C2C–Alliance

Program Information Session - Carleton U

Agenda

1. Overview of OCI

2. OCI C2C Grant

3. NSERC Alliance Grant

4. C2C-Alliance Grant

5. EDI and Risk Assessment

6. Carleton U IPS Office

7. Contacts

8. Q&A

About OCI

- Works in partnership with government, industry and academia to **commercialize innovation**.
- **Supports SMEs** and entrepreneurs through projects that **create jobs** and exports, **attract local and international co-investment**, and make Ontario more globally competitive.
- Focuses on province-wide **economic development**.

2021 – 2022: Return on Innovation

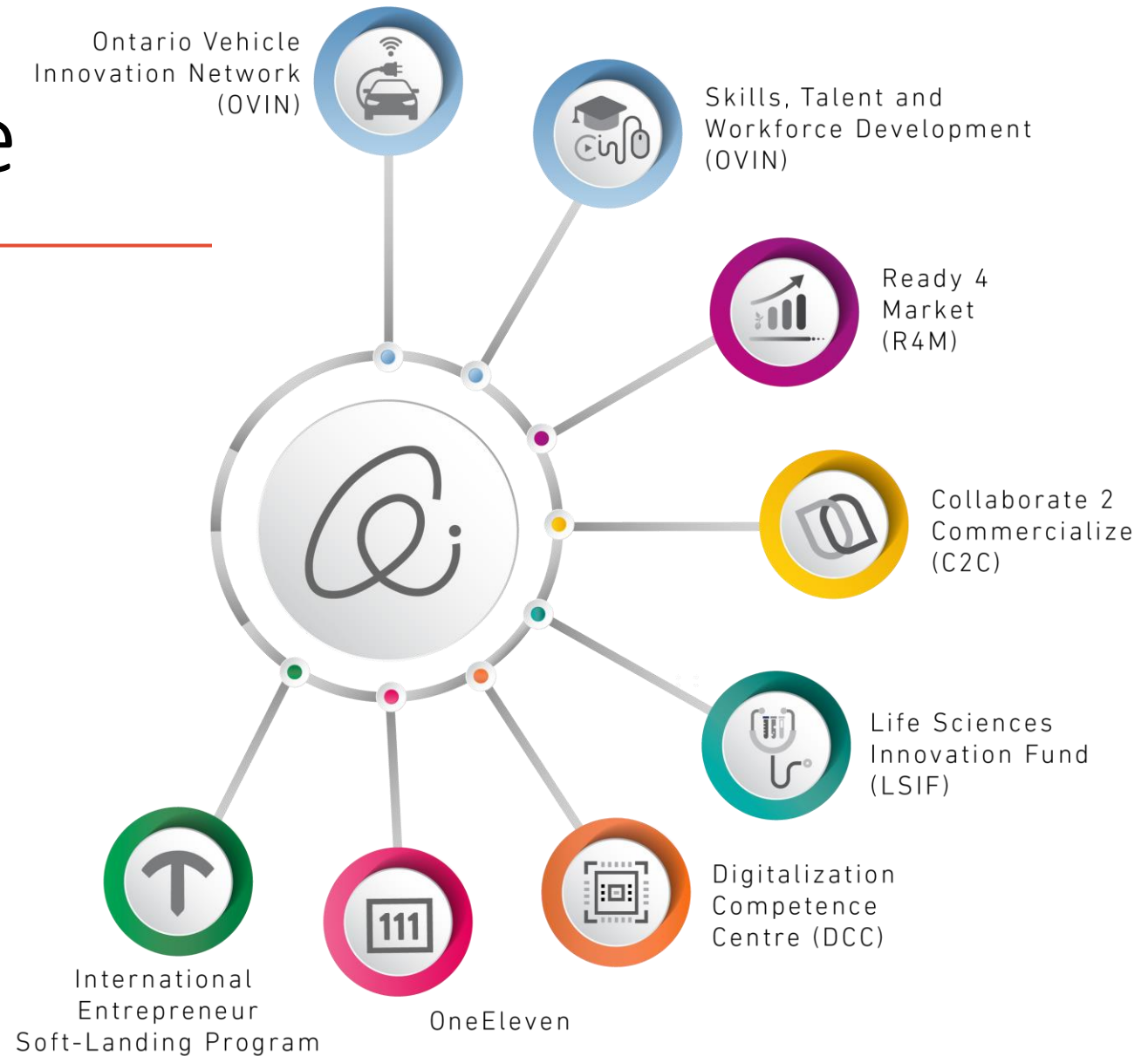| **959**	**6,642**	**$349M**	**$800M**
Ontario Companies Supported	**Jobs** New or Retained	**Incremental Sales Revenues** *by OCI Supported Companies*	**Private-sector Follow-on Investments**

