on the application.
- **Deadlines:** While the deadline date is November 15th, some research grants offices have earlier internal deadlines, so please connect with them ASAP.



Tips to know before you apply (cont. II)

- **Budgets:** committees evaluate the budget as part of its Evaluation Criteria; a failing budget can result in a failed grant application!
- SSHRC provides a table to be filled in with proper amounts as well as two blank pages where these costs can be laid out and properly justified
- SSHRC adheres to the [Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration](#)
- Student support is an important part of our mandate and must be included in some form on the budget
- There are no salaries or release time stipends for academic researchers



Tips to know before you apply (cont. III)

- Review instructions before starting your application
- Contact us for questions well in advance
- Plan meetings with partners prior to the application process and include your research office if possible
- Set earlier internal deadlines with your team
- Complete any outstanding Achievement Reports



Subject Matter Eligibility

- **Ensure that subject matter eligibility is aligned with SSHRC's mandate**
- The program of research must be primarily in the social sciences and humanities (i.e., aligned with the SSHRC [legislated mandate](#)) and;
- The intended outcome of the research must primarily be to add to our understanding and knowledge of individuals, groups, and societies - what we think, how we live and how we interact with each other and the world around us.
- **The use of social science or humanities theories, methodologies and hypotheses is, in and of itself, not sufficient to make the proposal eligible at SSHRC.**



Subject Matter Eligibility (cont'd)

- **Subject Matter Related to Health**
 - Research primarily intended to improve health, produce more effective health services and products and/or strengthen the health care system in Canada or internationally (e.g., research concerning the treatment, prevention or diagnosis of a condition, the evaluation of the effectiveness of health programs, the development of health management systems, etc.) **is not eligible for consideration at SSHRC.**
 - Research involving clinical trials, with a health research orientation, is not eligible for SSHRC support.
 - **Research that is eligible under the mandate of CIHR will not be considered by SSHRC.**



Subject Matter Eligibility Resources

Please review the following resources when preparing your application

- [Selecting the Appropriate Funding Agency](#)
- [SSHRC Subject Matter Eligibility](#)



Accessibility in programs and services at the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

Raising research community awareness of accessibility services

Methods of communication

Types of adaptive measures

New procedure of requesting an adaptive measure via a form

For more details, please consult this webpage launched in 2023 and updated in 2025

If you have questions about accessibility, please send us an email to accessibility-accessibilite@sshrcc-crsh.gc.ca

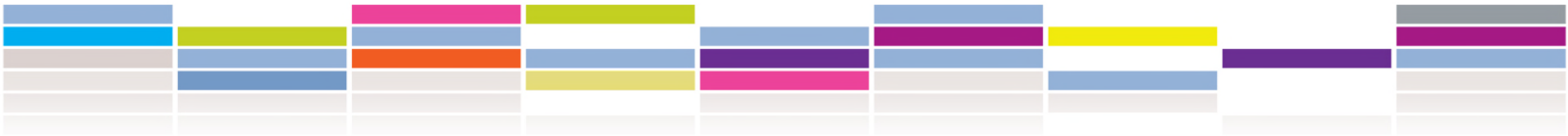


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SENSITIVE TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND AFFILIATIONS OF CONCERN

STRAC POLICY

- On January 16, 2024, the Government of Canada announced the [Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern](#) (STRAC Policy).
- The policy operates using two lists that must be used in conjunction — a list of [Sensitive Technology Research Areas](#) (STRA) and a list of [Named Research Organizations](#) (NRO).
- Grant applications that involve conducting research and related activities that aim to advance a sensitive technology research area will not be funded if any of the researchers involved in activities supported by the grant are affiliated with, or in receipt of funding or in-kind support from, a university, research institute or laboratory connected to military, national defence or state security entities that could pose a risk to Canada's national security.



STRAC POLICY

- In the application form, applicants will be asked if the proposed research grant aims to advance a STRA. ***If not, no further action is required.***
- If so, applicants and other named roles (i.e., co-directors, co-applicants and collaborators) must complete attestation forms, available through a link in the application form, to certify they are not currently affiliated with an NRO.
- Those with named roles must provide the completed attestation forms to the applicant, who must save them as a single PDF and upload it to the STRAC Attestation module of the application form.

