Connect with NSERC:

Community Engagement Visit

Spring 2016

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada

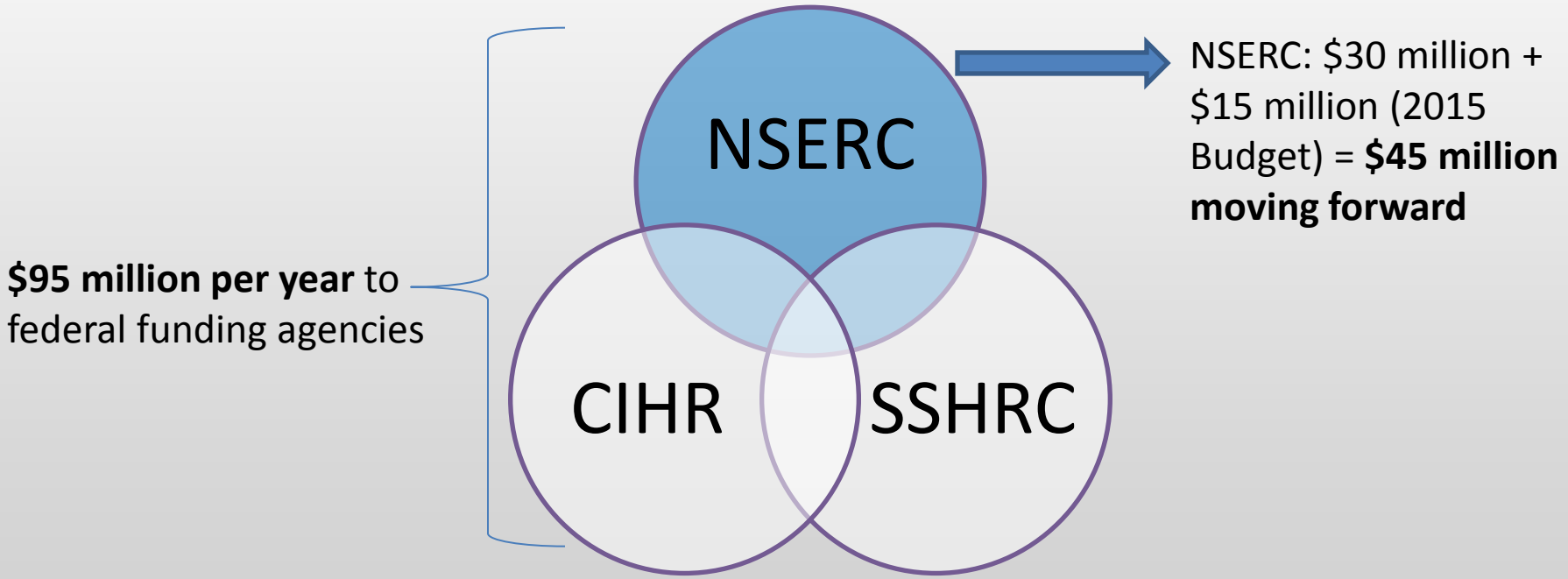
Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada

Canada

Overview

- Highlights of Federal Budget 2016
- Towards NSERC 2020
- Funding Opportunity Updates
- Policy Updates
- Wrap-up

Highlights of 2016 Federal Budget



- "Minister of Science will undertake a comprehensive review of all elements of federal support for fundamental science over the coming year"
- Government developing Innovation Agenda

Over to you…

- Questions?
- Comments?
- Advice?

Towards NSERC 2020

- Vision and Mission
- Fostering a science and engineering culture in Canada
- Launching the new generation
- Building a diversified and competitive research base
- Strengthening discovery-innovation dynamic
- Going global

Towards NSERC 2020

- **Vision:** To make Canada a country of discoverers and innovators for the benefit of all Canadians
  - Convener, Mobilizer, Advisor
- **Mission:** We are the focal point for discovery and innovation in natural sciences and engineering for Canada.
  - We back bold, high-impact ideas

FOSTER A SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CULTURE IN CANADA

Fostering a Science and Engineering Culture

- **Goals:** Increase interest, awareness, and appreciation of science as a way of experiencing, understanding, and enriching the world.
- **Strategy:** Take national leadership and be focal point for science promotion
- **Outcome:** Culture that values science and engineering

Fostering a Science and Engineering Culture

- **Promote:** target under-represented groups and teachers, increase funding for PromoScience, broaden scope of PromoScience
- **Celebrate:** increase profile of NSERC researchers, increase recognition of science promotion, outreach, and mentoring activities in peer review
- **Guide:** leading Science Odyssey, address gaps and share best practices

SCIENCE ODYSSEY

TEN DAYS OF DISCOVERY & INNOVATION

MAY 6 TO 15, 2016

Over to you…

- Questions?
- Comments?
- Advice for implementation?

LAUNCH
THE NEW
GENERATION

Launch New Generation

- **Goal:** Mobilize Canada's future brain trust, enable early-career scientists' independent research careers

- **Strategy:** Review investment tools to provide more support to early-career researchers

Launch New Generation

- **Supporting Action:** exploring options to support the launch of independent research careers for young investigators in academia and in industry
- **Outcome:** More opportunities for early-career for advance their careers and work in research-intensive jobs in the university setting and in industry

Launch New Generation: In Action

- DG and Early Career Researchers
- RP and Early Career Researchers
- Current PDF Programs offered by NSERC

Over to you…

- Questions?
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- Advice for implementation?

