

CANADIAN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH BETWEEN CANADA AND AUSTRALIA

Over the past eighteen months, there have been several meetings with representatives from government (both national and provincial/state) and higher education (primarily the International Education areas) from Canada and Australia. The purpose of these meetings has been to explore opportunities for further collaboration between the two countries given the many commonalities we share.

In particular, at the most recent meetings that occurred in Vancouver during NAFSA, much interest was expressed in seeking opportunities for collaborative research. Given the breadth and general nature of this objective, informal discussions with several individuals led to a possible plan of how to focus this conceptual objective on a definable outcome.

As a starting point, similar areas of priority to the governments and/or major funding bodies in both countries should be identified. It would then be possible to match areas of research priority with parallel centres of excellence in research that exist in both Canada and Australia. This would allow for the development of research projects that the two countries could work on collaboratively. Applications for funding these projects could be made to appropriate funding bodies and would have a relatively good chance of success if top researchers in both countries are involved and the research topic(s) represent a priority area for the funding body.

Speaking from the perspective of the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAIT), innovation of science and technology is a priority area and any project that can serve to meet this priority, particularly in collaboration with another country such as Australia, would be supported by DFAIT. One of the sources of collaborative research funding, the International Research Linkages (IRL) award, could provide seed funding for discussions on larger collaboration projects. The IRL is funded by DFAIT.

To assist in the above, the following has been prepared to identify some of the possible sources of Canadian funding for larger research projects. Due to the fact that funding for various research councils varies from year-to-year, it is important to view the following as a guide to the type and magnitude of awards that are available. It would be important to check directly with funding bodies on what is available at the time that any collaborative research is being planned.

1. Understanding Canada: International Research Linkages (IRL)

This program is designed to facilitate international collaboration within the academic community while fostering the development of permanent exchange networks by providing assistance to teams of researchers from Canada and one or more countries in order to organize seminars or other forms of research linkages. It is worth noting that the IRL can be used to fund planning meetings for larger collaborative projects.

The International Council for Canadian Studies through a contribution of the Government of Canada offers grants of up to CDN\$ 10,000 to assist in the establishment or the development of international research networks in the area of Canadian Studies between Canada and other countries.

<http://www.iccs-ciec.ca/international-research-linkages.php>

2. Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)

Collaboration between countries is more important than ever to achieve success in research. International research and training are essential components of modern science, technology and innovation. To support and enhance Canada's research and training capacity in the natural sciences and engineering, NSERC has adopted an international strategy that aims to connect Canadian researchers and students with the global supply of ideas and talent. The strategy also aims to strengthen the capacity of Canadian universities to attract, retain and develop the best research talent in the world, thereby reinforcing Canada's status as a destination of choice in the global scientific community.

Funding opportunities

A number of international opportunities are available through NSERC grant and scholarship programs, or are facilitated through agreements with other research funding organizations in Canada and in other countries.

From time to time, NSERC may issue requests for proposals to catalyze collaborative research involving both Canadians and foreign researchers in areas that hold significant potential for innovation and scientific leadership.

NSERC is committed to supporting international collaborations. These collaborations can take the form of cooperation with peers at foreign organizations or involve participation in multinational research teams or other collaborative programs with long-term research horizons.

NSERC Discovery Grant funds can be used to collaborate with colleagues abroad in a variety of ways—from fieldwork and research conferences to collaborative trips and stipends for students and visiting researchers. Reasonable out-of-pocket travel and subsistence expenses may also be paid for an NSERC grantholder and his/her research personnel, or for students and colleagues working with the grantholder for visits (international or national) and for visiting researchers.

www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/professors-professeurs/grants-subs/dgigp-psigp_eng.asp

3. Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Funding Opportunities

1. For Formal Partnerships

SSHRC provides funding for research and/or knowledge mobilization initiatives involving a formal partnered approach. Formal partnerships can be among postsecondary institutions, or between the academic and public, private and/or not-for-profit sectors. They can be disciplinary or interdisciplinary, and can include both Canadian and international partners.

- **Partnership Development Grants** (*See Appendix 2. for full detail*) provide support to foster new partnership activities with new or existing partners; and to design and test new partnership approaches for research and/or related activities. These grants are typically valued at \$75,000 to \$200,000 over one to three years. Requests outside this range will also be considered.
The competition budget is approximately \$6 million over three years. This budget may be adjusted subject to the volume and quality of applications received in the competition. These, along with the size of the budgets requested and awarded, will determine the number of new Partnership Development Grants funded in 2010-11.
- **Partnership Grants** (*See Appendix 3. for full detail*) provide support to new or existing formal partnerships for initiatives that advance research and/or knowledge mobilization in the social sciences and humanities.
These grants are typically valued at \$500,000 to \$2.5 million over four to seven years. Requests outside this range will also be considered.
The competition budget is approximately \$28 million over seven years. This budget may be adjusted subject to the volume and quality of applications received in the competition. These, along with the size of the budgets requested and awarded, will determine the number of new Letter of Intent grants funded in 2011-12 and the number of new Partnership Grants funded in 2012-13.

