

Dalhousie University
Research Support Fund and Incremental Project Grant
2021 - 2022 Objectives / September 2022 Report

Research Support Fund

Eligible expenditure category	Output (investment or expense of grant funds)	Performance Objective	Performance Indicator	Target Outcome	September 2022 Progress Report
Research Facilities	Support for Core Facilities	Promote development growth of Core research facilities and multi-user space	Core Facilities offer centralized research equipment and expert technical support to broader research community	Core Facilities provide effective and efficient usage of research resources under a sustainable operations model	Operational support provided to Core Facilities in 2021-22. A framework for shared laboratory space and equipment has been approved.
Research Resources	Support for UNIWeb	Promote development and growth of an institution-centric research network based on research interests	Research collaboration and partnership	Increased number of membership accounts, including research groups, labs, and partnership projects	Total users increased to 1,355 as of December 31, 2021.
Management and administration of institution's research enterprise	Contract Project Manager, Core Facilities	Digital integration between core facility management software solution and existing institutional equipment databases, library research data management, and research administration management system	Define requirements to implement and pilot a research data store platform integrated with select core facilities	Long-term operation and sustainability of lab facilities	<i>Dalhousie Shared Research Resources: Toward Sustainable Management, Operation, and Stewardship</i> sustainability plan developed. Core Facilities symposium attended by more than 40 researchers and staff in November 2021. Core Facility Management Software RFP in progress.
Management and administration of an institution's research enterprise	Harmonized Research Administration Management System	Integrated research administration management system to support provincial health research organizations	Selection of an information technology platform to support an integrated information management system	Integration of research administration information across a pan-provincial network to support the health research priorities of Nova Scotia	Preferred research administration management system identified. System functionality exploration and review underway.
Intellectual Property and Knowledge Mobilization	New position in the Office of Commercialization and Industry Engagement	Support development and growth of applied research partnerships with industry collaborators in the big data ocean sector	Engagement and collaboration with industry partners in the oceans sector	Increased industry partnerships and/or contracts with technology partners in the oceans sector	Position recruitment in progress. Support for research innovation and tech in the oceans sector advanced through partnerships with DeepSense and the Ocean Frontier Institute, resulting in a 15% increase in the number of contracts with private sector partners.

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Incremental Project Grant

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Facilities Renewal	Deferred maintenance undertaken in the Sir James Dunn Building, Dalhousie University	Provide a safe environment to conduct research	Infrastructure is modernized and maintained for researchers with continued adherence to safety standards	Provide researchers with appropriate infrastructure to conduct world-class research	High priority deferred maintenance work has been completed addressing safety compliance issues and further supporting research at Dalhousie.
Facilities Renewal	Deferred maintenance undertaken in the A.L. MacDonald – D Building, Dalhousie University	Provide a safe environment to conduct research	Infrastructure is modernized and maintained for researchers with continued adherence to safety standards	Provide researchers with appropriate infrastructure to conduct world-class research	High priority deferred maintenance work has been completed addressing safety compliance issues and further supporting research at Dalhousie.
Facilities Renewal	Infrastructure renewal undertaken in the Aquatron Research Facility, Dalhousie University	Improve research labs	Labs are modernized for researchers with continued adherence to safety standards	Research labs are updated to current standards to facilitate world-class research	High priority deferred maintenance work has been completed addressing safety compliance issues and further supporting research at Dalhousie.
Information resources, including digital resources, open access and databases	Develop a clinical trial privacy consent database, Nova Scotia Health Authority	Expedite recruitment and ensure appropriate patient populations are present within specified geographic catchment areas	Leveraged access to patient registries and databases	Physician Investigators will have the ability to match patients meeting specific criteria to clinical trials	Initial design phase for a Nova Scotia Health Clinical Trials Matching Model (TriMM) has been completed. A Research Informatics Specialist contracted to facilitate the development and adoption of TriMM and other technologies to support clinical trials and other studies across Nova Scotia Health.
Facilities Renewal	Infrastructure renewal to relocate part of the Animal Holding Facility, IWK Health	Create an adjacency to the Biosafety Level 3 Containment Lab (CL3) lab and preclinical imaging work to support the CL3 lab and urgent pandemic response work	Increase funding for CL3 and animal imaging research and positive user feedback review	Provide researchers with appropriate infrastructure to conduct world class preclinical research	Architectural planning work to relocate part of the Animal Holding Facility has been completed, all certification and functional requirements have been met to support the construction phase.