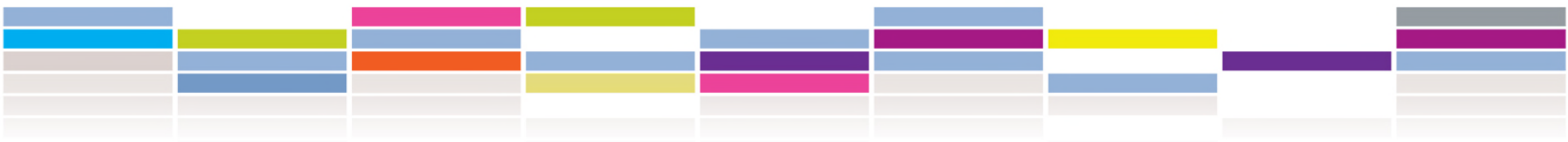


STRAC POLICY

- For applications aiming to advance a STRA, the inclusion of completed attestation forms is an eligibility issue. However, whether an application aims to advance a STRA or not will **not** affect merit review.
- If an application aiming to advance a STRA is successful, any post-award additions of participants with named roles will require completed attestation forms.
- Grantees must also inform SSHRC if the nature of their research evolves such that activities supported by the grant would aim to advance a STRA. Grant recipients cannot proceed with these new research activities until the appropriate granting agency's approval has been obtained.
- For further guidance and FAQs: [Tri-agency guidance on the Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern \(STRAC Policy\) - Research security \(nserc-crsng.gc.ca\)](https://nserc-crsng.gc.ca/STRAC/STRAC_Policy/Pages/Research_security.aspx)



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THE NATIONAL SECURITY GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS (NSGRP) **(NEW)**

The National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships (NSGRP)

About the NSGRP

- The Government of Canada introduced the National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships (NSGRP) to integrate national security considerations into the development, evaluation, and funding of research partnerships.
- The NSGRP applies to certain **research partnership funding programs**, including **Partnership Development Grants**.
- Applications involving at least one partner organisation from the private sector are required to be submitted with a Risk Assessment Form to identify risks and mitigation measures associated with their **research** and their **partner organization**.

Know Your Research

If your research:

- ✓ May be dual-use
- ✓ Advances a sensitive research area like critical minerals or has sensitive datasets; and/or
- ✓ Could advance a foreign state's military or defence capabilities and negatively impact Canada

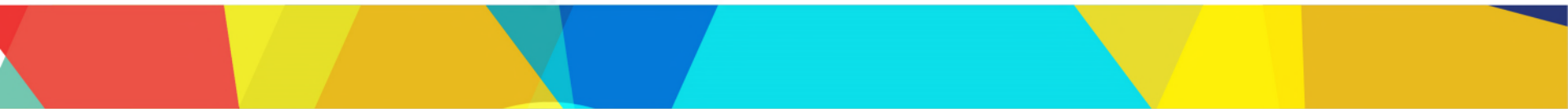
Then, **your research may be at risk**

Know Your Partner

If your private sector research partner may:

- ✓ Transfer knowledge to a foreign government, military or other actor that could harm Canada's national security interests; and/or
- ✓ Lack the autonomy and independence that underpins an open and transparent research ecosystem

Then, **your partner may pose a risk**



NSGRP

Risks related to the **research project** and the **private sector partner organization(s)**

A **Risk Assessment Process** that supports the identification, analysis and mitigation of risks as part of the development, evaluation, and funding of research partnerships.

Applicable to **selected** federal research partnership funding programs

Applicants seeking grant funding for research with a private sector partner complete a **Risk Assessment Form**

Grant recipients must implement any **risk mitigation measures** identified in their Risk Assessment Form and in their Notice of Decision.

VS.

Risks Addressed

Mechanism

Applicability

Requirements at the application stage

Requirements for the duration of the grant

STRAC Policy

Sensitive technology research performed with **research organizations and institutions** that pose the highest risk to Canada's national security

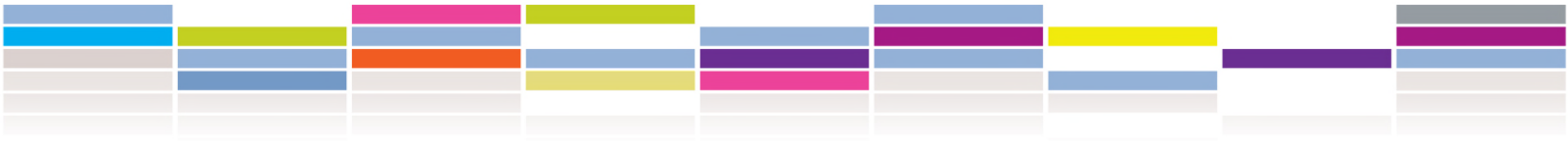
A **policy requirement** that applies to research grants that **aim to advance a sensitive technology research area (STRA)**

