

Update

September 2022



-
- **New Director of Programs at the CFI**
 - **The latest on the 2023 Innovation Fund competition**
 - **Annual reporting requirements and institutional payments**
 - **Reaching out to researchers**
 - **Listen to our new podcast series: *10,000 ways***
 - **Call for proposals for Acfas congress**
 - **The Navigator celebrates 800+ facilities**
 - **Important upcoming dates**
-

New Director of Programs at the CFI

Mark Lagacé is the new Director of Programs at the Canada Foundation for Innovation. He began this role on July 11, 2022. Mark joined the CFI in April 2005 as an Assistant Coordinator and since then has played key roles on the Programs team including as Manager of the Leaders Opportunity Fund from 2006 to 2008 and then as Senior Programs Officer. He has led or co-led at least five national competitions starting with the 2012 Leading Edge and New Initiatives Funds and most recently the Biosciences Research Infrastructure Fund.

Mark holds a PhD in Microbiology and Immunology from the University of Ottawa. He brings rich experience in leadership and management of funding competitions and a profound working knowledge of the CFI. We are very happy to have Mark at the helm of the Programs team.

The latest on the 2023 Innovation Fund competition

By the July 15, 2022 deadline, we received 297 proposals to the 2023 Innovation Fund competition from 63 institutions. Together, these proposals amount to over \$1.1 billion from the CFI, representing total project costs of over \$3.1 billion.

The first part of the review process, virtual Expert Committee meetings, will take place from late September 2022 to mid-January 2023. Programs staff are finalizing the recruitment of members for these committees.

[Visit our website for more information on the 2023 Innovation Fund competition.](#)

A snapshot of the 2023 Innovation Fund competition

By institution type

Institution type	Proposals submitted (%)	Total cost (%)	CFI request (%)	Average CFI request
University	267 (90%)	\$2.7 billion (89%)	\$1.0 billion (88%)	\$3.8 million
Hospital	24 (8%)	\$285 million (9%)	\$113 million (10%)	\$4.7 million
Research institute	3 (1%)	\$46 million (1.5%)	\$18 million (2%)	\$6.1 million
College & other academic institution	3 (1%)	\$15 million (0.5%)	\$6 million (1%)	\$2.0 million
Total	297	\$3.1 billion	\$1.1 billion	\$3.8 million

Multi-institutional projects

Three or more collaborating institutions (including administrative institution)	Proposals submitted (%)	Total cost (%)	CFI request (%)	Average CFI request
	57 (19%)	\$922 million (30%)	\$304 million (27%)	\$5.3 million

Update

By province

Province	Proposals submitted (%)	Total cost (%)	CFI request (%)	Average CFI request
Alberta	29 (10%)	\$267 million (9%)	\$103 million (9%)	\$3.5 million
British Columbia	33 (11%)	\$362 million (12%)	\$132 million (12%)	\$4.0 million
Manitoba	10 (3%)	\$67 million (2%)	\$26 million (2%)	\$2.6 million
New Brunswick	1 (0.3%)	\$11 million (0.4%)	\$4 million (0.4%)	\$4.3 million
Newfoundland and Labrador	3 (1%)	\$21 million (1%)	\$9 million (1%)	\$2.9 million
Nova Scotia	9 (3%)	\$57 million (2%)	\$23 million (2%)	\$2.5 million
Ontario	114 (38%)	\$1.25 billion (40%)	\$478 million (42%)	\$4.2 million
Prince Edward Island	1 (0.3%)	\$2 million (0.1%)	\$0.6 million (0.1%)	\$0.6 million
Québec	92 (31%)	\$914 million (30%)	\$338 million (30%)	\$3.7 million
Saskatchewan	5 (2%)	\$142 million (5%)	\$27 million (2%)	\$5.4 million
Total	297	\$3.1 billion	\$1.1 billion	\$3.8 million

Update

By size of CFI request

Size of CFI request (\$)	Proposals submitted (%)	CFI request (%)
<=\$1M	18 (6%)	\$12 million (1%)
\$1M to \$4M	178 (60%)	\$453 million (40%)
\$4M to \$6M	56 (19%)	\$276 million (24%)
\$6M to \$10M	34 (11%)	\$259 million (23%)
≥\$10M	11 (4%)	\$140 million (12%)
Total	297	\$1.1 billion