Priority Areas

Most SSHRC funding is awarded through open competitions accessible to all disciplines, areas, themes and approaches. Under the Connection program, all thematic areas and

approaches are eligible for consideration. However, applicants should note that priority will be given to open-access and open-source approaches to knowledge mobilization. In addition, in certain cases, priorities have been identified for either additional support, a more tailored adjudication, or both. SSHRC will be launching a consultative process within the next two years to renew its priority areas.

Please read the following descriptions carefully to determine whether one of SSHRC's priority areas is relevant to your proposal:

- **Aboriginal Research**
- **Canadian Environmental Issues**
- **Digital Media**
- **Innovation, Leadership and Prosperity**
- **Northern Communities: Towards Social and Economic Prosperity**

Opportunities for Collaboration

SSHRC collaborates directly with other organizations to foster links with social sciences and humanities researchers whose work is related to the organizations' priorities.

The following organizations have indicated an interest in working with the social sciences and humanities research community through existing SSHRC funding opportunities. These organizations are interested in working with potential applicants toward submitting an application to a SSHRC funding opportunity competition.

Organization contributions typically include, but may not be limited to, providing intellectual leadership as well as cash and/or in-kind contributions. Interested applicants should contact the organizations directly in advance of the SSHRC deadline to discuss the details of such arrangements. This list will be updated on a periodic basis:

- Policy Research Initiative (PRI)
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and the National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC)

http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/umbrella_programs-programme_cadre/connection-connexion-eng.aspx

APPENDIX 1. Understanding Canada: International Research Linkages¹

Definitions

Research team: a research team is defined as a group of at least two researchers with at least one having completed graduate studies (Ph. D. or equivalent).

Canadian Studies:

1. Although we welcome applications from all disciplines lending themselves most readily to Canadian Studies we are particularly interested in projects that have policy relevance for Canada and Canada's foreign policy. Topics that are highly relevant to Canada's foreign policy include Democracy & Rule of Law, Economic Development, Environment, Managing Diversity, North American Partnership, Peace and Security.
2. Interdisciplinary studies on Canada.
3. Comparative studies with substantial Canadian content (33% or more).
4. Aspects of Canada's bilateral relations with the participating countries.

Notes: Priority may be given to projects that relate to Canadian foreign policy contemporary situations and issues which illuminate options for future developments, or which focus on Canada's bilateral relations with the participating countries.

(Purely scientific subjects such as physics, chemistry, medicine, engineering, etc. which would not lead to a better knowledge and understanding of Canada per se are not eligible, nor are proposals which focus exclusively on technological or methodological issues.)

Eligibility

To be eligible, a proposal must meet the following requirements:

1. be submitted by at least two research teams, one of which is based at a Canadian university.
2. each team shall be actively engaged in a research related to the linkages project.
3. show that this proposal's goal is to foster academic mobility and exchange of information and not to finance research.
4. include a strategy to pursue linkages after the initial activity.
5. application must be submitted **in either English or French**.

Note: Requests for renewing the grant are not eligible.

Deadline

November 24 of each year.

Application procedure

With the official endorsement of his/her institution, and having constituted a research team, the designated principal researcher should submit an application to the local [Canadian Mission](#) in his/her home country, by the November 24 deadline.

Applications can be submitted either by conventional mail or e-mail. There is no specific application form to fill out, but an application dossier must include the following:

1. project title.

¹ <http://www.iccs-ciec.ca/international-research-linkages.php>

2. a summary of the proposed activity; emphasis should be on the objectives and the expected results (maximum two pages).
3. for each team:
 - name and mailing address of project leaders (including a brief c.v.).
 - short presentation of other research teams' members.
 - description of the state of the research work to date (maximum one page).
 - list of research grant(s) received for that research.
4. a detailed budget including all sources of revenue. Eligible costs under this program include travel, accommodation and subsistence of teams' members, communications (telephone, fax, postage), secretarial assistance, stationery and photocopying related to the linkages project.
5. identification of the team that will, if applicable, administer the grant.

Note: The recipients are responsible for making all arrangements relating to the project including: international travel, visa, accommodation and travel within Canada, medical and life insurance, etc.

Note: The selection jury will expect application dossiers of candidates residing in a territory where a national or multinational Canadian Studies association exists to include a letter of support from the association, received DIRECTLY by the ICCS by the same deadline.

Selection

All applications will be peer reviewed by a jury established by the ICCS, which will include Canadian and foreign academics. This committee will meet once a year, in January or February.

