

Les gens. La découverte. L'innovation.
People. Discovery. Innovation.



Conseil de recherches en sciences
naturelles et en génie du Canada

Natural Sciences and Engineering
Research Council of Canada

Canada

**Connect with NSERC:
Community
Engagement Visit
Spring 2017**

Overview

- **Federal Science & Innovation Update**
- **Towards NSERC 2020**
- **Gender Equity and Diversity**
- **Funding Opportunities and Policy Updates**
 - Innovation
 - Discovery
- **NCE Update**
- **Q&A**

2017 Federal Budget



New investments in federal science in areas such as clean technology, energy and agricultural science

- Chief Science Advisor
- PromoScience Program
- Canada 150 Research Chairs
- Accelerating innovation through Superclusters
- Investing in R&D for Clean Energy and Transportation
- Advancing Agricultural Science and Innovation
- Investing in Artificial Intelligence
- Review of the National Research Council

2017 Federal Science Review

- The Advisory Panel on Federal Support for Fundamental Science presented its report on April 10, 2017
- Recommendations include:
 - increased investment in independent investigator-led research
 - increased coordination among the granting councils and CFI
 - new oversight body for the federal research and innovation ecosystem



TOWARDS NSERC 2020

Fostering Science Culture: In Action

NSERC is taking a national leadership role and providing a focal point for science promotion efforts in Canada

- Increase reach of Science Odyssey**
- Support networking among science promotion organization and sharing best practices**
- STEAM Horizons Award (April 2017)**
- Science Literacy Week (September); Science, Action! (video); Science Exposed (photo)**
- PromoScience increased girls and aboriginal youth investments**
- Review how outreach is recognized in criteria**

Events



WWW.SCIOD.CA

May 12 to 21, 2017

➤ Showcasing the richness of Canada's science and innovation culture

May 12 to May 21
12:00AM-12:00AM
[Les Débrouillards](#)
[Montréal, Québec](#)

CONTENT
L'Odysée des familles débrouillardes
(Available in French only)
Les familles sont invitées à faire trois activités à caractère scientifique pour participer à ce concours.

May 12 to May 21
12:00AM-12:00AM
[Science Timmins](#)
[Timmins, Ontario](#)

HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES
STEM + A and the Living Word
Science Village in Timmins will host many activities related to Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Arts. Empty STEM+A. Individuals of all ages especially youth will have an opportunity to Play, Discover and Learn about STEM+A by doing hands-on fun activities.

May 12
7:30AM-8:00PM
[Bibliothèque du Dépanneur](#)
[Ville de Québec, Québec](#)

EXHIBITION/DISPLAY
De la science à la fiction ?
(Available in French only)

Launching the New Generation: In Action

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

- ☑ **Discovery Grants – one-year extension with funds for early-career researchers**
- ☑ **Early Career Researcher (ECR) definition extended from two years to three years in first eligible position**

Diverse & Competitive Research Base : In Action

NSERC is building, mobilizing, and connecting expertise across populations, institutions, disciplines, regions, and sectors

- Framework on Gender Equity and Diversity**
- CREATE – increased focus on gender equity and diversity in the evaluation of applications**
- Discovery Development Grants for smaller institutions**
- Create incentives for college-university collaborations**
- Gender Summit 11 – Montreal, November 6-8, 2017**
<http://gender-summit.com/gs11-about>

Strengthening the Dynamic: In Action

NSERC's support for Discovery Research lays the foundation for innovation and enables student training in stimulating research environments

- ☑ **Enhanced reporting tools (online surveys)**
 - **Partners: on-line, recently moved to new platform**
 - **Grantees: under development**
- ☐ **Measuring innovation impacts from Discovery grants**



