

Alliance grants

PIVP Selection Committee Review Instructions

The goal of your review is to determine whether the proposed project demonstrates potential for public impact that justifies the need for a higher level (up to 100% of project costs) of investment of public funds. You are required to review only the three-page Public Impact Value Proposition (PIVP) section (but you may refer to other sections of the application if needed) to assess the PIVP against three characteristics: [Societal Impact; Making Connections; and Broad Outcomes](#).

Each Alliance Option 2 application has passed a completeness / administrative check prior to being assigned to three or five members of the PIVP Selection Committee, depending on the availability of the members and the expertise that is needed. (Refer to the Terms of Reference for the PIVP Selection Committee).

The project must meet all three characteristics to justify the request for a higher NSERC contribution permitted in option 2. Refer to the points below when making your evaluation.

Please be prepared to justify your evaluation of each of the three characteristics and ultimately explain if the proposal provides a convincing summary of why the higher level of investment is needed.

Evaluation guidelines

Societal impact		
Review answers to these PIVP questions	To determine if application meets the following Option 2 requirements for <i>societal impact</i>	Does not meet
<p>Describe the issue the project aims to address and explain the societal impact the project results will have. Describe the new technical knowledge that will be generated.</p> <p>Describe the current barriers impeding a solution and the proposed novel strategy for addressing the issue. Explain why and how the research team and partner organizations are positioned to address the challenge.</p> <p>Justify why a higher level of investment of public funds is required for this project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • focuses on relevant and important regional, national or global issues or opportunities that could affect or benefit Canada AND • removes or lowers the barriers to achieve what would otherwise not be possible in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improvements to a category of product or service that has potential to transform a sector; or ○ providing the evidence needed to support new policies or regulations or to improve them; or ○ solving an issue affecting an entire sector; or ○ creating a new area of the economy AND • outlines the new knowledge to be generated by the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primarily focuses on partner’s specific priorities OR • primarily focuses on partner’s own long-term goals, such as increasing profitability, market share, efficiency, visibility, reputation, etc. OR • marginal or incremental improvements to a knowledge, a product, service or process OR • Failure to demonstrate that project cannot be funded through alternative sources of funds
<p><i>NOTE - The nature of the challenge may be one with longer term benefits but needing current attention. Though the project’s ultimate outcomes may not be fully possible through the scope and timelines of the project, the project should not offer only incremental results and the proposal should demonstrates how NSERC’s contribution allows crucial advances towards goals.</i></p>		

Making connections		
Review answers to these PIVP questions	To determine if application meets the following Option 2 requirements for <i>making connections</i>	Does not meet
<p>Describe how the project is designed to take into account the needs of end-users and implementers. Outline the project’s plan to involve groups in your partner organizations’ network to achieve optimal results and impact.</p> <p>Describe the current barriers impeding a solution and the proposed novel strategy for addressing the issue. <u>Explain why and how the research team and partner organizations are positioned to address the challenge.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> brings together the most relevant academic, partner organization and other organizations in the collaboration <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> outlines a specific plan among actors in the partner’s network and integrate solutions with decision-makers through a demonstrated commitment from partner(s) to sharing project results beyond the partner organization to reach end-users and implementers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> partner and researcher fail to demonstrate connections with key end users and implementers OR project shows insufficient opportunities to connect beyond one partner organization OR inadequate evidence of consultation with relevant groups and limited input and commitment from them OR low degree of participation from partner organizations and unclear intent to share results beyond the project’s partner organizations
<p><i>NOTE – Alliance encourages a variety of partner types including not-for-profit, public and private-sector organizations. Partners of any type must play key roles in advancing the project, but when private-sector partners are involved, cash contributions are required for option 2.</i></p>		

Broad outcomes		
Review answers to these PIVP questions	To determine if application meets the following Option 2 requirements for <i>broad outcomes</i>	Does not meet
<p>Explain how the project outcomes will reach beyond the partner organizations to impact society. Describe the ways in which interested individuals or groups will be able to learn about and use the products, services or policies that stem from this research.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> project shares outcomes in various ways including broadly accessible technical publications or open guidelines <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> explanation of how all interested individuals will both learn about and use the products, services or policies that stem from this research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> project outcomes flow to partner organizations only OR knowledge mobilization beyond partners is solely through journal articles OR no plan to transfer the knowledge to the relevant groups OR Provides an IP management plan that would limit access to the outcomes
<p><i>NOTE – Outcomes in this instance refers both to short-term results/outputs and any activities undertaken as a result of new insights from the project. These outcomes in turn must contribute to the societal impact promised in the application.</i></p>		