After reviewing the applications, the International Council for Canadian Studies in Ottawa will forward its recommendations to DFAIT, which will make the final decision.

All applicants will be notified in writing of the results of their application, normally within 90 days of the deadline for submission of applications.

Payment procedure

Successful applicants will be sent a Grant Agreement detailing the value and conditions of the award. It must be signed and returned to the Canadian Mission within thirty (30) days.

A first instalment of 70% of the award will be paid after receipt by the Canadian Mission of the signed Grant Agreement. The remaining 30% of the award will be paid upon receipt of a report of activities.

Report of activities

Within three months of the completion of the activities, a complete report must be submitted to the International Council for Canadian Studies. It will particularly be concerned with demonstrating how and to what degree the objectives and expected results were attained.

The assistance of DFAIT must be acknowledged during the linkages activities and, if applicable, in any publications resulting from the research.

International Council for Canadian Studies

250 City Centre Avenue, Suite 303
Ottawa, Ontario
K1R 6K7 Canada

Telephone: 613-789-7834
Fax: 613-789-7830
Email: info@iccs-ciec.ca

APPENDIX 2. SSHRC Partnership Development Grants²

Overview	
Value	Requests for support from SSHRC would typically be in the range of \$75,000 to \$200,000 over 1 to 3 years, with lower or higher amounts considered
Duration	1 to 3 years
Application deadline	November 30, 2010
Results announced	Spring 2011
Apply	Application form not available

Description

Partnership Development Grants provide support to:

- develop research and related activities in the social sciences and humanities, including knowledge mobilization and the meaningful involvement of students and new scholars, by fostering new research partnership activities involving existing and/or potential partners; or
- design and test new partnership approaches for research and/or related activities that may result in best practices or models that either can be adapted by others or have the potential to be scaled up at a regional, national or international level.

A **formal partnership** is a bilateral or multilateral formal collaboration agreement between an applicant and one or more partners. These partners agree and commit to work collaboratively to achieve shared goals for mutual benefit. Partners must provide evidence attesting to the commitment that has been agreed upon. For more information, see the definitions for [formal partnership](#) and [partner](#).

Partnership Development Grants provide support over one to three years to teams/partnerships led by a principal investigator(s). Proposed initiatives must meet the objectives put forward in one of the following programs or a combination thereof:

- **Insight**—to build knowledge and understanding about people, societies and the world by supporting research excellence in all subject areas eligible for funding from SSHRC
- **Connection**—to realize the potential of social sciences and humanities research for intellectual, cultural, social and economic influence, benefit and impact on and beyond the campus by supporting specific activities and tools that facilitate the multidirectional flow of research knowledge

² http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/finding-financement/umbrella_programs-programme_cadre/connection-connexion-eng.aspx

It is expected that students and new scholars will meaningfully participate in proposed initiatives. The quality of training, mentoring and employability plans for students and emerging scholars will be evaluated as an important part of the proposed initiative.

SSHRC invites [applicants](#) and their partners who wish to propose formal disciplinary, interdisciplinary, interinstitutional, international and/or cross-sector partnership arrangements to apply for support through this funding opportunity. Funds are available to support a variety of formal partnership development initiatives in all of the [disciplines and themes eligible for funding at SSHRC](#).

The intellectual leadership and governance for the creation of a formal partnership may come from within the research community and/or from partners from the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. However, the grant funding, once awarded, may be administered only by an [eligible institution](#) (see information on eligibility below).

Following is a list of possible formal partnership approaches. Applicants are in no way limited to these approaches, and are welcome to combine some of the features described below.

Disciplinary and interdisciplinary research partnerships: Disciplinary and interdisciplinary interinstitutional research initiatives designed to make a significant contribution to the advancement of knowledge and understanding in the humanities and/or social sciences. While SSHRC welcomes proposals for interdisciplinary research partnerships involving natural sciences, engineering and/or health partners, partnerships of this nature must adhere to SSHRC's policy regarding the [eligibility of subject matter](#).

Cross-sector co-creation of knowledge and understanding: Partnerships between postsecondary institution(s) and non-academic sector partner(s) designed to foster innovative research, training and the co-creation of new knowledge on critical issues of intellectual, social, economic and cultural significance through a process of ongoing collaboration and mutual learning.

Networks for research and/or related activities: Networks between scholars, academic institutions and/or other partners (e.g., private sector partners, foundations, think tanks, etc.) designed to advance the innovative co-creation of knowledge, as well as training and mobilization of research, on critical issues of intellectual, social, economic and cultural significance.

Partnered knowledge mobilization: Partnerships designed to synthesize, apply and mobilize new and existing social sciences research knowledge in accessible ways in order to build institutional capacity and to increase the national and international impact and stature of Canadian research.

