

## **Terms of Reference Community Trust Endowment Fund**

### **Purpose of the Endowment**

Knowledge generation and knowledge transfer through research, scholarship, and training are fundamental to the mission of the University. Simon Fraser University has developed a research environment that is sustained by the creativity and excellence of individual researchers. The SFU Community Trust Endowment Fund will contribute to the University's support of research, scholarship and learning by:

- Enhancing SFU's research intensity and distinctiveness
- Supporting the implementation of SFU's Strategic Research Plan
- Attracting and supporting outstanding faculty and students, particularly those who will enhance the University's research capacity

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The SFU Community Trust Endowment Fund will channel income into major initiatives outlined in the Strategic Research Plan, and will support the following types of endeavours:

Student and Postdoctoral Support - research assistantships for graduate and undergraduate students, support for postdoctoral fellows

Strategic Priorities and Opportunities - matching funds for large strategic research initiatives, support for the development of interdisciplinary teams that deliver on the challenges set out in the SRP, workshop support to foster international research collaborations, funds to build new areas of strategic importance including support to attract and retain new faculty members.

Research Equipment and Facilities – support for the operation and enhancement of core research facilities, equipment to support faculty research

Innovation activities - funds to grow and expand entrepreneurship and innovation activities

Seed Funds for Research – small grants for the humanities and social sciences, bridge grants to sustain research teams

Engaged Scholarship Fund – funds to support community-engaged scholarship and knowledge mobilization.

## **Fund Administration**

The SFU Community Trust Endowment Fund will be held by Simon Fraser University in perpetuity. Earned income on the Endowment will be used each year to support the endeavours of the Endowment. Disbursements will be approved only for expenses that are not likely to be eligible for funding from sources external to the university.

The fund administrator will be the Vice- President, Research and International. Final responsibility for approving the use of the earned income from the SFU Community Trust Endowment Fund will be vested in the Vice-President, Research and International. A report on fund expenditures will be shared with the Executive Team and the Board of Governors annually.

In the event that circumstances make the specified use of the Endowment Fund no longer practicable or desirable, the Board of Governors of Simon Fraser University is hereby authorized to make any changes it may deem necessary in the terms or use of the Endowment Fund, such changes, however, to be in keeping as far as possible with the original spirit and general intent of the Endowment Fund.

## **Review**

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed by June 30, 2025 or sooner.