Going Global: In Action

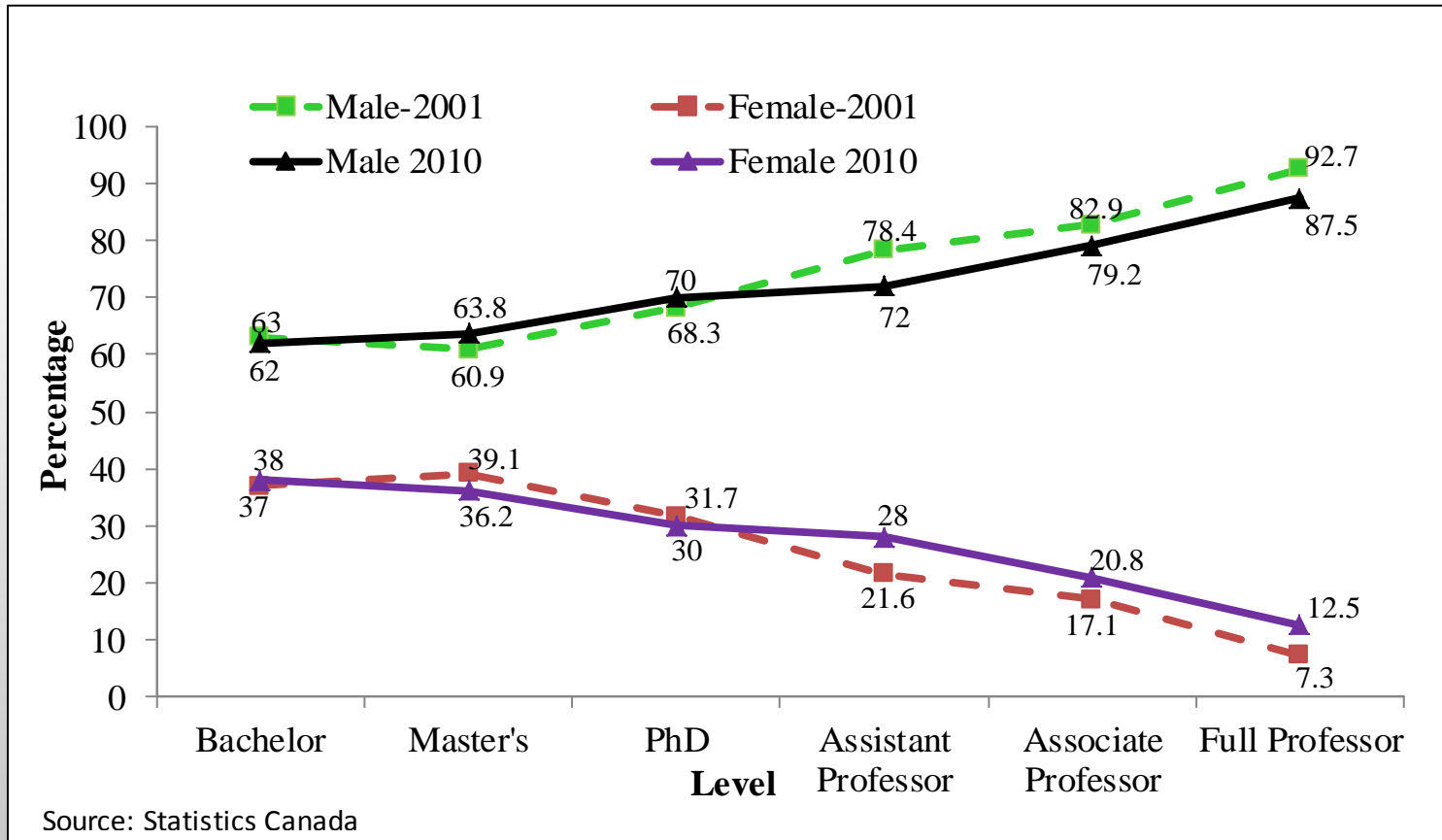
NSERC is building international partnerships to leverage Canada's strengths in areas of national importance

- European Union: WaterWorks Joint Call; Co-ordinated Call in Aerospace; and GenderNetPlus**
- Mandatory international Strategy for Strategic Networks; International partners for Discovery Frontiers**
- Exploring participation of multi-national firms in research collaborations**
- Global Research Council Meeting in Canada (May 29 to 31, 2017)**
- CREATE discussing coordination with US NSF PIRE and harmonizing timelines with DFG Germany**

