

Progress on UCalgary IPG Project Objectives – 2022/23 report

Total IPG award: \$2,912,117.00

Project name	Objective(s)	Allocated amount	Progress
<p>0009-2022-01 Clinical Trial Training Platform and System Change Management Support</p> <p>Priority area: B</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project Part A: To map system related processes and develop “best practice” workflows for clinical research. 2. Project Part A: To provide change management support for the adoption of “best practice” workflows related to new clinical research platforms. 3. Project Part B: To create an online, modular clinical trial training program for new clinical trial investigators and clinical trial support staff. 	<p>\$80,000</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Alberta clinical research environment and the University of Calgary clinical trial program have undergone transformational changes with the implementation of five new electronic platforms and three new system integrations. To take full advantage of the automations and functions the new research platforms and integrations offer, this project developed and mapped clinical research processes and new best practice workflows. 2. To support research teams throughout the necessary changes, the project presented Best Practice processes to end users that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outline standardized processes across multiple institutional and provincial systems - Present coordinated clinical research workflows that utilize the automations and functions the new research platforms and integrations offer. 3. An additional Institutional Project Grant of \$80,000 was awarded to fund the completion of the clinical trial training platform by March 2024. At this time a total of 98 job aids have been developed and can be accessed through D2L.

<p>0009-2022-02 Dimensions and EDI capacity-building</p> <p>Priority area: D</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A robust self-assessment of equity, diversity and inclusion in our institutional research processes and supports 2. New website and resource content for researchers, faculty leaders, and staff on equity, diversity and inclusion in research design and practice 	<p>\$350,331</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IPG project funding contributed the salary of a project manager for the Dimensions self-assessment and application stages. A thorough self-assessment of EDI in the UCalgary research ecosystem was conducted by a 60+-member self-assessment team including members of equity-deserving groups and representing faculty, unionized staff, management and professional staff, students and postdoctoral scholars in units across campus. Five separate Parallel Paths and Equitable Pathways Working Groups supported the advancement of equity, diversity, and inclusion in the research ecosystem by conducting a gap analysis and identifying barriers and obstacles to full participation of members of each of the five equity-deserving groups: Indigenous People, LGBTQ2S+ community members, persons with disabilities, visible/racialized minorities, and women. The Dimensions EDI assessment at UCalgary included analysis of storytelling, quantitative and quantitative data and reflected the lived experiences of diverse members of our campus community. A comprehensive action plan was then developed to address priority gaps identified during the self-assessment. A Dimensions recognition application was submitted in October 2022 and, following an interview with the Dimensions recognition application review committee in January 2023, the University of Calgary was awarded a Dimensions: Construction recognition. The foundational work conducted under the Dimensions program will now ladder into the university's Presidential Task Force on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility launching in 2023. 2. New website content, webinars and guidance documents were developed to support faculty leadership, researchers, and staff in embedding equity, diversity and inclusion in research activities. New resources included: a summary guide on EDI in Research and Teaching Awards; new infographics and materials in the EDI Data Hub; and a recorded webinar "Applying an Equity Lens in Decision-Making".
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<p>0009-2022-03 EDI Initiatives</p> <p>Priority area: D</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support equitable and inclusive recruitment and support processes for Canada Research Chairs 2. Development of guidance and educational resources on EDI in research design and practice to support researchers and staff 	<p>\$110,000</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased support, advising services and guidance materials were developed to support equitable recruitment and support of Canada Research Chairs. Documentation of CRC recruitment and support processes was further refined; additional efforts were made to bolster constructive feedback to faculties to embed equitable and inclusive practices in recruitment of chairs and other academic selection processes. 2. Comprehensive consultations, guidance materials, and detailed review of EDI in research proposals supported applicants to competitions ranging in scale from NSERC Discovery Grants to SSHRC Partnership Grants to the Canada First Research Excellence Fund program. Seven workshops were delivered and attended by over 200 people. New resources to guide review of research plans and proposals with an EDI lens were developed for use by Research Services staff and peer reviewers.
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<p>0009-2022-04 High Performance Computing and Research Data Management</p> <p>Priority area: B</p>	<p>To increase research capacity through greater access to shared major infrastructure across our university, including computing infrastructure, and to address and further prepare for greater demand.</p> <p>Research Workflow Development and Deployment using HPC and other support infrastructure. It is also aimed at creating isolated work environments to enable independence of source projects</p> <p>To develop an RDM strategy to guide the transition of processes and practices to comply with the Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy</p>	<p>\$410,000</p>	<p>High Performance Computing objective #1 has been met. The IPG funding was used for the purchase of HPC servers, storage and network equipment. Some of the investment were used to hire a limited-term system analyst to manage CloudStack, which is a system extension to the HPC system.</p> <p>The second HPC objective is in progress. This phase of the project is very much tied to the lifecycle of the research projects research computing is supporting. All HPC investments are considered institutional, and the infrastructure is made available to all research projects requiring support in this area. Building research data workflows (software) is where the future IPG investments will be utilized.</p> <p>A strategy was developed and published on March 1, 2023, in compliance with the Tri-Agency RDM Policy: https://research.ucalgary.ca/conduct-research/additional-resources/research-data-management/rdm-strategy.</p>
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<p>0009-2022-05 Indigenous Research Support Team Priority area: D</p>	<p>Strengthen and identify resources for university researchers, Indigenous communities, and partners to promote collaborative, reciprocal, and culturally responsive research.</p>	<p>\$316,000</p>	<p>Over the course of the year, the number of funding and ethics applications identified as involving Indigenous research has risen dramatically. Following an environmental scan of publicly available resources relating to Indigenous research in Canada, a number of new resources were developed to assist researchers with understanding ethical and respectful practices for working with Indigenous communities. Some activities, including the launch of the inaugural Weaving Webs Indigenous research conference, were delayed due to turnover in a number of positions over the course of the year. Specialized staff in Indigenous research are in high demand, which led to longer recruitment periods in hiring new staff to fill the positions. Following the onboarding of new staff members, new webinars on ethical practices in Indigenous research have been developed and delivered to students, faculty members and staff across campus. Hiring for new team members continued through the winter, which will add capacity to further support Indigenous research in 2023-24. Shareable guidance materials and updated website content will follow.</p>
<p>0009-2022-06 Industry Engagement Office Priority area: A</p>	<p>To establish an office that offers one-stop partnering of companies and researchers and then supports development of collaborative, innovative research projects between these partners</p>	<p>\$350,000</p>	<p>The Year One goals for the Industry Engagement (Research, IER) Office were to strategically build a team and to create an initial business development process that could be tested and refined over subsequent years. As such, the Industry Engagement manager was hired in May 2022 with an initial focus to recruit two industry-facing team members and to draft a framework to engage companies and researchers in collaborative research projects of mutual benefit. Subsequently, two Industry Engagement advisors were hired – one focused on companies in the energy and advanced technologies sectors and one focused on companies in the health and life sciences sectors. Together, the team created a three-part process to engage companies: 1) Match companies with researchers who have relevant interests and goals to engage in collaborative partnerships; 2) Support these partnerships by leveraging company investments with government funding; 3) Advance and evolve partnerships towards new</p>

