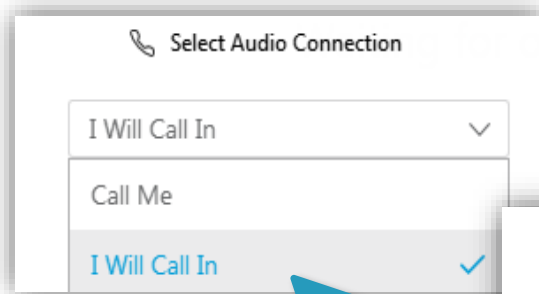


If you are experiencing **technical difficulties with the audio**, please connect with a **landline or cell phone**.

- Under “**Select Audio Connection**” choose one of the following:

1. “**Call Me**” or;
2. “**I Will Call In**”



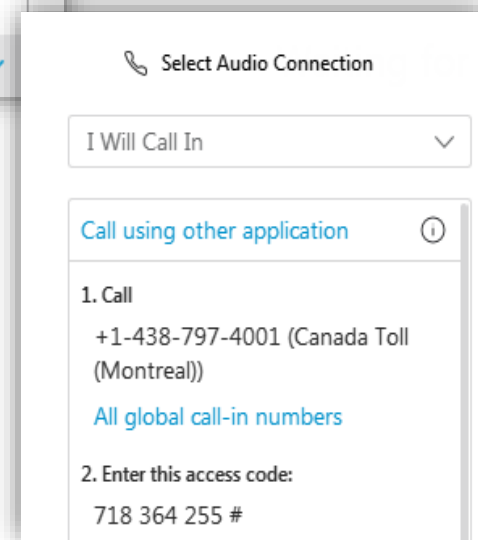
Select Audio Connection

I Will Call In

Call Me

I Will Call In

- Follow the instructions
- Use the Q&A box for questions**



Select Audio Connection

I Will Call In

Call using other application

1. Call  
+1-438-797-4001 (Canada Toll (Montreal))  
[All global call-in numbers](#)

2. Enter this access code:  
718 364 255 #



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# 2023 Exploration Competition

## Information Webinar

September 12, 2023



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# Overview

1. Program description
2. Eligibility and roles
3. Review process
4. Notice of Intent (NOI) requirements
5. Information for RGOs
6. Questions and resources



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# Program Description

## 2023 Exploration Competition



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## **New for 2023!**

The **external review stage has been removed for the 2023 competition** and for future Exploration competitions

- Reason for the change:
  - To reduce the burden on the research community;
  - To maximize the time available for researchers to develop and submit proposals.

## Program Description

# Competition Stages - 2023 Exploration Stream

## Two-stage competition

1. Notice of Intent to Apply (NOI).
2. Full Application.



## Program Description

# Exploration Stream Objective

Goal: Inspire research that is **high risk, high reward**, and **interdisciplinary**.

Support projects that:

- **bring disciplines together** beyond traditional disciplinary or common interdisciplinary approaches;
- propose to **explore something new**, which **might fail**; and
- have the **potential for significant impact**.

Range of impacts:

Social, cultural, economic, health-related, technological, etc.

Proposals led from any discipline:

Social sciences and humanities, health, natural sciences and engineering.

## Program Description

# Value and Duration

**Value** → Up to \$125,000 per year (including indirect costs of up to 25% of direct costs).

Funds should be used primarily to support research activities, **not to acquire or maintain infrastructure.**\*1

\*1 [Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration](#)

**Duration** → Up to 2 years.

**Number of grants** → Minimum of 100 grants.

A proportion of awards will be reserved for Early Career Researchers (ECRs).\*2

\*2 *Research interruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic are recognized as an eligible delay → **starting on March 1, 2020.***



## Program Description

# Exploration Competition Timeline

**October 11, 2023**  
8:00 p.m. (Eastern)

NOI deadline

**December 12, 2023**  
8:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Full Application deadline

**March 4 to March 8, 2024**

Multidisciplinary review panel meetings

**March 31, 2024**

Start date of awards

## Program Description

# Interdisciplinarity / Fit to Program

Interdisciplinarity requirements:

- **at least two different disciplines** (as defined by the group-level classification of the Canada Research and Development Classification codes, [CRDC](#)); and
- the onus is on the applicant to explain **the novelty of the interdisciplinary approach** to justify the fit to program.

## Program Description

# Interdisciplinarity / Fit to Program

Interdisciplinarity can be defined by elements such as, but not limited to:

- Novelty of the Perspective → integrating two or more disciplines not commonly combined.
- Novelty of the Approach → application or adaptation of frameworks/tools/methods/ techniques from one discipline to solve a problem in another discipline.
- Project Design → designed from an interdisciplinary perspective.