Priority Areas

Most SSHRC funding is awarded through open competitions accessible to all disciplines, areas, themes and approaches. In certain cases, priorities have been identified for either additional support, a more tailored adjudication, or both.

Please read the following descriptions carefully to determine whether one of SSHRC's current priority areas is relevant to your proposal:

- [Aboriginal Research](#)

- [Canadian Environmental Issues](#)
- [Digital Media](#)
- [Innovation, Leadership and Prosperity](#)
- [Northern Communities—Towards Social and Economic Prosperity](#)

Applicants requesting funding under one of these [priority areas](#) should identify their Partnership Development Grant proposal as being related to one of SSHRC's priority areas. Opportunity to do so will be available in the application.

Value and Duration

Partnership Development Grants are typically valued at \$75,000 to \$200,000 over one to three years. Requests outside this range will also be considered.

The competition budget is approximately \$6 million over three years. This budget may be adjusted subject to the volume and quality of applications received in the competition. These, along with the size of the budgets requested and awarded, will determine the number of new Partnership Development Grants funded in 2010-11.

Salary Replacement Stipend

Partnership Development Grants applicants and co-applicants from eligible not-for-profit organizations may request a [salary replacement stipend](#) to release them from duties to their organization.

Eligibility

Subject Matter

All thematic areas and approaches are eligible for consideration, and proposals are welcome from all subject areas eligible for funding at SSHRC. Please see [Eligibility of Subject Matter](#) for more information.

Applicants

Applications must be submitted by the [applicant](#) (principal investigator / project director) on behalf of the [partners](#) of the [formal partnership](#).

The applicant must be affiliated with a Canadian postsecondary institution or not-for-profit organization. Please see SSHRC's [list of eligible institutions](#).

Postdoctoral fellows are eligible to be applicants for a Partnership Development Grant. However, in order for SSHRC to release grant funds, successful applicants must formally establish an affiliation with an eligible postsecondary institution within three months of the grant start date.

Students enrolled in a program of study are not eligible to apply. However, a PhD candidate, whether holding a faculty position or not, is eligible to receive a Partnership Development Grant if he or she:

- has met all requirements for the PhD before the grant is awarded;
- has established a formal affiliation with a Canadian postsecondary institution before the grant is awarded; and
- maintains such an affiliation for the duration of the grant period.

Grant funds may only be administered by an eligible postsecondary institution or eligible not-for-profit organization. Please see SSHRC's [list of eligible institutions](#).

Any postsecondary institution or not-for-profit organization that does not currently have [institutional eligibility](#) and wishes to administer SSHRC grants must [apply for](#), and be granted, institutional eligibility. Once eligibility is granted, the organization is invited to become a signatory to the [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\) on the Roles and Responsibilities in the Management of Federal Grants and Awards](#), which entails a commitment by the organization to adhere to the high legal, ethical and financial standards set out in the MOU's schedules, and ensures that the organization has the necessary structures and processes in place to achieve this objective. Please note that SSHRC will not release funding to an organization before it becomes a signatory of the MOU.

For questions related to institutional eligibility, or to receive an institutional eligibility application package, please contact SSHRC's Corporate Secretariat, at secretariat@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca.

Participants

There are two categories of individual participants for Partnership Development Grants:

- [co-applicant](#)
- [collaborator](#)

Co-applicants may be individuals from any of the following types of organizations: postsecondary institutions; not-for-profit organizations; philanthropic foundations; think tanks; international postsecondary institutions; or municipal, territorial or provincial governments.

Collaborators may be individuals from any of the following types of organizations: postsecondary institutions; not-for-profit organizations; public sector or private sector organizations; philanthropic foundations; think tanks; international postsecondary institutions; or municipal, territorial, provincial or federal governments.

Note that individuals from the private sector or federal government may only participate as collaborators.

Partners

Organizations eligible to be partners may be any of the following: Canadian or foreign: postsecondary institutions, government departments (federal, provincial, territorial, municipal), for-profit or not-for-profit organizations, or foundations.

Monitoring

Partnership Development Grant holders will be expected to report on the use of grant funds, on research and related activities undertaken during the period of the grant, and

on outcomes. Successful applicants will be informed of reporting requirements upon receiving their notice of award.

Application Process

Applicants and partners must complete the application form (available under [Apply](#) once the Partnership Development Grants competition opens) and follow the accompanying instructions. Applications must be submitted electronically by an authorized research grants officer from the applicant's institution. Incomplete or late applications will be considered ineligible.

Applicants requesting funding under one of the priority areas should identify their Partnership Development Grant proposal as being related to one of SSHRC's [priority areas](#). Opportunity to do so will be available in the application form.

Requirements

Applicants for Partnership Development Grants must demonstrate the following within their application:

- **Quality and commitment of formal partnerships**
Applicants will be expected to include relevant documentation to allow for an informed evaluation of the quality and level of commitment of the proposed formal partnerships.

