

SFU

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Innovation Fund 2022

Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)

Information Session, January 2021

Institutional Strategic Awards

Today's talk

- CFI Innovation Fund 2022?
- CFI Innovation Fund General Overview
 - Eligibility
 - Assessment criteria
- CFI at SFU
 - CFI portfolio management at SFU
 - SFU internal selection process
 - SFU proposal development

CFI Innovation Fund Competition 2022?

- Call not yet announced ...
- Institutional envelopes calculated on previous tri-agency funding - last round \$24.7M for \$61.75M total costs
- *Assume* guidelines and criteria are the same
- Stats not yet posted but high-level feedback on 2020 competition

CFI Innovation Fund: overview

The CFI Innovation Fund supports ***transformative infrastructure*** projects that underpin cutting-edge, globally competitive research.

Its objectives are to:

- ***Enable global leadership***
- ***Enhance and optimize the capacity of institutions and research communities***
- ***Lead to social, health, environmental and/or economic benefits***

What is eligible?

- Acquisition and development of infrastructure that enables world-class research and innovation
- Personnel – design, engineer, manufacture, installation
- Construction and renovation, *exclusively* for research
- Databases, digital libraries, advanced research computing (ARC). ARC above \$100k is normally incorporated into Cedar, and managed by Compute Canada. This is dependent upon the project's needs
- Extended warranties – for new and existing tools

CFI funding model

- **CFI 40%** / Province 40% / Eligible match 20%
- Current BC guidelines follow CFI benefits criteria
- **Provincial match is separate BCKDF application.**
- SFU's IF funding envelope is for both SFU-led and partner-led projects

CFI assessment criteria - objectives

Objective 1. Enable **global leadership** by supporting world-class research and/or technology development.

- Research/technology development – The programs are innovative, feasible and internationally competitive.
- Team – The diverse team comprises the breadth of expertise to conduct the proposed programs.

CFI assessment criteria - objectives

Objective 2. Enhance & optimize the **capacity** of institutions and research communities to conduct research program(s)

- Research capacity – Necessary research capacity exists on which to build the proposal.
- Infrastructure – The request is necessary and appropriate to conduct the proposed research program.
- Sustainability – Infrastructure will be optimally used, operated and sustained over its useful life.

CFI assessment criteria - objectives

Objective 3. Lead to social, health, environmental and/or economic **benefits for Canadians**

- Benefits – The team and its partners have a well-defined plan to transfer the results of the research and/or technology development program(s). The results are likely to lead to social, health, environmental and/or economic benefits for Canadians

Common weaknesses - 2017

General comments from previous competitions

- Lack of focus
- Lack of detail
- Insufficient evidence of expertise
- Weak sustainability plan
- Potential for innovation not clear
- Capacity – link with past investments not clear

Recent IF competition – 2020

Six SFU-led proposals submitted

- One funded

Ten non SFU-led proposals submitted

- Three funded

Awards have not yet been made public - confidential

Post mortem statistics not yet communicated to institutions

About the Institutional Strategic Awards Office

ISA manages the pre-award development and post-award management of awards that are:

- Led by and/or awarded to the institution;
- Large-scale, complex, and/or multi-institutional;
- Aligned with and beneficial to the institution's goals (directly or indirectly), as described in the SRP

Institutional approach led by ISA

- Open, transparent selection process where any team can submit an NOI internally for consideration under SFU cap
- Internal selection based on excellence and external review
- Strategic coordination across research grant facilitators, facilities services, various stakeholders, procurement, etc.
- Research project management

IF 2022 Internal Selection *changes*

- Announce timeline before expected CFI call
- Addition of iEOI stage
- iNOI more extensive to allow more informed decision on fit to criteria
- For teams approved to go forward from iNOI to CFI NOI stage - seed funds will be available for renovation cost estimates by Facilities

IF 2022 Proposal Development *changes*

- RPMs assigned to teams earlier to better engage with the teams through the NOI and proposal development processes
- Check-in with teams and partners at regular intervals throughout
- Build in longer time for review process and reviews to be synthesized and not returned to teams as individual score cards
- Alternating CFI/BCKDF drafts

Internal pre-call timeline

2021 Jan - IF information session for research community

2021 Feb - EOI submission due (by February 28)

2021 Mar - Mandatory Test your Concept presentations

2021 Apr - Mandatory budget and benefits workshops

2021 May - Mandatory space requirement form

2021 July - iNOI submission due

2021 Aug - Review of iNOIs by external reviewers, AVPR, Deans and/or ADRs, others - collate and assess

2021 Sept to Nov - Expected timeline for 2022 call

Process overview

Competition
announced



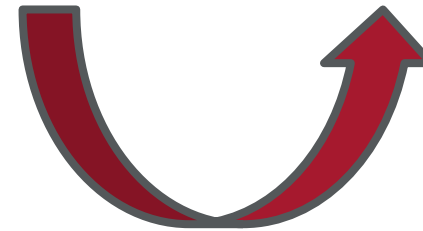
Notice of Intent
(NOI) due to CFI



Applications
due to CFI



SFU Internal
NOI Selection



SFU support
for applicants

Alternate with BCKDF

The ISA Team

Director *pro tem*

Diane Hanano

Application Development Team

Associate Director, Pre-award & Prizes Lead

Melanie Monk

Senior Advisors

Sara Swenson

Javier Tavitas

Fiona Haynes

Award Specialist

Joanne Kienholz

Project Management Team

Associate Director, Post-Award & CFI Lead

Charlene Allard

Research Project Managers

Mark Campbell

Barbara Sherman

Kim Sivak

Shannon Valdez Mendia

**New hire coming soon*

Discussion/ Questions

For additional information:
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