How OCI Builds Capacity Province-wide

We support projects that create jobs and make Ontario Companies more competitive globally

Ontario Vehicle Innovation Network (OVIN)

Skills, Talent and Workforce Development (OVIN)

Ready 4 Market (R4M)

Collaborate 2 Commercialize (C2C)

Life Sciences Innovation Fund (LSIF)

Digitalization Competence Centre (DCC)

OneEleven

International Entrepreneur Soft-Landing Program

Collaborate to Commercialize (C2C)

- **Accelerate** commercialization by leveraging expertise in Ontario's academic institutions

- **Generate** economic benefits for Ontario and its small and medium sized companies

Collaborate to Commercialize (C2C)

Industry Partner:
- For-profit SME
- Minimum 2 years in business
- Minimum 5 FTE

Commercialization Horizon:
- Three years

Collaborate to Commercialize (C2C)

Funding:

- $20K - $150K grant from OCI
- Project duration: 6 - 24 months
- Industry partner matches OCI funds (50% cash to academic institution)
- Spend focus: HQP
- No overhead shown in budget

Collaborate to Commercialize (C2C)

Partnered Option (in addition to NSERC)

MITACS

- $7500 per intern for 4-6 month internship
- Check box on the OCI application
- Accelerate Application package submitted to MITACS

Collaborate to Commercialize (C2C)

Application Process:

◦ One-page summary of project

◦ OCI Business Development Manager reviews application.

◦ Endorsement required from academic research office

◦ Submission to decision timeline ~ 30 days

◦ Success rate > 85%

Note: Academic institution and partner must agree on IP before submission

Supporting research at Canadian universities

NSERC CRSNG

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) is the **largest provider of grants & scholarships** in Canada in the fields of Natural Sciences and Engineering

$1.3B annual budget

Supporting:

12,000 researchers

32,800 students and fellows

3,200 partners

Alliance Grants

NSERC CRSNG

Program objectives

1. Alliance is NSERC's university research partnerships program

2. Support research in the natural sciences and engineering (NSE) led by strong, complementary, collaborative teams.

3. Enable collaborations with a broader set of partner organizations (private, public, not-for-profit sectors)

4. Interdisciplinary collaborations are encouraged with **up to 30% of cost-shared project costs** covered by Alliance.

5. Remove barriers and provide more flexibility in building partnerships that will effectively generate new knowledge and accelerate the application of research results for the benefit of Canadians.

Alliance grants: Partner organizations

Type of partners which can be recognized* for cost-sharing

 * Also depending on the role they play in the project

Private sector

- Canadian private companies
- Multinationals with presence in Canada
- Foreign companies (not as sole partner)

Public sector

- Municipalities, local / regional governments
- Public utilities
- Crown corporations
- Federal / provincial / territorial government departments (not funding agencies)

Not-for-profit sector

- Producer groups
- Industrial associations
- Registered charities with a research mandate
- Museums/libraries
- Indigenous groups
- Community groups

Full details ⟶ Alliance grants: Role of partner organizations
Partner organization self-assessment tool

Alliance grants: Cost-sharing

Option 1

$ 20K - $1M per year
for 1 to 5 years

∨

For **most** projects

∨

NEW!

<u>NSERC contribution</u>
66.7% (2:1 leverage)

Option 2

$30K - $1M per year
for 1 to 5 years

∨

For **specific** projects

*societal impact
making connections
broad outcomes*

∨

<u>NSERC contribution</u>
100%

Alliance Refresh (new and upcoming changes)

- Single 2:1 funding ratio
- Grant extension with funds

- Expanding eligibility of partners
- Conflict of interest guidelines will follow institutions policies
- Simplified merit criteria
- Reduce turnaround times
- Increased support of Early Career Researchers

Challenge-driven opportunities

Special Calls & Joint Research

Alliance Quantum Consortia, International, Research Partnership	alliance_quantumquantique@nserc-crsng.gc.ca Various, October 2023
Alliance Missions: Critical Minerals Research From exploration to recycling	alliance-missions@nserc-crsng.gc.ca LOI: September 7, Full App: November 9
NSERC-CSE Research Communities grants Robust, secure, and safe artificial intelligence	alliance_cse-cst@nserc-crsng.gc.ca LOI: October 18, Full App: January 17, 2024
NSERC-SSHRC Sustainable agriculture research initiative Sustainable, resilient and profitable agriculture sector	alliance_agriculture@nserc-crsng.gc.ca Deadline: November 8, 2023

