



CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION

# CFI Update

2019 CAP Congress

June 6, 2019

**INNOVATION.CA**

# Contents

---

**Part 1** | Pan Canadian conversation:  
Summary of feedback

**Part 2** | 2020 Innovation Fund:  
Changes & improvements



CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION

## Conversation on the future of research and research infrastructure in Canada

A discussion paper  
November 2018

### Trends & topics

1. International collaboration & engagement
2. Smaller institutions
3. Equity, diversity & inclusion
4. Core facilities & regional platforms
5. Convergence



INNOVATION.CA

## International cooperation & collaboration

---

- CFI programs enable successful international projects
- Challenges: envelope model, matching sources, timing, travel costs, lack of an international strategy for Canada
- Adapt funding approach to size and scope – consider lifecycle approach
- Facilitate access to facilities in Canada and abroad

### Immediate CFI response:

- CFI spearheading a CRCC decision-making framework for international research initiatives

## Supporting smaller universities, colleges & cégeps

- Key strengths: close connections to community and industry partners
- Challenges: constrained resources, distance from major centres of research, limited envelopes, competition with larger institutions
- Diverse opinions on desired CFI actions
- Facilitate access to external infrastructure

### Immediate CFI response:

- 30% increase of JELF allocations  
+ bonuses to small institutions
- Dedicated MAC for 2020 Innovation Fund





# Equity, diversity and inclusion

---

- EDI key priority for institutions
- Challenge: cultural shift
- Mixed messages - EDI in review criteria

## Immediate CFI response:

- Created internal EDI action groups
- Participate in several inter-agencies working groups
- Provide training for CFI staff and reviewers
- Establishing an EDI data framework

# Core facilities and regional platforms

- Building more shared facilities – of interest to most
- Core facilities viewed as conducive to convergence research
- Challenge: availability of O&M funding
- CFI encouraged promote best practices in management of facilities



## Immediate CFI response:

- Broaden eligibility of warranties/service contracts for existing equipment
- Growing the CFI Navigator into a more comprehensive database
- Convened a Core Facility Advisory panel

# Core facility

A core facility provides access to state-of-the-art research services, analyses, instruments and technology, expertise, and training and education that are generally too expensive, complex or specialized for researchers to cost-effectively provide and sustain themselves. A core facility is broadly available to many researchers to conduct their research, irrespective of their administrative affiliation and with no requirement for collaboration or co-authorship.

A core facility:

- Has dedicated equipment and serving one or more institutions;
- Is recognized and supported by the research institution where it's located;
- Has a clearly defined governance and management structure and a sound management plan reflective of its mandate, breadth and complexity; and,
- Has dedicated management involving individual(s) with the technical and subject matter expertise necessary to oversee all aspects of the facility.

# Convergence

---

- CFI programs support convergence
- Solid disciplinary foundation is critical. Don't force convergence!
- Multi-sectoral collaborations benefit convergence
- Encourage inclusion of SSH
- Shared spaces and core facilities are effective targets for CFI investment