			<p>and exciting opportunities. The process is now featured on the IER web site and print materials. To engage these companies, the IER team attended eleven events and hosted seven tours and workshops during the reporting period. As a result, in the first ten months of the project, IER met almost one hundred companies to introduce research opportunities with UCalgary. To expedite translation of these conversations into research connections, meetings were held with the Faculty Research offices to understand current industry engagement practices and how the IER team might augment these efforts. As just a few examples of collaborations with the Faculties, the IER team acquired multiple letters of support from industry partners for the successful institutional grant Major Innovation Fund, Medical Device Innovation, offered workshops on IER services to Faculties and invited companies to several industry days hosted by Faculties.</p>
<p>0009-2022-07 Innovation Initiatives Priority area: A</p>	<p>Support invention and creation of start-up companies from new inventors and build capacity for academic social innovators and community partners to efficiently co-design sustainable solutions to complex social problems.</p>	<p>\$600,786</p>	<p>Three supporting initiatives have been formalized to support this objective:</p> <p>Evolve to Innovate (E2I) Participating teams engage in an eight-month experiential innovation curriculum to support efforts to translate successful research outcomes into practical solutions.</p> <p>Academic Entrepreneurs in Residence (AEIR) This team supports the innovation process by providing mentorship and practical support to help move emergent research ideas toward impactful solutions in our community.</p> <p>Collectively these tactics have helped generate the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 37 new research teams engaged in commercialization activities <input type="checkbox"/> 98 invention disclosures <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Licensing agreements <input type="checkbox"/> 20 new Startups founded

