

#### STRATEGY FOR PARTNERSHIPS AND INNOVATION



Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada

Canada

University of Alberta February 26, 2013

## My Goals Today

- 1. Brief overview of NSERC Partnerships Programs
- 2. Focus on Interaction & Engage Grants
- 3. Answer questions



# **Five Core Partnerships Programs**

#### Industry-Driven Collaborative R&D Program

- Interaction
- Engage
- Collaborative Research and Development (CRD)
- Industrial Research Chairs
- Partnership Workshops Grants

#### Training in Industry Program

- Industrial Postgraduate Scholarships
- Industrial R&D Fellowships
- Industrial Undergraduate
   Student Research Award

#### **Commercialization Program**

• Idea-to-Innovation (I2I)



#### College and Community Innovation Program

- Applied Research and Development
- Innovation Enhancement
- Technology Access Centres
- Applied Research Tools and Instruments
- College-University Idea to Innovation
- Industrial Research Chairs for Colleges

#### Strategic Partnerships Program

- Strategic Networks
- Strategic Projects
- Automotive Partnership Canada
- Chairs in Design Engineering
- Innovation Frontiers
- Collaborative Health Research Projects (CHRP)



#### **Interaction Grants**

...give companies that operate from a Canadian base and researchers from Canadian universities an opportunity to meet and identify a company-specific problem they could solve by collaborating in a subsequent research partnership.

• Maximum of \$5,000



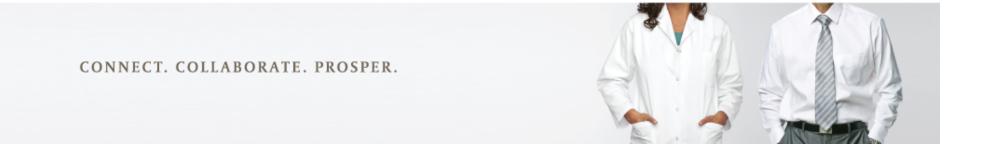
#### **Engage Grants**

- Foster the development of new research partnerships between university researchers and companies
- Support short-term R&D projects that address a company-specific problem
- No company cash required; must provide in-kind
- Six-month project, maximum grant of \$25,000



## **Applicant Eligibility**

- Applicant must be eligible to receive NSERC funding assistant, associate or full professor at an eligible institution. Adjuncts are eligible only if they work at the university
- Must have received a peer-reviewed grant in the last six years in for research in a natural sciences or engineering (NSE) field



### Applicant Eligibility (continued)

- Researchers from a health-oriented university faculty (e.g., medicine, pharmacology, dentistry, etc.) are only eligible for an Engage Grant if they have been awarded an NSERC Discovery Grant within the past six years
- Candidates are limited to two Engage Grant awards per fiscal year (April 1<sup>st</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>)



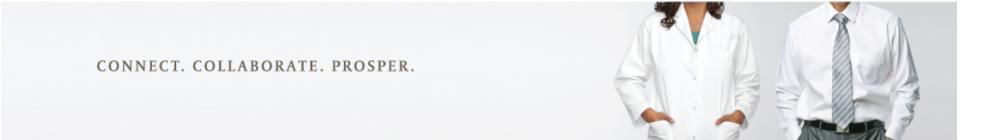
## **Industry Partner Eligibility**

- The industry partner must be a for-profit company that operates from a Canadian base
- If the partner is a Canadian subsidiary of an international company, it must have a manufacturing and/or R&D operation in Canada
- Start-ups must have been incorporated for at least one year



### Industry Partner Eligibility (continued)

- The partner must demonstrate the capacity and intention to further develop and apply the results for the benefit of the Canadian economy
- The company must be at "arm's-length" from the applicant no past or present relationship



## **Eligibility: Proposed Research**

- The proposed research must be in a natural sciences or engineering field
- The project must be aimed at solving the company-specific problem through the generation of new knowledge, or the application of existing knowledge in an innovative manner
- Due to the focus on a problem specific to the company, and the short duration of this grant, any intellectual property (IP) arising from the project will belong to the company



