

Canada's granting councils

Canada's Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC)

While not performing research itself, NSERC invests over \$600 million per year in research grants to be carried out in Canadian universities in the natural sciences and engineering. Investing in people, discovery and innovation, the Council uses peer review to evaluate competitive proposals from university researchers. NSERC annually supports more than 9,000 master, doctoral and post-doctoral students, as well

Canada's key federal S&T organizations

At the federal level, Canada's key S&T organizations are:

- Three granting councils that support university research and partnerships
- Strategic funding programs
- Science-Based Departments and Agencies (SBDAs) performing R&D

and networks

as over 8,700 university-based researchers. It also fosters innovation with programs designed to encourage more than 1,000 Canadian companies to invest in university research. **Web site:** www.nserc.ca

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council supports high-quality, peer-reviewed, research and research training in the social sciences, humanities, education and management fields to help us understand the evolving nature of society and address emerging challenges effectively. It puts the benefits of research to work by promoting the transfer of knowledge among researchers, research partners, policy makers and others. Each year, the Council supports the work of close to 5,000 researchers and graduate students, in 87 universities, and partners with governments, community groups and businesses to build expertise on social, cultural and economic issues. **Web site:** www.sshrc.ca

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research is Canada's newest innovative, multi-disciplinary network of 13 "virtual" institutes, each dedicated to a specific area of health research. The approach encourages multidisciplinary, integrative research that enables basic biomedical research to co-exist with applied clinical research, research into health systems and services, and population health research. Each virtual institute is led by a scientific director and an independent board that oversees funding, and each

supports and links researchers in universities, hospitals and research centres across Canada. They pursue common goals from disciplinary perspectives, including biomedic and clinical science, health systems and services, and the social, cultural and other factors that affect the health of populations. Like their counterparts in Canada's other research centres, CIHR researchers are often involved in international collaborations. Their CIHR projects may well become opportunities for future international collaborations. **Web site:** www.cihr.ca

"University-industry research is indispensable to the growth of our country. It allows our best minds to focus without a lot of distractions on conceptual advances in science, and our best entrepreneurs to bring them to market."

Rod Bryden, President and Chief Executive Officer of World Heart Corporation, Ottawa, Canada