C2C-Alliance Grants

OVERVIEW

Guiding Principles

◦ Focus on high potential Ontario SMEs

◦ Suitable for 1-year projects with academic expenses less than $90K

◦ OCI and NSERC fund 80% of academic cash expenses

◦ Opportunities vetted prior to applying

◦ Apply using NSERC online system

Who can apply?

Academic Researchers:

◦ Eligible to hold Tri-Council funds

◦ Faculty from eligible Ontario universities

◦ Researchers with active OCI or NSERC peer-reviewed grants

Who can apply?

Industry Partners:

- For-profit SME organization, with Ontario R&D and/or manufacturing operations related directly to the project

- 5-499 global full-time employees and incorporated at least two years.

Project Expenses
(Up to 12 months)

$20-30K

$20-30K

Industry Partner
$20-30K

(at least 50% must be spent at the Academic Institution)

Project Cost Sharing Example

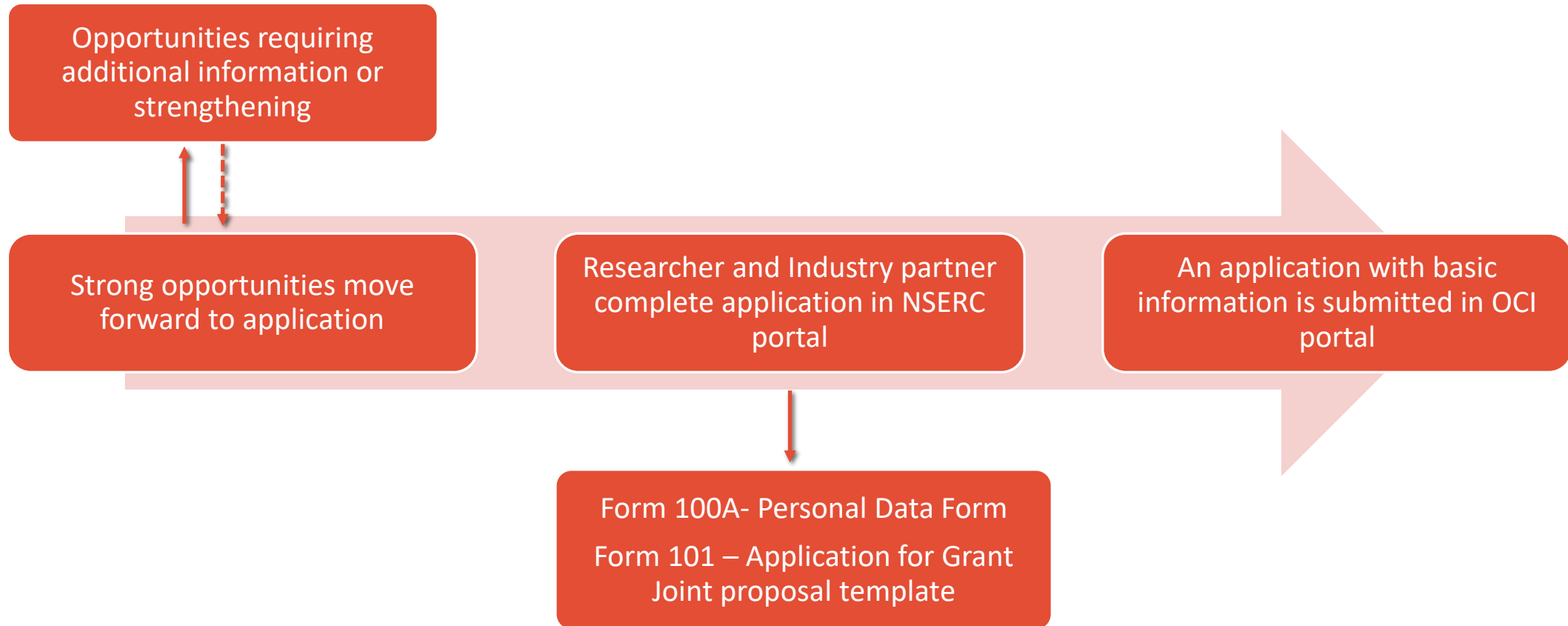|	
NSERC Cash	$30K
OCI Cash	$30K
Industry Cash	$15K
Industry In-kind	$15K
Total	**$90K**

