

SELECTION CRITERIA AND STATEMENT SETS

Criterion 1. Originality of the Research

- the novelty of the overall concepts and approach;
 - how the research relates to the current scientific and/or technical developments in the field with references to the current literature and patents;
 - the potential for developing new knowledge or technology, including innovative techniques, processes or products;
 - the extent to which new knowledge or technology is expected to impact on the field of research; and
 - the significance of the scientific issues and technical challenges.
- 1) The proposed project includes few or no new concepts or directions.
 - 2) The proposed project includes some new concepts or directions with the potential to advance the field.
 - 3) The proposed project includes original concepts or directions with potential for a significant advance in the field.
 - 4) The proposed project includes highly original concepts or directions with potential for a major breakthrough.

Criterion 2. Quality of the Research

- the focus and clarity of the objectives of the project, both short and long term;
 - the appropriateness of the research methodology;
 - the justification of the approach based on the background research;
 - the feasibility of the proposed research; and
 - the degree to which the project fits the Strategic Projects target area and research topic.
- 1) The proposed project is inadequate in one or more of the above elements.
 - 2) The proposed project is acceptable with no major weaknesses in any of the elements listed above.
 - 3) The proposed project is strong in most of the elements listed above and acceptable in all.
 - 4) The proposed project is outstanding in all the elements listed above.

Criterion 3. Project Work Plan

- the clarity of the project description;
 - the coherence of the activities, milestones, timelines and deliverables on the **ACTIVITY SCHEDULE** section;
 - the probability of achieving the objectives in the proposed time frame;
 - the availability of the equipment and infrastructure required;
 - the appropriateness of the roles and time commitment of the applicants and the personnel from the supporting organization(s).
 - the need for the funds requested and the justification of the line items in the budget sections;
 - the plans for collaboration and communication among the researchers; and
 - the details of how the team and project will be managed (appropriate to the complexity of the project).
- 1) The project work plan is inadequate in one or more of the elements listed above.
 - 2) The project work plan is acceptable with no major weaknesses in any of the elements listed above.
 - 3) The project work plan is strong in most of the elements listed above and acceptable in all.
 - 4) The project work plan is outstanding (complete, comprehensive and achievable) in all the elements listed above and maximizes the use of resources.

Criterion 4. Quality of the Applicants as Researchers

- the research record of the applicant(s) or, in the case of new researchers, their potential to make contributions;
 - the recognition of the collective research contributions of the applicants by their peers or, in the case of new researchers, the recognition of their potential by others in the field;
 - the appropriateness of their expertise in the proposed research areas of the project; and
 - the breadth and complementarity of expertise available for the project.
- 1) The applicants have made useful research contributions and/or are researchers beginning their careers who have not yet demonstrated potential as independent researchers. Some of the expertise required for the project is missing.
 - 2) The applicants have established research records and/or are new researchers who have shown potential in their early research. The basic mix of expertise to accomplish the project is present.
 - 3) The applicants are internationally recognized in their field with strong records for quality achievements and high productivity and/or are new researchers who have shown strong potential in their early research. They have all the expertise required to accomplish the project and have demonstrated complementarity.
 - 4) The applicants are internationally recognized as leaders in the field of the project with exceptionally strong records for quality achievements and high productivity and/or are new researchers who have made some contributions to the field and have exceptionally strong potential. The applicants have the breadth, the expertise, and the experience required for the project and have a proven track record of collaboration.

Criterion 5. Training Potential

- the potential to provide highly qualified personnel with skills relevant to the needs of Canadian organizations;
 - the quality and track record of the researchers in training highly qualified personnel;
 - the training that will be achieved relative to the budget and the nature of the project;
 - the roles of the students, postdoctoral fellows, research associates, technicians and, if applicable, the research staff of the supporting participants;
 - the extent to which all participants, including the supporting organizations, are involved in the training; and
 - the suitability of the research environment for training.
- 1) The proposed project provides little opportunity for the training of highly qualified personnel.
 - 2) The proposed project is acceptable in all aspects listed above.
 - 3) The proposed project is strong in most aspects listed above and acceptable in all.
 - 4) The proposed project is outstanding in all aspects listed above.

Criterion 6. Interactions with the Supporting Organizations

- the fit between the project objectives and the priorities of the supporting organizations;
 - the capacity of the supporting organizations to exploit the research results, or the possibility of the creation of a Canadian-based organization to do so;
 - the degree of involvement of the supporting organizations in: (a) developing the proposal; and (b) during the course of the project;
 - the plan for knowledge and technology transfer to the supporting organizations and/or the user sector, and a description of how any intellectual property will be protected; and
 - the researchers' track record in transferring research results to a user sector.
- 1) The proposed project provides little opportunity for interaction with the supporting organizations or a user sector and/or offers low potential for transfer of knowledge.
 - 2) The proposed project is acceptable in all the aspects listed above.
 - 3) The proposed project is strong in most of the aspects listed above and acceptable in all.
 - 4) The proposed project is outstanding in all aspects of interaction and knowledge transfer listed above.

Criterion 7. Benefits to Canada and the Supporting Organizations

- economic benefit arising from a new or improved product or process;
 - social, environmental or health benefits;
 - an enhanced knowledge base for public policy development; and
 - increased highly qualified personnel in an area of importance for Canada.
- 1) The proposed project has potential to provide only minimal benefits to the supporting organizations and to Canada.
 - 2) The proposed project has potential to provide some benefits to the supporting organizations and to Canada.
 - 3) The proposed project has potential to provide considerable benefits to the supporting organizations and to Canada.
 - 4) The proposed project has potential to provide exceptional benefits to the supporting organizations and to Canada.