Documentation may include, but is not limited to:

- governance frameworks;
- strategic plans;
- memorandums of understanding;
- intellectual property agreements; and/or
- letters of participation and engagement.

- **Institutional and partner contributions**
Applicants are expected to include a plan to seek and secure cash and/or in-kind support for their initiative during the life of the grant (one to three years). While there is no minimum partner contribution requirement, institutions and their partners are expected to demonstrate that a formal partnership currently exists, or is in the process of being developed, by supporting the activities of the formal partnership through cash and/or in-kind contributions.

Potential sources of cash and/or in-kind contributions include, but are not limited to:

Partners (whether academic institutions, public, private or not-for-profit organizations and/or foundations), international contributors, and other funding agencies (excluding the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council). For more information, please see the [Guidelines for Cash and In-kind Contributions: Partnership Development Grants and Partnership Grants](#).

Evaluation and Adjudication

Review Process

Partnership Development Grant applications are adjudicated, and available funds are awarded, through a competitive process. For general information on SSHRC's adjudication process, see the [Peer Review](#) section of SSHRC's website.

Partnership Development Grants are adjudicated by multidisciplinary committees that include relevant expertise from the academic community, as well as research expertise from the public, private and/or not-for-profit sectors.

If an applicant identifies their Partnership Development Grant proposal as being related to one of SSHRC's [priority areas](#), the application will also undergo a relevance review by an existing or specially constituted committee to verify alignment with the priority area.

SSHRC makes funding decisions based on the recommendations of the adjudication committee and on the funds available.

Evaluation Criteria and Scoring

The following criteria and scoring schemes are used by the adjudication committees to evaluate Partnership Development Grant applications:

1. Challenge—The aim and importance of the endeavour (50%):

- originality, significance and expected contribution to knowledge in the social sciences and/or humanities;
- appropriateness of the theoretical approach or framework;
- appropriateness of the methodologies or approaches (including for the co-creation of knowledge across sectors);
- quality of training and mentoring to be provided to students, emerging scholars and other highly qualified personnel, and opportunities for them to contribute; and
- likelihood of influence and impact within and/or beyond the social sciences and humanities research community.

2. Feasibility—The plan to achieve excellence (20%):

- feasibility to meet the objectives of the [Insight](#) and/or [Connection](#) programs, the Partnership Development Grants funding opportunity and, where appropriate, expected outcomes of a [priority area](#);
- strategies and timelines for the design and conduct of the research and/or related activities;
- appropriateness of the requested budget, justification of proposed costs, and indications of other planned resources (time, human and financial), including cash and in-kind support already secured, or to be secured, from the host institution and/or from partners;
- quality of the knowledge mobilization plans, including for effective dissemination, exchange, and engagement within and/or beyond the research community, where appropriate;
- quality and genuineness of the formal partnership and associated management and governance arrangements and leadership, including

- evidence of genuine involvement of partners and others in the design and conduct of the research and/or related activities; and
- potential for long-term viability and for progress indicators.

3. **Capability—The expertise to succeed (30%):**

- quality, quantity and significance of past experience and published outputs of principal team members relative to their role in the partnership, and to the stage of their career;
- evidence of contributions through, for example, publications (such as commissioned reports, etc.); professional practice; and contributions to public discourses, public policies, products and services, and the development of talent;
- experience with collaboration and formal partnerships; and
- potential to make future contributions.

Scoring table

Adjudication committee members assign a score for each of the three criteria based on the scoring table below. The appropriate weighting is then applied.

Score	Descriptor
5-6	Excellent
4-4.9	Very good
3-3.9	Good
Below 3	Not recommended for funding

All applicants will receive, together with their SSHRC notice of decision, a summary of the adjudication committee's comments.

Administrative Regulations

All applicants and grant holders must comply with the [Regulations Governing Grant Applications](#) and with the regulations set out in the [Tri-Agency Financial Administration Guide](#).

Contact Information

For more information about this funding opportunity, or for advice on how to prepare your application, please contact:

Email: partnershipgrants@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca
 Tel.: 613-943-1007

APPENDIX 3. SSHRC Partnership Grants³

Overview	
Value	Stage 1: Letter of Intent Up to \$20,000 Stage 2: Formal Application (by invitation only) Requests for support from SSHRC would typically be in the range of \$500,000 to \$2.5 million over 4 to 7 years, with lower or higher amounts considered
Duration	4 to 7 years
Application deadline	Letter of Intent: January 31, 2011 Formal Application: Fall 2011
Results announced	Spring 2011
Apply	Web CV, application and instructions

Description

Partnership Grants provide support for new and existing formal partnerships over four to seven years.