Application Process

Researcher Discusses Project Idea with NSERC or OCI Business Development Manager (BDM)

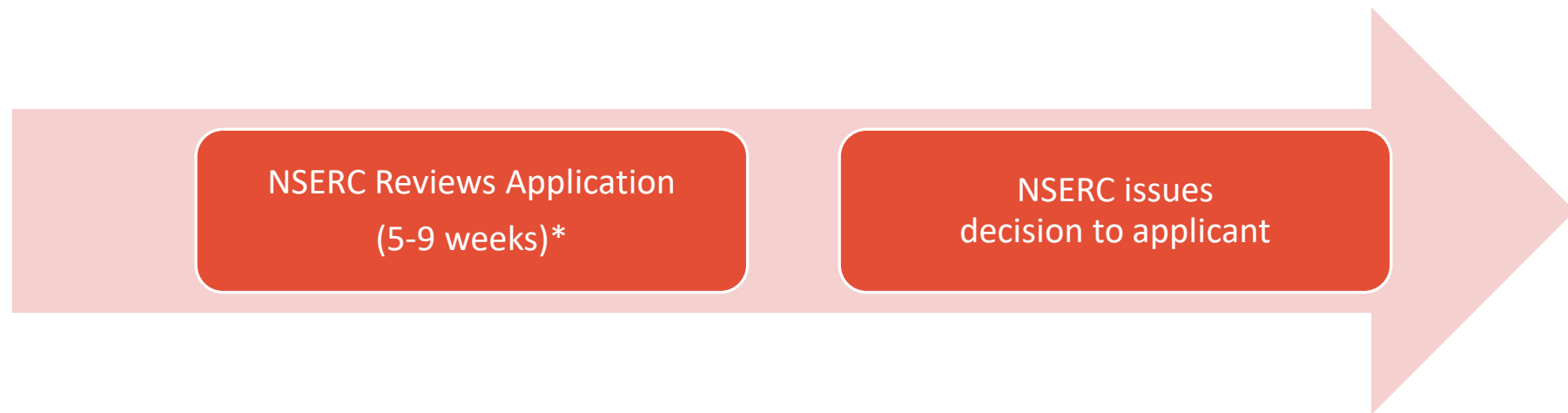Researcher, Industry Partner and OCI BDM complete one page project summary

Opportunity is vetted by NSERC and OCI

Application Process

Opportunities requiring additional information or strengthening

Strong opportunities move forward to application

Researcher and Industry partner complete application in NSERC portal

An application with basic information is submitted in OCI portal

Form 100A- Personal Data Form

Form 101 – Application for Grant Joint proposal template

Application Process

NSERC Reviews Application

(5-9 weeks)*

NSERC issues
decision to applicant

*9-18 weeks, if no active peer review

Joint Proposal Template

- Do not use the standard Alliance proposal template

- Please request the C2C-Alliance proposal template from your OCI Business Development and Commercialization Managers

Joint Proposal Template - Sections

Relevance and Expected Outcomes

- What are partnership goals?
- What are the benefits to Ontario and Canada?
- How will project fill knowledge gaps?
- What Investment will industry partners make post-project?

Potential for Commercialization

- Describe industry partners' business.
- Describe new products, services, productivity improvements, and competitive advantages anticipated.
- Provide quantitative estimates of project outcomes.

Partnership

- List all industry partners involved.
- Describe industry partner's experience and efforts to date to address the problem.
- Describe how each industry partner will be involved.

Proposal

- Outline research objectives.
- Indicate timelines and deliverables
- Explain how equity, diversity and inclusion have been considered in the research design.

Joint Proposal Template - Sections

Team	Training Plan
• List applicant, any co-applicants and key industry staff • Describe expertise and roles of team members • Explain how equity, diversity and inclusion have been considered in academic team composition	• Indicate how knowledge and experience gained by research trainees and industry partners are relevant to advancement of the field • Explain how research trainees will develop relevant skills • Explain how equity diversity and inclusion are considered in the training plan

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in your Training Plan

- You **must** describe **specific, concrete practices** that you will put in place to ensure that EDI is intentionally and proactively supported in your project's training plan.