Applicable to **all** relevant federal research grant funding opportunities that fund university-based research

Researchers with named roles on the grant application must complete an **Attestation Form**

Researchers involved in activities supported by the grant cannot hold a **current affiliation**, or be **in receipt of funding or in-kind support** from a **named research organization (NRO)**

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Frequently Asked Questions

Do host institutions need to contribute in-kind or cash contributions?

- If the host institution is not a partner on the grant, then there is no expectation of them providing contributions. If the host institution is a partner on the grant, then like any partner organization, there is an expectation that they will provide either cash and/or in-kind contributions. Please note that there is no minimum required contribution for partners. Additionally, in-kind and cash contributions are valued equally.

What needs to be submitted as evidence of the formal partnership?

- Because partnerships come in all shapes and sizes and are often at different stages of development, we do provide some examples of document-types in the instructions, but ultimately, it's up to the project director and his or her team to decide what to submit here. One point that I do want to be clear about is that this is not where letters of engagement from partners should be submitted; there is a section for this in the application already.

Is an intra-university partnership eligible on its own?

- No, there must be at least one external partner.



Frequently Asked Questions (cont.)

Is the time that a participant plans to dedicate to the project an eligible in-kind contribution?

- Yes. For faculty members the replacement cost must be used for the person replacing the participant.

Can SSHRC funds be requested for internationally-based participants, students and/or other personnel?

- The answer, put simply, is yes, but these requests should be well-justified in your proposal.

Are applicants required to use Times New Roman 12pt font in the charts, tables and/or diagrams that are included within their application?

- While our application form asks you to use Times New Roman 12pt font, we know that this is not always reasonable with some of the new tools offered in Microsoft Word, so the answer here is no, but the text must still be legible for committee members.

Can a participant receive a salary from the grant?

- No, project directors (applicants), co-directors, co-applicants and collaborators **cannot** receive a salary from the grant.



Frequently Asked Questions (cont. II)

Can SSHRC funds be requested for the costs of a project coordinator and/or manager?

- Yes, but these must be justified and clearly laid out in the budget justification section and there should be a good argument made as to why the researchers themselves cannot carry out these tasks.

If I applied for an Insight Grant, Insight Development Grant, or a Connection Grant, can I apply for a PDG?

- For our multiple applications rule, you can apply for a PDG in the same calendar year as an IDG, IG or a CG, as long as they are not funding for the same project.

Is the administering organization automatically a partner too?

- No, the administering organization manages SSHRC funds and approves the research team's expenditures. If it wishes to be a partner, it must, like the other partners, participate in the project and provide formal proof of partnership in the application submitted to SSHRC.



What kind of feedback can I expect at the end of the adjudication process?

Partnership Development Grants	
Scores	Yes.
Descriptors	Yes, if discussed.
Additional comments	Yes, if applicable.
Sextile category	Yes.
Ranking	Yes, if application falls in top four sextiles.
External reports	No.



Helpful Links

- Guidelines for effective research training: http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/effective_research_training-formation_en_recherche_efficace-eng.aspx
- Guidelines for Support of Tools for Research and Related Activities: <https://sshrc-crsh.canada.ca/en/funding/policies-regulations-and-guidelines/guidelines-support-tools-research-related-activities.aspx>
- Guidelines Effective Knowledge Mobilization: <https://sshrc-crsh.canada.ca/en/funding/policies-regulations-and-guidelines/guidelines-effective-knowledge-mobilization.aspx>
- Guidelines for Merit Review of Indigenous Research: http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/merit_review-evaluation_du_merite/guidelines_research-lignes_directrices_recherche-eng.aspx
- Guidelines for and or in-kind contributions: http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/cash_inkind-especes_en_nature-eng.aspx



Thank you!

www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca



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Any other questions?

- Program Support:

partnershipdevelopment@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

- Toll-free Telephone: **1-855-275-2861**

- Technical Support:

webgrant@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

- Telephone: **613-995-4273**

- Generic support and helpdesk contact information:

https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/contact_us-contactez_nous/index-eng.aspx

