

THE Research
Universities' Council
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



How Businesses can Access Research Expertise at BC's Research Universities

- 1 BC's research universities are helping meet business research needs**
 - Businesses that conduct research with BC's universities do so because of the access to state-of-the-art research expertise and infrastructure, the opportunity to assess potential new hires and the independence and credibility of faculty researchers, according to a survey on knowledge transfer.
 - Over \$65 million in research activity at BC's universities is contracted annually by private sector firms who use BC's universities to help them with the challenges and opportunities they face.
- 2 Businesses have multiple – and funded – pathways to access BC's research universities**
 - Business pathways to BC's research universities include: University/Industry Liaison Offices; Mitacs-Accelerate; NSERC's Engage Grants, Collaborative R&D Grants, Idea to Innovation Grants, and Student Research Awards; CFI's Research Facilities Navigator; BCIC's Commercialization Vouchers; WD's Western Innovation Initiative and Genome BC's programs . Further information on each pathway is provided below – most offer financial support to business.
- 3 University/Industry Liaison Offices (UILOs)**
 - UILOs and university research offices support interactions between university and industry through partnerships that advance the commercialization, distribution and dissemination of research outputs.
 - <http://www.uilo.ubc.ca/pages/contact-us>
 - <http://www.sfu.ca/io/contact.html>
 - <http://www.uvic.ca/research/partner/>
 - <http://www.unbc.ca/research/contact>
 - <http://www.tru.ca/research/partnerships.html>
 - <http://research.royalroads.ca/>
- 4 Mitacs-Accelerate**
 - Mitacs-Accelerate connects companies with BC's research universities through graduate students who apply their specialized expertise to business research challenges.
 - <http://www.mitacs.ca/accelerate/apply-now>
- 5 NRC's Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP)**
 - IRAP helps small and medium-sized enterprises understand technology issues and opportunities and provides linkages to research expertise, such as that at BC's research universities.
 - <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/irap/index.html>

- 6 NSERC Engage Grants, Collaborative R&D (CRD) Grants, Idea to Innovation (I2I) Grants and Student Research Awards**
 - Engage Grants and CRD Grants support shorter- and longer-term R&D projects respectively between an academic researcher and a company aimed at addressing a company-specific problem in the natural sciences or engineering fields. I2I accelerates the development of promising technology originating from the university and college sector and promotes its transfer to a Canadian company. Three student research award programs help organizations hire undergraduate, masters and doctoral, and post-doctoral students respectively to undertake a research project of importance to the firm.
 - http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/Engage-engagement_eng.asp
 - http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/rpp-pp/crd-rdc_eng.asp
 - http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/I2I-INNOV_eng.asp
 - <http://www.nsercpartnerships.ca/FundingPrograms-ProgrammeDeSubventions/IUSRA-BRPCI-eng.asp>
 - <http://www.nsercpartnerships.ca/FundingPrograms-ProgrammeDeSubventions/IPS-ESII-eng.asp>
 - <http://www.nsercpartnerships.ca/FundingPrograms-ProgrammeDeSubventions/IRDF-BPRDI-eng.asp>
 - More information can be obtained from NSERC's Pacific Regional Office.
 - http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/regional-regionaux/pacific-pacifique_eng.asp
- 7 CFI's Research Facilities Navigator**
 - The Research Facilities Navigator is a searchable directory of participating research labs and facilities in research universities that have been funded by CFI – and the BC Knowledge Development Fund (BCKDF) in BC – and is designed to help businesses find research services.
 - <http://www.innovation.ca/en/navigator/UsingNavigatorbusinesses>
- 8 BC Innovation Council's Commercialization Voucher Program**
 - Through the pilot of the Commercialization Voucher Program, companies could apply for a voucher to retain a graduate student from a BC research university for assessments on new products or services or new market opportunities.
 - <http://www.bctic.ca/programs/voucher-program>
- 9 WD's Western Innovation Initiative (WINN)**
 - WINN offers repayable contributions for small- and medium-sized enterprises with operations in Western Canada to move new and innovative technologies from the later stages of research and development to the marketplace.
 - <http://www.wd.gc.ca/eng/14857.asp>
- 10 Genome BC Programs**
 - The User Partnership Program, the Strategic Opportunities Fund for Industry, and the Genomic Applications Partnership Program help BC businesses address their genomics-related research challenges in the resource and health sectors.
 - <http://www.genomebc.ca/opportunities/current-funding-competitions/user-partnership-program-upp/>
 - <http://www.genomebc.ca/opportunities/current-funding-competitions/sofi/>
 - <http://www.genomebc.ca/opportunities/current-funding-competitions/genomic-applications-partnership-program-gapp/>