By research sector

Field of research	Proposals submitted (%)	Total cost (%)	CFI request (%)	Average CFI request
Health	72 (24%)	\$805 million (26%)	\$306 million (27%)	\$4.3 million
Natural sciences and engineering	211 (71%)	\$2.2 billion (70%)	\$790 million (69%)	\$3.7 million
Social sciences and humanities	14 (5%)	\$113 million (4%)	\$44 million (4%)	\$3.2 million
Total	297	\$3.1 billion	\$1.1 billion	\$3.8 million

Annual reporting requirements and institutional payments

We would like to thank institutions for submitting their financial and project progress reports (PPRs). Once again this year, we have benefited from outstanding support from institutions, with submission rates of 71 percent for financial reports and 98 percent for PPRs. We rely on the data collected through the PPRs to develop our annual report on results, one of the key accountability tools we use to demonstrate the outcomes of CFI research infrastructure funding.

We use the financial reports to assist in the management of projects. We perform follow-up procedures on issues we identify from the reports. Your response to these issues is important and we encourage you to address them as soon as possible. The submission deadline for final financial reports is September 30, 2022, if you did not submit an interim financial report this year. Note that an Infrastructure Operating Fund annual report is due annually on June 15, regardless of whether your institution has any actual or forecasted expenditures to report.

For institutions with financial or project progress reports still outstanding, please be advised that future installments for all CFI-funded projects (including new awards to be finalized, if any) will be held back if these reports are not received by November 15, 2022. Installments will resume once all reports have been submitted. Reminders will be sent to the CFI account administrator and the CFI liaison during the first week of October advising them of any outstanding reports. You can also consult your institutional overview page in the CFI Awards Management System at any time to view your overdue reports.

Reaching out to researchers

A reminder that in February 2022, we launched an initiative to encourage researchers to think of the CFI when they communicate about their infrastructure and the research that emerges from it. This includes information about joining the Research Facilities Navigator and order forms for CFI-branded stickers. As always, please have your research communicators connect with the **CFI's communications team** with any CFI-related research stories, upcoming announcements or openings.

Listen to our new podcast series: *10,000 ways*

We launched a new podcast series called *10,000 ways*, which focuses on curiosity-driven researchers, leading-edge science and the joys of discovery. It gets its name from Thomas Edison who said, "I have not failed. I have successfully found 10,000 ways that will not work." The podcast tells stories of researchers in Canada who embrace that same perseverance and optimism. In each episode, researchers reveal their motivations, discoveries and hopes for future generations. Check out the first two episodes [here](#).

Call for proposals for Acfas congress

To help support the work of **Acfas**, we wanted to share that as the organization celebrates its 100th anniversary, it is looking for proposals from researchers and students to present or organize a panel at their congress. The event will run May 8 to 12, 2023, and the deadline for proposals — October 10, 2022 — is quickly approaching. Find details [here](#) (in French only).

The Navigator celebrates 800+ facilities

Since its launch in 2013, the [CFI's online directory of research facilities](#) has helped connect hundreds of innovators finding the research expertise, services and state-of-the-art equipment they need to solve their R&D challenges. Recently, we reached a special milestone.

Covering traditional, emerging and advanced sectors of Canada's economy, the Navigator now features over 800 facilities based in universities, colleges, hospitals, non-profits and federal government departments and agencies from coast to coast to coast.

[Follow us on Twitter](#) and [visit our stories page](#) for inspiration and news about the facilities listed on the Navigator and their work to support a more innovative Canada.

[Read more](#)

Important upcoming dates

You can always find key dates for all the CFI's funding opportunities on our website. Here are a few important dates coming up:

October 4, 2022	Special CFI Board of Directors meeting to make decisions for the Biosciences Research Infrastructure Fund competition for biocontainment and large-animal facilities.
October 15, 2022	Deadline to submit proposals for the John R. Evans Leaders Fund – unaffiliated proposals
November 22, 2022	CFI Board of Directors meeting

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