Partnerships must advance research and/or knowledge mobilization in the social sciences and humanities through mutual co-operation and sharing of intellectual leadership, as well as through resources as evidenced by cash and/or in-kind contributions. The proposals must meet the objectives put forward in one of the following programs or a combination thereof:

- **Insight**—To build knowledge and understanding about people, societies and the world by supporting research excellence in all subject areas eligible for funding from SSHRC
- **Connection**—To realize the potential of social sciences and humanities research for intellectual, cultural, social and economic influence, benefit and impact on and beyond the campus by supporting specific activities and tools that facilitate the multidirectional flow of research knowledge

A **formal partnership** is a bilateral or multilateral formal collaboration agreement between an applicant and one or more partners. These partners agree and commit to work collaboratively to achieve shared goals for mutual benefit. Partners must provide evidence attesting to the commitment that has been agreed upon. For more information, see the definitions for [formal partnership](#) and [partner](#).

It is expected that students and new scholars will meaningfully participate in proposed initiatives. The quality of training, mentoring and employability plans for students and emerging scholars will be evaluated as an important part of the proposed initiative.

³ http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/finding-financement/umbrella_programs-programme_cadre/connection-connexion-eng.aspx

SSHRC invites [applicants](#) and their partners who wish to propose formal disciplinary, interdisciplinary, interinstitutional, international and/or cross-sector partnership arrangements to apply for support through this funding opportunity. Funds are available to support a variety of formal partnership initiatives in all of the disciplines and themes [eligible for funding at SSHRC](#).

The intellectual leadership and governance for a new or existing formal partnership may come from within the research community and/or from partners from the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. However, the grant funding, once awarded, may only be administered by an [eligible institution](#) (see information on eligibility below).

Following is a list of possible formal partnership approaches. Applicants are in no way limited to these approaches, and are welcome to combine some of the features described.

Disciplinary and interdisciplinary research partnerships: Disciplinary and interdisciplinary interinstitutional research initiatives designed to make a significant contribution to the advancement of knowledge and understanding in the humanities and/or social sciences. While SSHRC welcomes proposals for interdisciplinary research partnerships involving natural sciences, engineering and/or health partners, proposed partnerships of this nature must adhere to SSHRC's policy regarding the [eligibility of subject matter](#).

Cross-sector co-creation of knowledge and understanding: Partnerships between postsecondary institution(s) and non-academic sector partner(s) designed to foster innovative research, training and the co-creation of new knowledge on critical issues of intellectual, social, economic and cultural significance through a process of ongoing collaboration and mutual learning.

Networks for research and/or related activities: Networks between scholars, academic institutions and/or other partners (e.g., private sector partners, foundations, think tanks, etc.) designed to advance the innovative co-creation of knowledge, as well as training and mobilization of research, on critical issues of intellectual, social, economic and cultural significance.

Partnered knowledge mobilization: Partnerships designed to synthesize, apply and mobilize new and existing social sciences research knowledge in accessible ways in order to build institutional capacity and to increase the national and international impact and stature of Canadian research.

Partnered chairs: Partnerships between academic institutions and non-academic partners (e.g., private sector partner, foundation, government partner, etc.), or between two or more academic institutions, to nominate research chairs designed to advance research and/or related activities in a specific area in the social sciences and/or humanities. Chair partners pool financial resources and suggest an amount of funds required from SSHRC. Proposals must demonstrate that a formal agreement exists between the partners to maintain the chair position for a minimum period of four years. Proposals must include the name of the proposed chairholder. For more information, please see the [Guidelines for Partnered Chairs](#).

Partnered research centres: Partnerships between an academic institution and non-academic partners (e.g., private sector partner, foundation, etc.) or between two or more institutions to create or support a research centre designed to advance research and/or related activities in a specific area in the social sciences and/or humanities. Partners pool



financial resources and suggest an amount of funds required from SSHRC. Proposals must demonstrate that a formal agreement exists between the partners to maintain the centre for a minimum period of four years.

SSHRC does not provide **research infrastructure** funding. Applicants requiring infrastructure funding to support their research may be eligible for support from the Canada Foundation for Innovation's [Leaders Opportunity Fund](#). For more information, please contact:

Laurent Messier
Manager, Leaders Opportunity Fund
Tel.: 613-996-3107
Fax: 613-943-0923
Email: laurent.messier@innovation.ca

Priority areas

Most SSHRC funding is awarded through open competitions accessible to all disciplines, areas, themes and approaches. In certain cases, priorities have been identified for either additional support, a more tailored adjudication, or both.

Please read the following descriptions carefully to determine whether one of SSHRC's current priority areas is relevant to your proposal:

- [Aboriginal Research](#)
- [Canadian Environmental Issues](#)
- [Digital Media](#)
- [Innovation, Leadership and Prosperity](#)
- [Northern Communities—Towards Social and Economic Prosperity](#)

Applicants requesting funding under one of these [priority areas](#) should identify their Partnership Grant proposal as being related to one of SSHRC's priority areas. Opportunity to do so will be available in the application.