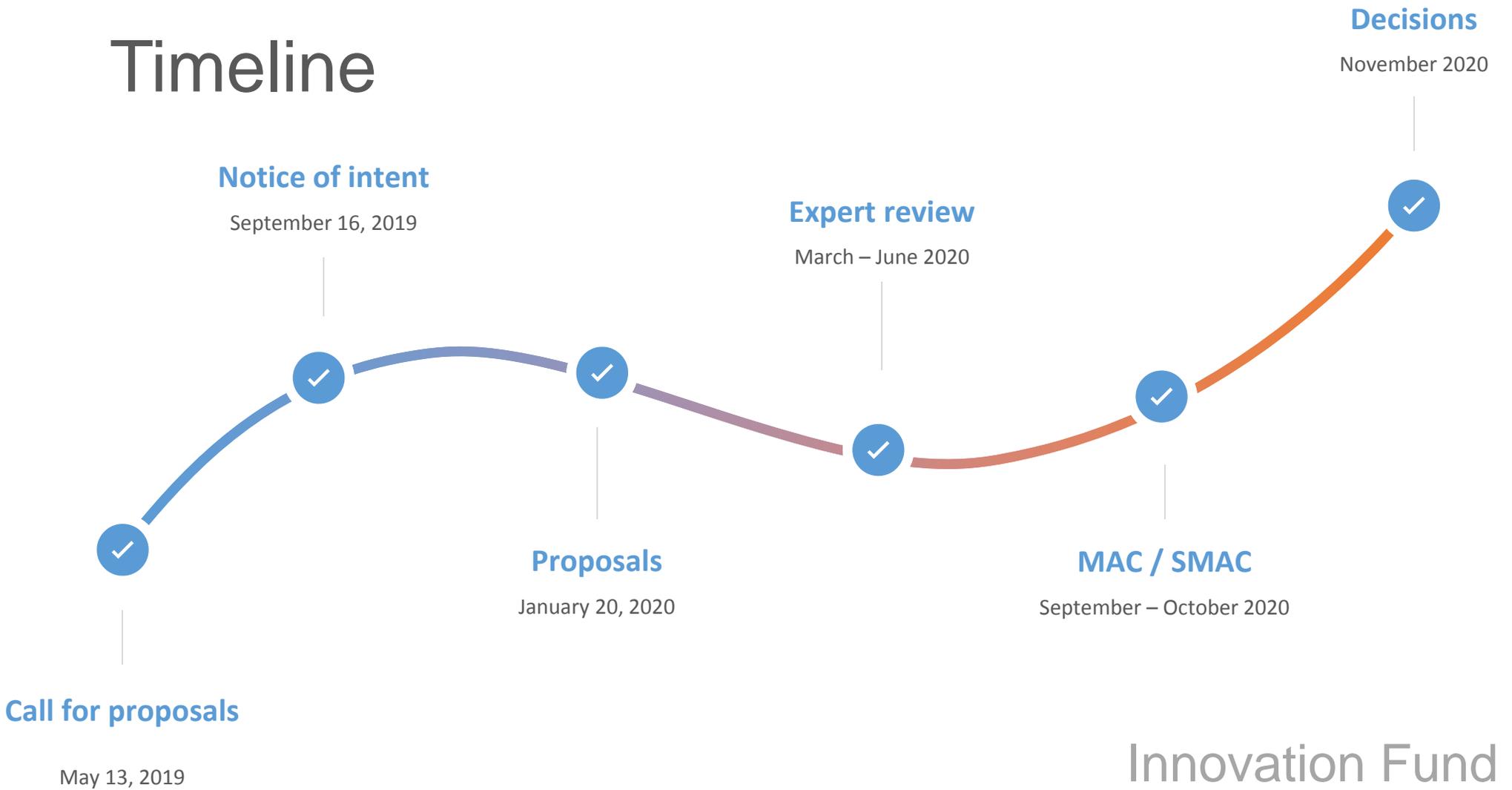
## Immediate CFI response:

- Funding of collaborative space and support diverse teams



2020  
Innovation Fund

# Timeline



Innovation Fund

# Extended warranties & service contracts for existing infrastructure

- Both CFI-funded and non-CFI-funded equipment
- Non-CFI-funded equipment must meet the CFI's eligibility guidelines
- Demonstrate need for infrastructure
- Optimal option for the project
- IOF eligible for continued sustainability



Innovation Fund



# Collaborative space

---

- To enable research collaborations
- Purpose-built and essential for the proposed research program
- Primarily used for research activities (e.g., focus groups)

# Team



## Key changes

- Up to **two team leaders** vs. one project leader
- Team members vs. principal users
- Team criterion standard: *The **diverse** team comprises the breadth of expertise needed*

# Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI)

Expectations for 2020 IF projects:

- Be guided by the institution's EDI policies
- Be guided by the CFI's EDI statement

Proposals should explain how EDI principles were considered in composing the research team within the context and needs of the project.