## Eligibility: Proposed Research (continued)

Proposals are not eligible for an Engage Grant if they:

focus on the commercialization of a university invention
focus on the application of existing technology
provide routine analysis, or routine use of university equipment
collect data without interpreting underlying mechanisms
are principally associated with the acquisition and maintenance of scientific equipment



## **Engage Grant Application**

- Form 101
- Personal Data Form 100
- Letter of Support from the company
- Completed Form 183A from the company
- Submitted to the RSO/RGO and then to NSERC
  - The best way to ensure that your Engage Grant application is successful is to follow the instructions



#### **Engage Grant Instructions**

| Professors  | 🔄 Back 💄 Print 🥝 Book  | mark 🗚 Larger 🗛 Smaller 📴 Share  |
|---|--|--|
| Grants Programs<br>Overview   | Engage Grants  |  |
| Partnerships<br>Programs<br>Overview                                | Overview   |  |
|   | Value  | Up to \$25,000 for up to six months  |
| Industrial Research<br>Chairs Program                               | Application Deadline   | No deadline  |
| Chairs and Faculty<br>Support Overview                              | How to Apply   | See below  |
| Research Tools and<br>Instruments and<br>Infrastructure<br>Programs | Application Forms  | <ul> <li>Form 100 - Personal Data Form</li> <li>Form 101 - Application for a Grant</li> <li>Form 183A - Information Required from Organizations</li> </ul> |
| Other Programs  |  | Participating in Research Partnerships Programs  |
| Resource Videos   |  | To view forms and instructions, select PDF Forms and Instructions.   |
| Contact Newsletter  |  | To create on the line  |
| Frequently Asked<br>Ouestions                                       | Contact  | System Login.  |
| Eligibility   |  | See below  |
| Application<br>Deadlines and<br>Notification of<br>Decisions        |  | ntended to give companies that operate from a Canadian base<br>wledge and expertise available at Canadian universities (see                                |
| Policies and<br>Guidelines  | the List of Eligible Institutions). These grants are intended to foster the development<br>of new research partnerships between academic researchers and companies that have |  |
| Tri-Agency Financial<br>Administration Guide                        |  | ner before, by supporting short-term research and<br>ned at addressing a company-specific problem in the natural   |





## The Engage Grant Proposal

- Part of Form 101
- Two single-sided pages to describe the project
- Different headings than those used for other NSERC applications:
  - Overview of the company-specific problem
  - Research project
  - Research competence
  - Contribution to the technology transfer
  - Benefit to Canada

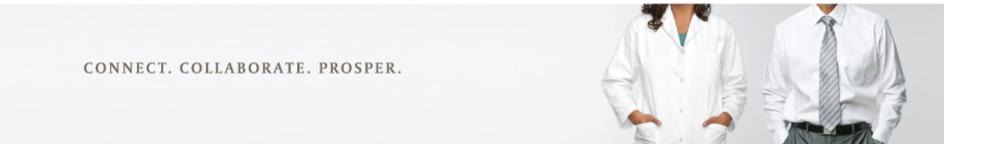
## The Engage Grant Budget

- Proposed project expenditures must conform to the Use of Grant Funds guidelines (part of the *Tri-Agency Financial Administration Guide*)
- It is not a requirement to have grad students work on the project
- Engage Grant funds cannot be used for:
  - Expenses related to publications and conferences
  - Travel expenses for company personnel



## **Engage Grant Timeline**

- No deadline apply anytime
- Average turn-around time on applications is 4 to 6 weeks
- Success rate: 85%



### After the Engage Project Ends

- Company problem solved no further research required
- Further research needed; partners would like to continue the collaboration. Options?
  - Other NSERC Partnerships grants (CRD, Strategic, etc.)
  - NSERC Industrial Scholarships & Fellowships
  - Research contract between the company and university
  - Opportunities from other agenices



#### **The NSERC-Prairies Team**

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Lisa Marquardson Research Partnerships Promotion Officer

#### Roxanne Balcaen

Administrative Officer

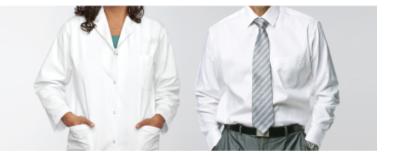


#### **Questions?**

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