---

## Subcriterion

- Fit to Program → *pushes the boundaries of what can be funded through the agencies.*

## Program Description

# Multidisciplinary versus Interdisciplinary Research

### Multidisciplinary Teams

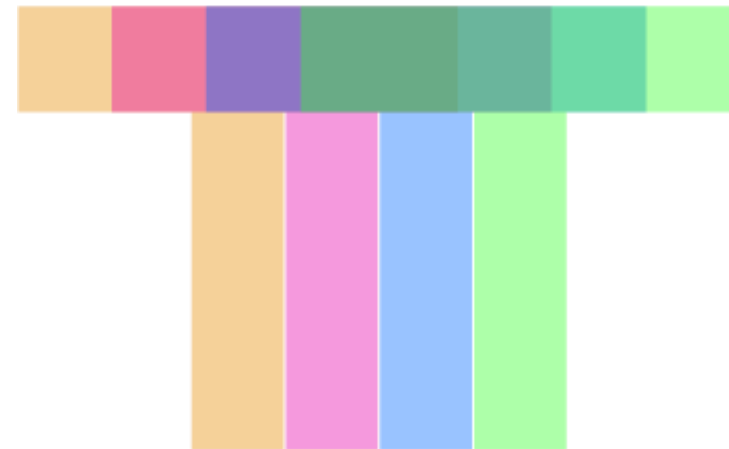
Each member operates as a part of a chain of responsibility



Members working in silo, by disciplines

### Interdisciplinary Teams

Individuals from different fields are expected to contribute ideas to the entire project stack



Members listen to and learn from others

## Program Description

# Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research Practice (EDI)

EDI in research practice is a core element of the NFRF program and is comprised of **three key areas**:

1. team composition and recruitment processes;
2. training and development opportunities; and
3. inclusion.

For each of the three key areas above, applicants must explain:

- what actions they will take;
- the outcomes expected; and
- the assessment planned.

## Program Description

# Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research Practice

Actions proposed are expected to:

- **remove barriers;** and
- **provide opportunities** for the meaningful integration of individuals from all groups, including the four designated groups (women, Indigenous peoples, members of visible minorities and persons with disabilities).

Refer to the

[NFRF Best Practices in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Research](#)

## Program Description

# High Risk

High risk can be defined by elements such as, but not limited to:

- proposing unique directions;
- challenging current research paradigms;
- enhancing understanding of complex and challenging issues;
- bringing new disciplines together with different perspectives, to use novel approaches for solving existing problems; and/or
- developing or adapting frameworks, methods and techniques.

## Program Description

# High Reward

High reward can be defined by elements such as, but not limited to:

- having an economic, scientific, artistic, cultural, technological or health impact;
- impacting large communities, or a single or small number of unique communities/subpopulations with the potential to provide lessons for other contexts;
- transforming and/or disrupting conventional thinking;
- resolving a longstanding issue or debate; and/or
- significantly advancing current knowledge, methods and/or technologies.



## Program Description

# Feasibility

Feasibility considers elements such as the:

- research problem being addressed;
- knowledge, expertise and capacity of the research team;
- current research in the field;
- workplan and timeline;
- proposed approach, including EDI in research design where appropriate;
- project's engagement and reciprocity with First Nations, Inuit and/or Metis peoples (for [Indigenous research](#)), where appropriate; and
- suitability of the research environment.



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# Eligibility and Roles

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## Eligibility and Roles

# Project Team Eligibility

At least two participants:

- a nominated principal investigator (NPI) who is an [independent researcher](#) at an eligible institution

**AND**

- a co-principal investigator (co-PI), who must also be an [independent researcher](#)
- OR**
- a co-applicant (co-App), who may be a:
    - researcher / professor → [independent researcher](#) ; **or**
    - practitioner, policy-maker, educator, decision-maker, health-care administrator, Indigenous Elder, etc.

## Eligibility and Roles

# Team Roles

### Nominated Principal Investigator (NPI)

- Responsible for the direction of the project and the coordination of proposed research activities.
- Completes the NOI and full application on [Convergence portal](#) and submits to their research administrator.
- Assumes administrative and financial responsibility for the grant.

### Co-Principal Investigator (co-PI)

- Shares responsibility with the NPI for the direction of the proposed activities
- May access grant funds

### Co-Applicants (co-App)

- Contribute to the execution of the project
- Various backgrounds and affiliations
- May access grant funds

### Collaborators

- Can be any individual who contributes to the project
- Cannot be supervised by the team
- Do not have access to grant funds

## Eligibility and Roles

# Project Team Eligibility

### NPIs, co-PIs and co-Apps:

- **must not** be affiliated with a government\* or for-profit company; and
- can participate in **only one Exploration stream application or grant at one time\*\***.

*\*With some exceptions; please refer to our website.*

*\*\*Exploration grantees must submit their final report before the full application deadline of a subsequent competition to be eligible to apply.*

For a proposal to be considered led by early career researchers (ECRs), **both the NPI and co-PI** (if applicable) must be ECRs.

Refer to the [Eligibility](#) section of the Competition Overview



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# Review Process

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Review Process

## Notice of Intent and Full Application

### Notice of Intent (NOI) (not adjudicated)

#### Purpose:

Used by staff to:

1. Identify persons to compose of the multidisciplinary review panel.

### Full Application

#### Purpose:

Used in the [merit review process](#) to identify the most meritorious applications to be recommended for funding by the multidisciplinary review panel.