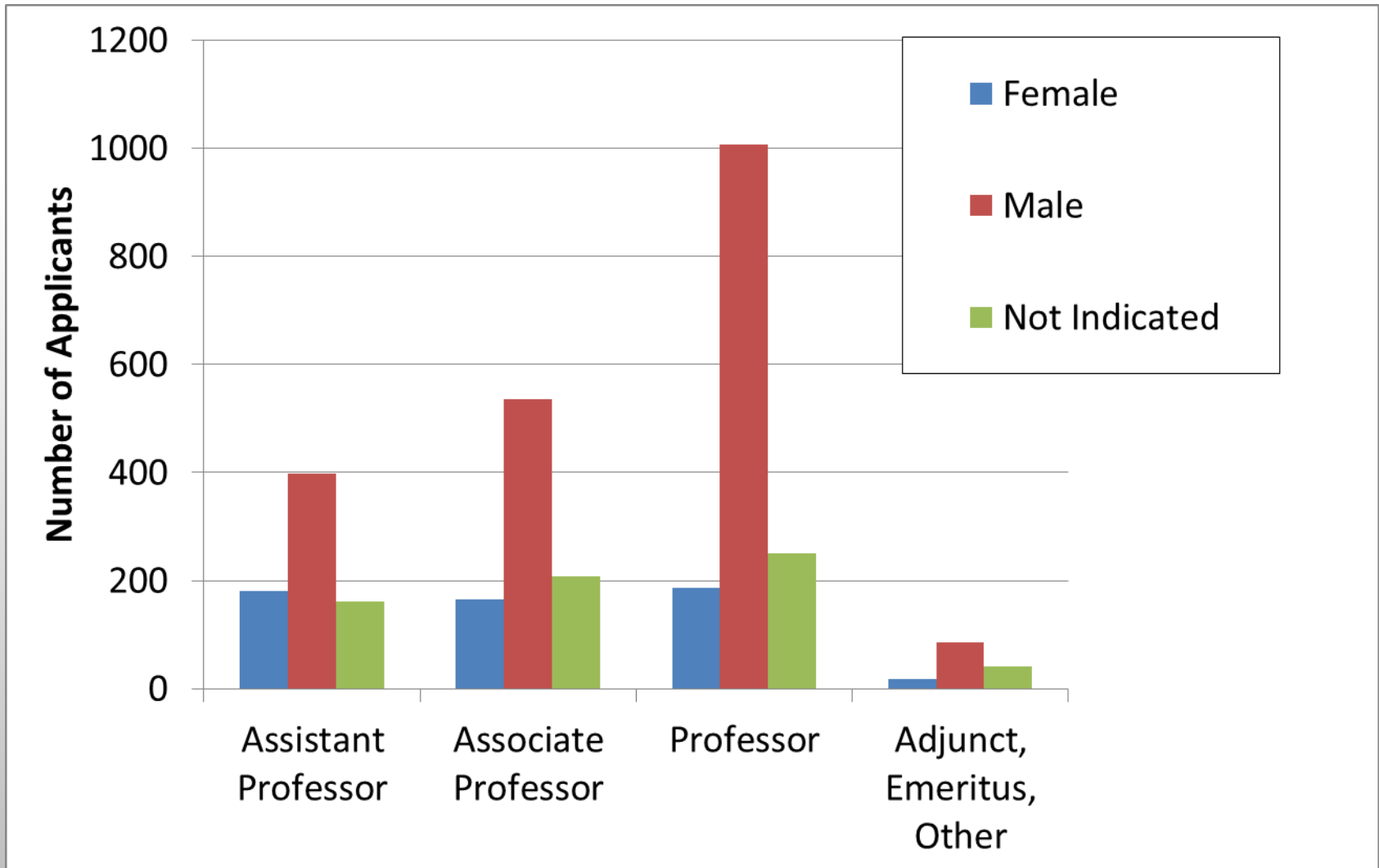
Funding Opportunities and Policy Updates

GENDER EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

Participation in NSE



Discovery Grants Applicants 2017



Gender Equity and Diversity Framework

- ☑ Implementing GBA+ Agency-wide; monitor progress;
- ☑ Reporting gender and equity group-disaggregated application and competition results for major programs;
- ☑ Increasing gender equity and diversity on selection committees;

Gender Equity and Diversity Framework

- ☑ Raising awareness of gender bias and of the possible measures of counteracting it;
- ☑ Promoting the integration of gender, sex and diversity considerations in the research design and diversity in research teams;
- ☑ Designing leave policies and evaluation criteria to ensure leave does not affect assessment of excellence;

Gender Equity and Diversity Framework

- Incorporate fully into existing evaluation criteria and peer review:
 - (a) assess science promotion, outreach and mentorship as valid and valuable research and training contributions;
 - (b) assess integration of sex, gender and diversity considerations in the research design and diversity in research teams, as appropriate.
- Consulting and engaging of stakeholders.

Funding Opportunities and Policy Updates

DATA MANAGEMENT POLICY



SSHRC  CRSH

DRAFT DATA MANAGEMENT POLICY

- 1. Institutions: Institutional Strategy
 - Institutional research data management strategy.
- 2. Researchers: Data Management Plans
 - Grant recipients may be required to submit DMPs to their institution's research office as a condition of the release of grant funds; and, for specific funding opportunities, to the agencies at time of application to be considered in the adjudication process.
- 3. Researchers: Data Deposit
 - Grant recipients may be required to deposit data* and code in an appropriate public repository or other platform that will ensure safe storage, preservation, curation, and (if applicable) access to the data.

*that support research outputs, publications.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK IS KEY

- Community feedback is essential to inform the final design of the policy and the mode of its implementation. The agencies consider the draft policy as a proposal through which to advance discussion with the many stakeholders in the research community, with a tri-agency policy as the desired end product.

ONLINE CONSULTATION IN THE COMING MONTHS
Visit science.gc.ca or agency websites

Funding Opportunities and Policy Updates

INNOVATION UPDATES

Strategic Partnerships Projects

- Letter of Intent phase implemented for 2017 Project competition
 - 563 letters of intent were received and 205 were invited to submit a full proposal
 - Process refinements in 2018 based on 2017 experience, e.g., requiring RGO approval of LOI

Focus on Gender Equity and Diversity

- Strategic Networks: outline strategies to increase the inclusion and advancement of women and other under-represented groups in NSE
- Synergy Awards for Innovation: nominators to outline how gender equity was considered in their nomination processes'
- Changes to requirements for referee suggestions

College & Community Innovation



dealing with growth ...