Value and Duration

Partnership Grants undergo a two-stage adjudication process, involving a letter of intent and a formal application. Only applicants successful at the letter of intent stage will be invited to submit a formal application.

The competition budget is approximately \$28 million over seven years. This budget may be adjusted subject to the volume and quality of applications received in the competition. These, along with the size of the budgets requested and awarded, will determine the number of new Letter of Intent grants funded in 2011-12 and the number of new Partnership Grants funded in 2012-13.

Stage 1: Letter of Intent

Applicants successful at the letter of intent stage will be offered a grant worth up to \$20,000 to help in the preparation of the formal application—i.e., to further refine their

research question(s); to establish partnership arrangements, governance structure and/or research methodology; and to consolidate their collaborative activities. At the letter of intent stage, eligible expenses are limited to travel, workshops, meetings, administrative support, and communication and dissemination activities.

Stage 2: Formal Application

Partnership Grants are typically valued at \$500,000 to \$2.5 million over four to seven years. Requests outside this range will also be considered.

Salary Replacement Stipend

Partnership Grants applicants and co-applicants from eligible not-for-profit organizations may request a [salary replacement stipend](#) to release them from duties to their organization.

Eligibility

Subject Matter

All thematic areas and approaches are eligible for consideration, and proposals are welcome from all subject areas eligible for funding at SSHRC. Please see [Eligibility of Subject Matter](#) for more information.

Applicants

Applications must be submitted by a postsecondary institution or a not-for-profit organization. The applicant prepares the application in collaboration with, and on behalf of, the [partners](#).

Grant funds may only be administered by an eligible postsecondary institution or an eligible not-for-profit organization.

Any postsecondary institution or not-for-profit organization that does not currently have [institutional eligibility](#) and wishes to administer SSHRC grants must [apply for](#), and be granted, institutional eligibility. Once eligibility is granted, the organization is invited to become a signatory to the [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\) on the Roles and Responsibilities in the Management of Federal Grants and Awards](#), which entails a commitment by the organization to adhere to the high legal, ethical and financial standards set out in the MOU's schedules, and ensures that the organization has the necessary structures and processes in place to achieve this objective. Please note that SSHRC will not release funding to an organization before it becomes a signatory of the MOU.

For questions related to institutional eligibility, or to receive an institutional eligibility application package, please contact SSHRC's Corporate Secretariat at secretariat@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca.

Participants



There are two categories of individual participants for Partnership Grants:

- [co-applicant](#)
- [collaborator](#)

Co-applicants may be individuals from any of the following types of organizations: postsecondary institutions; not-for-profit organizations; philanthropic foundations; think tanks; international postsecondary institutions; or municipal, territorial or provincial governments.

Collaborators may be individuals from any of the following types of organizations: postsecondary institutions; not-for-profit organizations; public sector or private sector organizations; philanthropic foundations; think tanks; international postsecondary institutions; or municipal, territorial, provincial or federal governments.

Note that individuals from the private sector or federal government may only participate as collaborators.

Partners

Organizations eligible to be partners may be any of the following: Canadian or foreign: postsecondary institutions, government departments (federal, provincial, territorial, municipal), for-profit or not-for-profit organizations, or foundations.

Monitoring

Partnership Grant holders will be expected to report on the use of grant funds, on research and related activities undertaken during the period of the grants, and on outcomes. Successful applicants will be informed of reporting requirements upon receiving their notice of decision.

Application Process

Stage One: Letter of Intent

Applicants must complete the application form (available under [Apply](#) once the Partnership Grants letter of intent stage competition opens) by following the accompanying instructions. Applications must be submitted electronically to an authorized research grants officer from the applicant's institution, who will then electronically forward the application to SSHRC. Incomplete applications will be declared ineligible.

Applicants requesting funding under one of the priority areas should identify their Partnership Grant proposal as being related to one of SSHRC's [priority areas](#). Opportunity to do so will be available in the application form.

Stage Two: Formal Application

Only those applicants who are successful at the letter of intent stage will be invited to submit a formal application.

Applicants must complete the application form (available under [Apply](#) once the Partnership Grants formal application stage competition opens) by following the accompanying instructions. Partners are invited to participate and must complete their Accept Invitation form. The completed form will then be attached to the applicant's form.

Applications must be submitted electronically to an authorized research grants officer from the applicant's institution, who will then electronically forward the application to SSHRC. Incomplete applications will be declared ineligible.

Applicants requesting funding under one of the priority areas should identify their Partnership Grant proposal as being related to one of SSHRC's [priority areas](#). Opportunity to do so will be available in the application form.