BUILD A
DIVERSIFIED AND
COMPETITIVE
RESEARCH BASE

Diverse & Competitive Research Base

- **Goal:** stimulate breakthrough research, mobilize and connect expertise across populations, institutions, disciplines, regions, and sectors
- **Strategy:** Provide the support and flexibility for researchers to pursue high quality research that will promote diversity and interdisciplinarity
- **Outcome:** A world-class, dynamic, diverse, and interdisciplinary research enterprise in Canada

Diverse & Competitive Research Base: In Action

- Gender Equity Action Plan
- Collaborative Health Research Projects (CHRP): recently re-signed five-year MOU
- Provide incentives for college-university collaborations
- Discovery Development Grants for small universities
- Discovery Grant Extension with funds
- CREATE – increased focus on gender equity

Diverse & Competitive Research Base: In Action

- **Implement NSERC's Gender Equity Action Plan**
  - Policy statement on gender equity
  - Reporting competition results by gender
  - Representation of women on review committees
  - Awareness of gender (unconscious) bias
  - Consideration of gender in research content and teams
  - Policies and practices as to how to assess diverse types of research contributions
  - Consultation and engagement with stakeholders

Over to you…

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STRENGTHEN
THE DYNAMIC
BETWEEN
DISCOVERY AND
INNOVATION

Discovery-Innovation Dynamic

- **Goal**: Deepen the interactions between colleges and universities, the private sector, governments and civil society

- **Strategy**: Mobilize the research enterprise. Build on mechanisms and convene partners

- **Outcome:** A new generation that can work simultaneously in both discovery and innovation

Discovery-Innovation Dynamic

- Encourage researchers to work in discovery and innovation with ease and advance more discoveries toward innovation
  - Awareness, Opportunities, Support
- Strengthen the interactions of industry sectors, companies and innovative start-ups with universities and colleges
  - Matchmake, Convene, Fellowships, Expertise Awareness
- Showcase the dynamic between discovery and innovation

Discovery-Innovation: In Action

- Engagement visits now involve the discovery and innovation sides of NSERC
- Marketing of Discovery to Innovation
- Showcasing success stories

Over to you…

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GO
GLOBAL

Going Global

- **Goal**: Secure Canada's access to global knowledge & expertise. Increase participation in international research endeavours

- **Strategy**: Leverage Canada’s strengths in areas of national importance. Gain access & contribute to world-class knowledge, talent and expertise

- **Outcome:** Wider and stronger participation in strategic int’l research networks. Recognition of Canada’s significant contributions in both discovery & innovation

Going Global

- **Opportunities for international training and research partnerships**
  - —Support collaborative research that addresses national and global challenges
- **Build relationships with selected international agencies in areas of mutual strength**
  - – More scalable and focused than current informal researcher-researcher relationships
- **Enhance participation of multinational/international businesses in research collaborations for the benefit of Canada**

Going Global: In Action

- Global Research Council: NSERC first Canadian host, to take place during Canada 150 in 2017
- European Union: Waterworks collaboration
- Horizon 2020 funding for joint EU-Canada aerospace projects

Over to you…

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- Comments?
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Funding Opportunity Updates

Innovation Updates

- RP - Strategic Partnerships – Project and Networks
- Engage policy changes
- IUSRA are now “Experience Awards”
- Evaluations – Strategic; results of Industry-driven programs

Strategic Partnerships Projects & Networks

- **New Target Areas in place for 2016 competitions**
  - Environment & Agriculture
  - Natural Resources & Energy
  - Information and Communications Technologies
  - Advanced Manufacturing
- **Letter of Intent phase planned for 2017 Project competition**
- **Going Global – Strategic Networks**

Engage Grant Updates

- **Reason for changes: enhance the quality of applications received, and reduce the sheer number of proposals submitted.**
  - Engage Grants applicants at universities are now limited to one new award per fiscal year*: + peer review support through NSERC required
  - Industrial partners limited to 2 Engage grants per year, (including university and college-based projects) & minimum size : 2 employees + 2 years in business.

Name Change IUSRA
Now known as Experience

- **Motivation**
  - Confusion between IUSRA and USRA
  - Allows it to be identified correctly as Co-op placements in Canadian companies

Discovery Updates

- Early Stage Researchers – extension option
- HQP criterion– FAQ for applicants and reviewers published, impact being evaluated
- DG Budget allocation
- Portal and CCV

Discovery Updates

- **Discovery Frontiers**
  - New award in **New Materials for Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency** announced January 2016
  - Next call: Spring 2017. Process to determine next priority area to start Summer 2016

- **Research Tools and Instruments**
  - Applications now submitted via Research Portal
  - Review of quota system and university-based processes underway

Discovery Updates

- **PGS and CREATE Evaluation – Key outcomes**
  - PGS and CREATE are effective at supporting excellence among graduate students and postdocs
  - Aligned with Government and NSERC priorities and meet their objectives

- **CGS-M updates – allocation**

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Policy Change Updates

Policy Change Updates

- **Open data**

- **Subject matter eligibility:**
  - Tri-agency guidelines updated
  - NSERC Annex with specific examples now available

Wrap-up

- Final questions comments?
- Further engagement visits planned at campuses across Canada
- Other suggestions, questions can be directed to connect@nserc-crsng.gc.ca
- Thank you!