**Funding Opportunities and Policy
Updates**

DISCOVERY UPDATES

DG Overall Results – 2017

	Success Rate	Average Grant (\$)
Early Career Researchers (ECR)	69%	\$25,409
Established Researchers (ER)	66%	\$34,948

*Includes Discovery Individual Grants only

Research Tools and Instruments

	2017	2016	2015
Budget	\$30.5M	\$26.1M	\$25M
# Appl.	748	657	666
# Funded	241	215	218
Success Rate	32%	33%	33%
Funding Rate	33%	33%	34%

RTI Program Update

- University quotas to be removed for the 2018 competition
 - Competition open to all eligible Canadian university researchers
 - Researchers will be able to participate on one application per competition, either as an applicant or a co-applicant, but not both
- Research Portal open in August

Discovery Updates

- **ECR one year extension**
 - Implemented for 2017 Competition, 84% take-up
- **New definition for ECRs**
 - 3 year window implemented for 2017 Competition
- **Primary Caregiver Policy**
 - Effective March 1, 2016
 - *eligible for, but don't take, extended maternity /parental or adoption leave*
 - Existing policy for those taking leave still applies

Discovery Updates

- **PDF program**
 - NSERC agreed to maintain the policy of one application per lifetime

Reminder - NSERC Policy on Paid Maternity / Parental Leave for **Students and Postdoctoral Fellows** paid from **Grants**

- Students and Postdoctoral fellows who are supported by NSERC grants and are eligible may receive up to 6 months of paid maternity / parental leave.
- The leave supplement will be paid by NSERC.

Discovery Updates

Tri-Agency Harmonization

- **Paid Parental Leave - NSERC scholarship or fellowship holders who are eligible for employment insurance or other parental leave supplements from other sources now qualify for NSERC parental leave supplements.**
- **The agencies adopted common program guides and application forms for the majority of their Scholarship & Fellowship programs.**

Discovery Updates

STEAM Horizon Awards

- **New Prize:** invites youth to promote the use of science, technology, engineering and math **(STEAM)** to promote positive change in their community.

Discovery Updates

- **Discovery Frontiers**

- New call launched supporting research on Biodiversity and Adaptation of Biosystems

- LOI deadline April 17; 28 received

- Invitation to Apply early June

- **DND/NSERC DG Supplements**

- Launched this fall for 2017 DG Competition

Discovery Updates

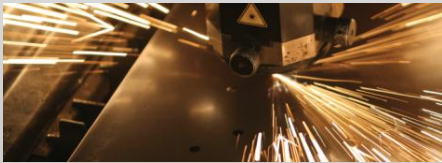
- Portal updates
 - DND supplement available in SAP applications
 - RTI application - removing unnecessary modules
 - Adding Applicant Status section to DG application
- CCV updates
 - Instructions: format modified, text clarified
 - Template: some changes to mandatory fields
- Literature updates
 - Clarification of many sections, please review

NCE UPDATE

Mobilizing R&D and entrepreneurial talent



- **Networks of Centres of Excellence** (19 active)
Includes NCE, NCE-KM, NCE-IKTP & CIRCE
 - Foster collaborative, multi-disciplinary, multi-sector approaches to solving critical issues
 - Mobilize research capacity from across Canada
- **Centres of Excellence for Commercialization and Research** (20 active)
 - Accelerate commercialization of Canadian IP
 - Models include incubators, investors and service providers
- **Business-Led NCEs** (5 active)
 - Respond to needs identified by Canadian industrial sector
 - Support growth of companies in Canada



New Competitions ...

- **CECR competition launched on Nov. 16, 2016**
 - Open to previously and currently funded CECRs
 - Build on success of centres that have a demonstrated ability to turn knowledge and/or technology into new or improved goods, processes or services that result in positive socio-economic, health and environmental impacts
 - The total competition budget is \$72M for the 2018-2023 period
 - Full application deadline date: August 4, 2017
- **NCE competition - launch anticipated Spring 2017**

New Policy

Gender Equity & Diversity

- The NCE has adopted the NSERC policy on equity and diversity in anticipation of a tri-agency policy
- Starting with the NCE competition anticipated for Spring 2017, applicants must outline the measures that will be implemented to advance gender equity and diversity within the proposed network in terms of its governance and activities

Wrap-up

- Final questions comments?
- Other suggestions, questions can be directed to:
 - [*connect@nserc-crsng.gc.ca*](mailto:connect@nserc-crsng.gc.ca)
- Thank you!