Requirements

Applicants for Partnership Grants must demonstrate the following within their application:

- **Quality and commitment of formal partnerships**

Applicants will be expected to include relevant documentation to allow for an informed evaluation of the quality and level of commitment of the proposed formal partnerships.

Documentation may include, but is not limited to:

 - governance frameworks;
 - strategic plans;
 - memorandums of understanding;
 - intellectual property agreements; and/or
 - letters of participation and engagement.
- **Institutional and partner contributions**

Applicants will be expected to secure contributions for their initiative through cash and/or in-kind contributions from partners. Potential sources of cash and/or in-kind contributions include, but are not limited to: partners (whether academic institutions, public, private or not-for-profit organizations and/or foundations), international contributors and other funding agencies (excluding the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council). For more information, please see the [Guidelines for Cash and In-kind Contributions: Partnership Development Grants and Partnership Grants](#).

Applicants invited to submit a formal application are required to demonstrate that they have already begun to confirm cash and/or in-kind contributions, and must indicate how they will secure the remaining amounts during the duration of the grant.

Evaluation and Adjudication

Review Process

Partnership Grant applications are adjudicated, and available funds are awarded, through a competitive process. For general information on SSHRC's adjudication process, see the [Peer Review](#) section of SSHRC's website.

Applications for Partnership Grants are adjudicated as follows:

- Letter of intent applications are adjudicated by multidisciplinary committees that include relevant expertise from the academic community, as well as research expertise from the public, private and/or not-for-profit sectors.
- Applications successful at the letter of intent stage are awarded a grant of up to \$20,000 for the period during which the full proposal is prepared.
- Full proposals are adjudicated by multidisciplinary committees that include relevant expertise from the academic community, as well as research expertise from the public, private and/or not-for-profit sectors. A minimum of three external assessments are obtained before adjudication at the committee meeting.
- For proposals requesting more than \$2 million, up to six external assessments are obtained before adjudication, and a formal interview process is required.

If an applicant identifies their Partnership Grant proposal as being related to one of SSHRC's [priority areas](#), the application will undergo a relevance review by an existing or specially constituted committee to verify alignment with the priority area.

SSHRC makes funding decisions based on the recommendations of the adjudication committee and on the funds available.

Evaluation Criteria and Scoring

The following criteria and scoring scheme are used by the adjudication committees to evaluate Partnership Grant applications at both the letter of intent and formal application stage:

1. Challenge—The aim and importance of the endeavour (40%):

- originality, significance and expected contribution to knowledge in the social sciences and/or humanities;
- appropriateness of the theoretical approach or framework;
- quality of training and mentoring to be provided to students, emerging scholars and other highly qualified personnel, and opportunities for them to contribute;
- appropriateness of the methodologies or approaches (including for the co-creation of knowledge across sectors, where appropriate); and
- likelihood of influence and impact within and/or beyond the social sciences and humanities research community.

2. Feasibility—The plan to achieve excellence (30%):

- feasibility to meet the objectives of the [Insight](#) and/or [Connection](#) program, the Partnership Grants funding opportunity and, where appropriate, expected outcomes of a [priority area](#);
- strategies and timelines for the design and conduct of the research and/or related activities;
- appropriateness of the requested budget, justification of proposed costs, and indications of other planned resources (time, human and financial), including cash and in-kind support already secured, or to be secured, from the host institution and/or from partners;
- quality of the knowledge mobilization plans, including for effective dissemination, exchange, and engagement within and/or beyond the research community, where appropriate;

- quality and genuineness of the formal partnership and associated management and governance arrangements and leadership, including evidence of genuine involvement of partners and others in the design and conduct of the research and/or related activities; and
- potential for long-term viability and for progress indicators.

3. **Capability—The expertise to succeed (30%):**

- quality, quantity and significance of past experience and published outputs of principal team members relative to their role in the partnership, and to the stage of their career;
- evidence of contributions through, for example, publications (such as commissioned reports, etc.); professional practice; and contributions to public discourses, public policies, products and services, and the development of talent;
- experience with collaboration and formal partnerships; and
- potential to make future contributions.

Scoring table

Adjudication committee members assign a score for each of the three criteria based on the scoring table below. The appropriate weighting is then applied.

Score	Descriptor
5-6	Excellent
4-4.9	Very good
3-3.9	Good
Below 3	Not recommended for funding

All applicants will receive, together with their SSHRC notice of decision, a copy of the external assessments obtained and a summary of the adjudication committee's comments.

Administrative Regulations

All applicants and grant holders must comply with the [Regulations Governing Grant Applications](#) and with the regulations set out in the [Tri-Agency Financial Administration Guide](#).

More Information

For more information about this funding opportunity, or for advice on how to prepare your application, please contact:

Email: partnershipgrants@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca
Tel.: 613-943-1007