			<input type="checkbox"/> 50 research teams trained (innovation best practices)
	Build capacity for academic social innovators and community partners to co-design sustainable solutions to complex social problems.		14 community-led engagement projects (in-progress or completed). 5 projects moved one or more phases along innovation pipeline. 2 research projects advancing to social enterprise development. 2 projects co-creating/collaborating a solution with community. 1 providing services to a community-based organization. 25% increase in engagement agreements (research and service). Outcome: Vibrant Communities Calgary: Beneath the Surface: The Layers of Poverty in Calgary 2022 Community Wellbeing Report
0009-2022-08 International Research Partnerships & Innovation Unit Priority area: A	To build capacity to support international research; to attract new major international funding; and to expand global partnerships that support the advancement of research, innovation, and commercialization.	\$195,000	Internally, we dedicated substantial efforts to developing innovative international intelligence tools, enhancing our capacity to identify individuals and opportunities for international research collaboration. We initiated comprehensive awareness campaigns, ensuring that our faculty members and stakeholders remain well-informed about global opportunities relevant to their areas of expertise. We also provided valuable consultancy services and support to our faculty, enabling them to navigate international collaborations effectively. To create awareness of our group, we launched a Roadshow and provide 5 stops to spread the word on our services and connected with 59 UCalgary researchers interested in exploring international research. We launched the International Funding and Researcher Matching (IFARM) tool to find international funding opportunities for UCalgary researchers. We also developed a Researcher Database, that allows us to find UCalgary researchers using keyword searches that mine profiles describing their work and areas of expertise. Our external engagement activities have involved leveraging the extensive network of Canadian embassies and the diplomatic community to forge new research partnerships with strategically

			important nations. We supported the development of the Strategic Alliance with Curtin University in Australia and the University of Aberdeen in Scotland, which UCalgary joined in 2022 and we assisted two missions (Switzerland and Singapore) to advance research collaborations and innovation.
0009-2022-09 Knowledge Engagement Priority area: A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build capacity in knowledge engagement 2. Facilitate the development of partnerships for research 3. Provide a robust support structure for knowledge engagement initiatives 	\$300,000	Number of: - <i>inquiries received from both internal and external parties interested in community-focused research partnerships; partnerships supported; meetings with community organizations</i> Provided matchmaking and collaboration support to 22 community partners and 5 UCalgary researchers, and consulted with 21 groups on how to engage in KE activities. - <i>events</i> Delivered 16 workshops with 832 registrants. Hosted two in-person meet-ups with 85 registrants. Coordinated 4 events with the Calgary Public Library, with 181 youth registrants. Hosted monthly Knowledge Engagement Community of Practice. Joined Community-Based Research Canada and 33 UCalgary members participated in webinars and community of practice. - <i>funded projects; research revenue</i> In 2022-23, the group supported 30 funding applications resulting in \$3.5M in grant revenue from the successful applications. - <i>guidance resources developed</i> Knowledge Engagement Impact Assessment Toolkit downloaded over 250 times in FY 2022-2023 - <i>website data (traffic, inquiries submitted)</i> KE Newsletter distributed to 375 people per month and opened 1592 times; Knowledge Engagement homepage visited 1799 times, KE Impact Assessment Toolkit page visited 1310 times; Average time on KE Impact Assessment Toolkit page was over 4

			minutes, indicating that visitors viewed embedded videos; slides and recordings from workshops collated and distributed, slides viewed 431 times.
<p>0009-2022-10 Research Impact Assessment (DORA)</p> <p>Priority area: C</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducting a review of internal policies and practices for research assessment 2. Developing and disseminating digital resources that promote DORA principles, share best practices, and support individual faculties to implement DORA guidance 3. Developing tools that help faculty members to capture and summarize their scholarly impact 	\$200,000	<p><i>-Number of events and event attendees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organized and delivered two “Navigating DORA” webinars with external speakers, 357 registrants and 171 attendees; - Facilitated four workshops with faculty groups, with 89 attendees - Delivered one external presentations at a national meeting, with 25 attendees. - Co-facilitated two webinars with Research Impact Librarian on practical tools for communicating research impact. <p><i>-Number of campus and external stakeholders engaged</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Became DORA supporting organization in December 2022 - Engaged in 19 internal consultations and 12 external consultations. External consultations included with DORA leads at federal funding agencies, and research impact specialists from Canadian and international universities. - Research Impact Assessment Working Group met 8 times to provide insight on RIA practices across UCalgary campus and discuss global frameworks and best practices. <p><i>- Number of resources and tools created</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developed website with DORA principles and detailed FAQs, published in September 2022. Website viewed 1250 times with average time on page of 8 minutes and 10 seconds. - Reviewed and provided feedback on draft Academic Staff Criteria & Processes Guidelines for 7 of 13 Faculties and 3 additional academic units.