*For information, not assessment*



Innovation Fund

# New or updated CAMS tools

- ✓ Leave (parental, medical, etc. section in CV module)
- ✓ Liaison contact list
- ✓ Early CAMS notification for collaborating institutions
- ✓ Report repository:
  - Team member tracking
  - Envelope management

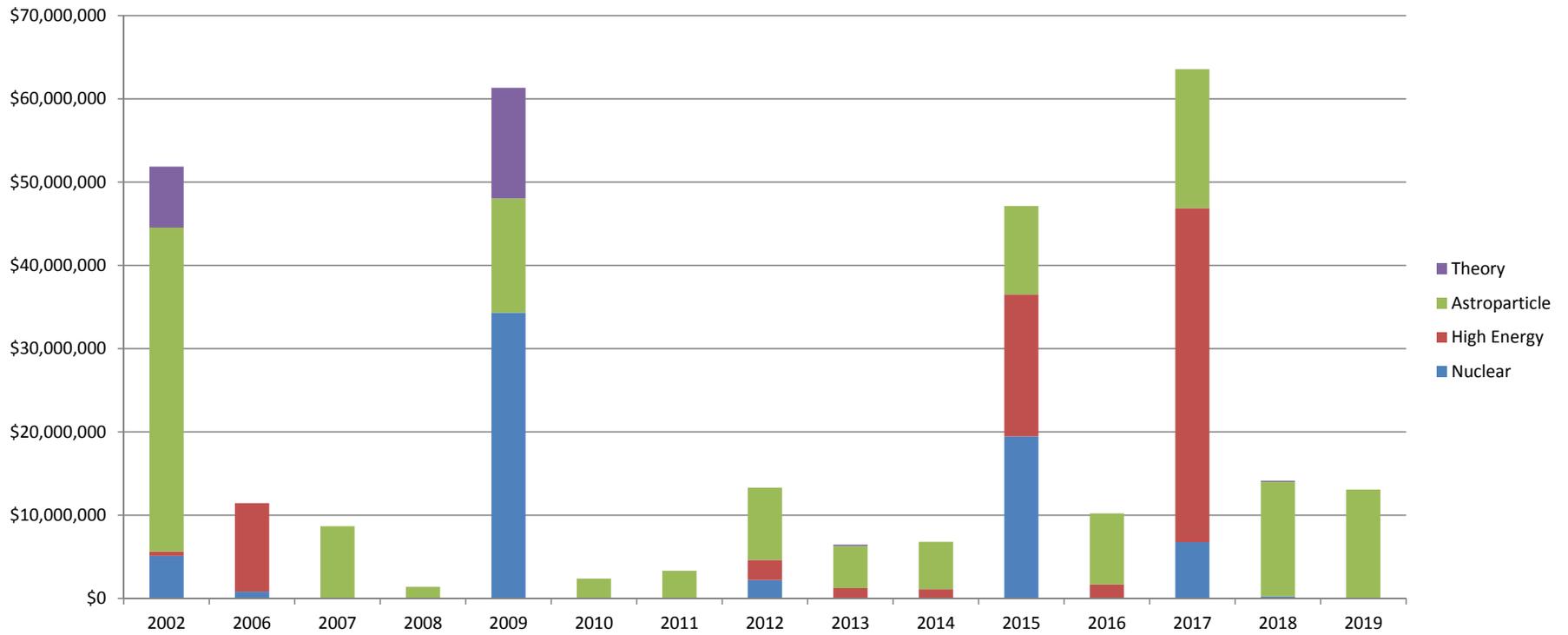


# Additional resources



- Strengths and weaknesses analyses – 2017 IF  
(see IF Documents & Resources at [innovation.ca](http://innovation.ca))
- Best practices for preparing and managing multi-institutional projects  
(see CARA's resource library)

# CFI funding in SAP





## Keep in touch



Innovation.ca



@InnovationCA



InnovationinCanada



InnovationCanada