- Vague or generic statements regarding EDI in the training plan (e.g., "the university is committed to EDI" or "in future hiring, EDI will be considered") are insufficient and will lead to your application being rejected.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

- **Specific** actions or practices implemented to support EDI in your project's training plan should be guided by the following overarching objectives:

Removing **systemic barriers** from the recruitment processes to encourage full participation of individuals from underrepresented groups	Increasing diversity in the composition of teams
Integrating diversity and equity in mentoring, training and accessing career development opportunities	Fostering an equitable, inclusive and accessible research environment needed to enhance excellence in both research and training

National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships – Risk Assessment Form

All Alliance-C2C applications require a National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships Risk Assessment Form to be complete and included with the application.

Sections in the Form:

1. *Know Your Research*
2. *Know Your Partner*
3. *Risk Identification*
4. *Risk Mitigation Plan*

"Yes" or "Unsure"

you must explain your responses

Failure to properly complete the Risk Assessment Form will result in the rejection of your application.

National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships – Risk Assessment Form
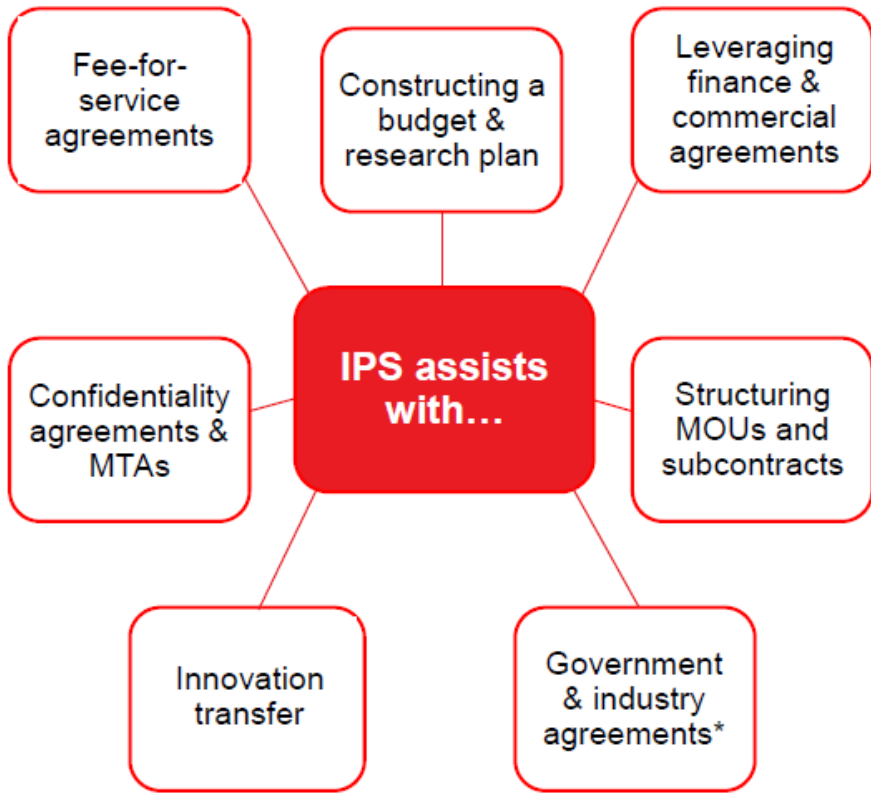
Best practices for completing the Risk Assessment Form

- Ensure to read the form in its entirety and consult any external resources mentioned in the form to ensure your responses are as accurate as possible.

- Use the tools and resources on the [Safeguarding Your Research](#) portal for information on how to identify and mitigate risks to security in research partnerships.

- Have open discussions with your partner organization(s) to identify potential or perceived risks

- Request support from your research office

- All projects are unique and thus should be addressed through tailored risk mitigation measures.

Industry and Partnership Services (IPS)

IPS supports research collaboration between university investigators, companies, and other partners.

Identify and negotiate with potential partners

Leverage public funding with external capital and expertise

Provide IP advice (commercialization)

Structure a suitable arrangement

Fee-for-service agreements

Constructing a budget & research plan

Leveraging finance & commercial agreements

Confidentiality agreements & MTAs

IPS assists with…

Structuring MOUs and subcontracts

Innovation transfer

Government & industry agreements*

* Inclusive of NSERC Alliance, MITACS (except Globalink) & OCI.

Industry and Partnership Services Contacts

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Carleton University

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Q&A

For more information about our programs, please visit:

www.oc-innovation.ca

www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca