



Research Partnership Programs Partnering for Innovation

College meeting

Algonquin College,
Ottawa, Ontario
Dec 4th, 2008

Marie Thibault,
Program Manager
Research Partnerships Programs
(613) 996-9402

Marie.thibault@nserc.ca



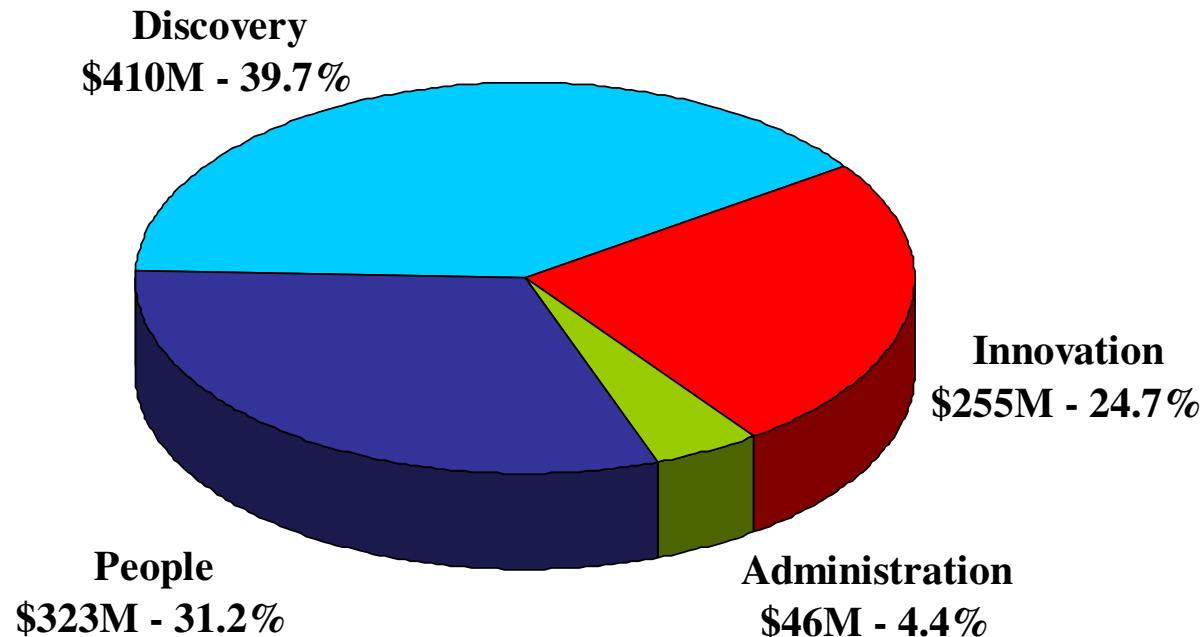
What We Do at NSERC

We invest more than \$1 billion every year in people, discovery and innovation





NSERC Budget 2008-09 (millions of dollars)



Total: \$1.034 billion



« We recognize that Colleges play an increasingly important role in advancing innovation and helping industry adopt new technology. Because colleges are closely linked with local industry, they are well positioned to work in technology development and proof-of-concept research project »

Dr. Suzanne Fortier, President, NSERC
February 23, 2006



NSERC and the Colleges

- **NSERC views the colleges as**
 - **Closely linked with industry locally and regionally**
 - **Playing an important and growing role in advancing innovation**
 - **Having a unique role distinct from that of universities**

- **NSERC's goal**
 - **Assist the colleges in advancing innovation (existing programs and new mechanisms)**



College and Community Innovation Pilot Program

- Launched February 2004
- Objective: increase the capacity of the colleges to support local innovation
- June 2006 - Mid-term review based on case studies of each of the 6 funded initiatives



College and Community Innovation (CCI) Program - Background

- Based on the success of the pilot program
- 2007 Budget and S&T Strategy : program now permanent with an initial budget of \$48 M
- Support the Entrepreneurial Advantage of the S&T Strategy
- Launched January 31, 2008



CCI Program – Objectives

- Increase innovation at the community and/or regional level by enabling Canadian colleges to strengthen their capacity to work with local companies, particularly SMEs
- Support applied research and collaborations that facilitate commercialization, technology transfer adoption of new technologies



College and Community Innovation Program

Anticipated Impacts

- Encourage colleges and industry partnerships
- Professors and Students participating in applied R&D activities on real industry problems
- Increase applied research capacity and TT activities



CCI Program - Context

- **Management:** NSERC in collaboration with CIHR and SSHRC
- **Institutional grant in an area where the college has a recognized expertise**
- **Areas:** NSE, humanities, social sciences and health or in the Canadian priority areas



CCI Program – Support

- **NSERC-eligible colleges or those colleges that have submitted complete applications for NSERC eligibility before the letter of intent (LOI) deadline date may submit a CCI LOI**
- **A portfolio of applied research projects, technology and knowledge transfer**
- **Industry must participate (in-kind contributions)**
- **College professors and students**



Other features

Duration: 5 years

Value:

- Years 1 - 3: up to \$ 500,000 / year
- Years 4 & 5: up to \$ 400,000 / year (4/5)

Eligible expenses:

- Direct costs of applied research / technology, knowledge transfer/outreach activities, networking, and operating and equipment (up to 20%)
- Indirect costs – overhead and administration (up to 20%)



Application and Review Procedures

- **2-Stage Review Process:**
 - Letter of Intent
 - Full Application

- **Peer Review:**
 - Private Sector Advisory Board (PSAB), CCI Review Committee and external referees



Evaluation Criteria

1. Potential to contribute to local and regional innovation
2. Excellence of the proposal
3. Need for and use of funds



Competition – Timetable

Dec 19, 2008:	Deadline date for LOI
Mid-March 2009:	CCI Review Committee and PSAB
April 2009:	Colleges invited to submit Full Applications
June 5, 2009:	Deadline date for Full Applications
Mid-Sept.:	External review, CCI Review Committee and PSAB
Oct. 2009:	Results and funding



Research Partnerships Programs (RPP)

- Strategic Project Grants (SPG)
- Collaborative R&D Grants (CRD)
- **Idea to Innovation (I2I)**
- Industrial Research Chairs (IRC)
- Research Partnership Agreements (RPA)
- Strategic Networks Grants (SNG)
- Intellectual Property Mobilization Program (IPM)



Idea to Innovation (I2I)

- Support research and development projects with identifiable technology transfer potential
- To reduce technical risk and to demonstrate the commercial potential of university or college discoveries
- Industry Liason Office must commit to the project & work with the researcher/partners



Entry points to the program

- Phase I – Researcher without a partner
- Phase II – Researcher with a partner
 - a) Early stage investor
 - b) Company



Idea to Innovation (I2I)

PHASE I, PROOF-OF-CONCEPT

- Designed to advance promising scientific concepts or technologies to attract early stage investment and/or to build intellectual property (IP)
- Funding available up to 12 months, max \$125,000
- Proposals require a plan describing how a partnership will be established with a Canadian based company that has the capacity to commercialize the research results



Idea to Innovation (I2I)

PHASE II, TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENT

- Designed to provide scientific or engineering evidence of the technical feasibility and market definition of the technology, process or product
- Project can be with early stage investment partner or Canadian based company
- Partners must share in costs



What makes a good I2I project?

- Built on solid scientific evidence
 - research has been completed or proven in some way
- Focussed project with well defined objectives
- The team has the expertise to do the work
- There is a clear “go to market” strategy



Final Words

- We are committed to helping colleges achieve the goals of the S&T Strategy and their own goals
- NSERC is excited about working with you!



Comments or Questions?

Marie Thibault

Program Manager

(613) 996-9402

marie.thibault@nserc.ca

Website : www.nserc.ca