## Review Process

# Multidisciplinary Review Panel

Adjudication by the Panel involves scoring according to the evaluation [matrices](#) for the selection criteria:

- Interdisciplinarity / Fit to program (**pass/fail**);
- Equity, diversity and inclusion in Research Practice (**pass/fail**);
- High risk: **40%** of overall score;
- High reward: **40%** of overall score; and
- Feasibility: **20%** of overall score.





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# NOI Requirements

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## NOI Requirements

# NOI Requirements and Content

### NOI Requirement

- The NPI must submit a NOI to be eligible to create and submit a full application.
- It must include completed profiles of at least two team members.
- Additional members can be added at the full application stage.

### NOI content

A completed NOI must include:

- application title;
- fields of research (CRDC codes);
- keywords; and
- summary of the proposal.

*\* Once submitted by the RGO, these fields are locked in for the rest of the competition*

## NOI Requirements

# Summary of the Proposal

Maximum 2,500 characters.

The summary must:

1. include the objectives and summary of the research approach; and
2. highlight the novelty and expected significance of the work.

**Once submitted by the RGO, it cannot be modified.**

## NOI Requirements

# Collection of Personal Information

Collected for the purpose of program performance management

Self-ID data collected as part of the user profile is NOT shared with reviewers (or agency staff) and is not accessible by RGOs or any other users of the Convergence Portal.

Please consult the [Data Collection policy](#) for more information



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# Information for RGOs

## 2023 Exploration Competition



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Information for RGOs

## RGO Role

### RGOs can:

- view NOIs from NPIs at their institution (expired, in progress and submitted);
- return submitted NOIs to the NPI; and
- forward submitted NOIs to the agency.

Before forwarding an application to the agency, **you will be asked to confirm:**

- that the participants meet the eligibility requirements; and
- that the proposed research project meets the eligibility requirements.

## Information for RGOs

# RGO Role

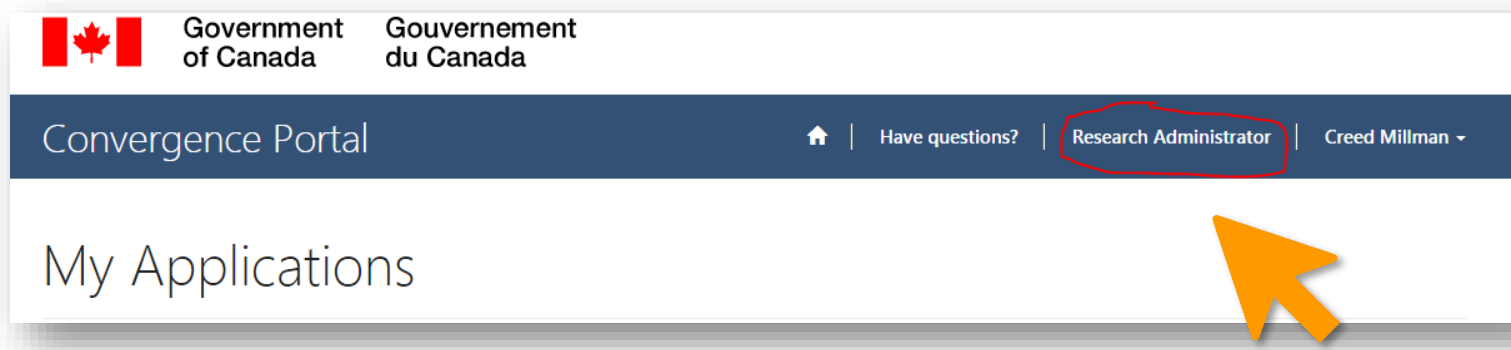
By forwarding the application, you will also be certifying, on behalf of the institution, that the NPI:

- is affiliated with the institution or organization;
- has the necessary time and resources to carry out the activity; and
- will notify NFRF by email ([NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaire.gc.ca](mailto:NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaire.gc.ca)) of any changes during the tenure of the grant, including changes in the composition of the partnership, such as the addition of new co-principal investigators, co-applicants or collaborators.

Information for RGOs

## RGO Role

Use the “Research Administrator” button to access your institution’s applications



If you do not have this option, please contact [websupport@chairs-chaire.gc.ca](mailto:websupport@chairs-chaire.gc.ca)

[NFRFE 2020 NOI Convergence Walkthrough \(18:45\)](#)





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# Questions and Resources

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Questions and resources

# Questions?





Questions and resources

## Resources

### Contact Information

[NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaire.gc.ca](mailto:NFRF-FNFR@chairs-chaire.gc.ca)

### Online Services Helpdesk

[websupport@convergence.gc.ca](mailto:websupport@convergence.gc.ca)

613-995-4273

### Program Links

[NFRF Website](#)

[Competition Overview](#)

[Reviewer Manual](#)

[Evaluation Matrices](#)

Questions and resources

## Video Capsule

[NFRFE 2020 NOI Convergence Walkthrough](#)

