

RSF-2024-00084

Application ID: RSF-2024-00084 **Administering** Lakehead University

Organization:

Funding Opportunity: Research Support Fund Fiscal Year:

Investment Areas

Notional Amount Used Percentage

\$2,727,664 100.00 %

Research facilities

\$796,368 29.20 %

Research resources

\$122,360 4.50 %

Management and administration of the

institution's research enterprise 47.60 %

\$1,298,268

Regulatory requirements and accreditation

\$339,609 12.50 %

Intellectual property and knowledge

mobilization 6.30 %

\$171,059



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Accountability and Public Acknowledgment Requirements

Link to the institution's web page demonstrating that the public acknowledgment requirements have been met

(required if the notional amount is greater than \$25,000)

https://www.lakeheadu.ca/research-and-innovation/research-services/administer-funding/indirectcosts/research-support-fund-rsf

Link to the institution's web page containing the Institutional Performance Objectives

(required if the notional amount is greater than \$530,000)

https://www.lakeheadu.ca/research-and-innovation/research-services/administer-funding/indirectcosts/research-support-fund-rsf/rsf-performance-objectives

Description of the institution's communication strategy

(obligatoire si le montant théorique est supérieur à 25 000 \$)

Lakehead University's Office of Research Services is responsible for implementing the communications strategy for the federal Research Support Fund grant. Several strategies continue to be used:

- Research stories will be written and featured on Lakehead's Research Support Fund website; the stories will feature highlights of the impact the RSF has had in facilitating research excellence at Lakehead University. A communications bulletin will be circulated to the entire university community to direct them to the Lakehead Research Support Fund website for further information.
- The Research Support Fund is acknowledged in all media releases for Tri-Agency research projects that received an investment through the RSF. All of Lakehead University's Tri-Agency media releases acknowledged the funding from the Research Support Fund in 2023-2024.
- Research Services will continue to provide an annual summary of Lakehead University's investments and examples of projects supported on our Institution's RSF website as part of our commitment to public accountability.

Affiliated Hospitals or Health Research Organizations

Do you have an affiliated hospital or health research organization? Yes

Other Affiliated Organizations

Do you have any Other Affiliated organizations?

Yes



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Research Security Overview

Research Security Allocation

\$58,012

Describe your strategic vision

Our strategic vision for the RSF Research Security fund is to ensure compliance with Canada's National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships, Ontario's Safeguarding Research Framework and Tri-Agency RDM policy. When conducting research that involves sensitive data or has the potential for dual use, researchers may need to take additional measures to balance the need for collaboration, data-sharing and access, with that for protection from threats. To ensure that the integrity of their research is not compromised and research results (e.g., data sets, publications, patents) are secure and protected until they choose to disseminate them, researchers require expertise to help put in place good physical and cyber security practices and infrastructure.

Objectives:

To recruit a Research Security and Data Specialist to ensure compliance with federal and provincial research security and data management policies ensuring appropriate handling, use and protection of research data and intellectual property based on its sensitivity, value and criticality to the University, Ontario and Canada.

Alignment:

Increasing our human resource capacity to identify, assess and mitigate potential security risks is aligned with the research security priority areas of the National Security Guidelines on Research Partnerships.





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Research Security Projects



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Recruitment of a Research Security and Data Specialist in the Office of Research Services Have you applied for this project before (Convergence Portal)?

No

Priority area(s)

✓ Research security

RS Amount of current fiscal year

\$58,012

Estimated additional funds including in hand for the current fiscal

\$3,500

Source of additional funding

Lakehead University: Professional Development Funding

Start date (YYYY-MM)

2024-08

End date (YYYY-MM)

2025-03

Project details

Project 1: RSF Research Security funding will be used to support the salary and recruitment of a full-time Research and Data Security Specialist in Office of Research Services to help faculty members, graduate students, research staff and research administrators identify, assess and mitigate potential risks to research security, in support implementation of federal and provincial research security policies and frameworks.

Objectives:

- Development of a job description in consultation with research facilitators, Director, Industry Research Partnerships, Director, Innovation Development, Chief Librarian, Manager, Health, Safety and Wellness and Manager, Research Ethics (June 1, 2024).
- Actively advertise and recruit a Research and Data Security specialist to identify, assess and mitigate potential risks to research security, in support of the full implementation of the National Security Guidelines on Research Partnerships and the Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy (July 15, 2024).
- Develop a Research Security webpage attached to the Research Ethics and Compliance website with key updates and references to the federal policy (October 15, 2024).
- Create and deliver two workshops for faculty and staff to build an understanding of how to safeguard research which includes identifying risks and risk mitigation measures across risk areas (physical, cyber, partnerships, intellectual property, people (December 2024).
- Continue to support the implementation of the Research Data classification training program (funding came from the RSF for Research Security in 2023-2024) developed by MNP for Lakehead University by delivering workshops to researchers, Research Ethics Board and research facilitators; data classification is crucial in determining the appropriate security controls for protecting research data (ongoing).
- Assist research facilitators, researchers and Human Resources with vetting international visiting students, scholars and post-doctoral fellows prior to issuing letters of invitation (ongoing).
- Assist Research Facilitators in assessing attestation requirements for funding applications pertaining to sensitive technologies and named research organizations, in accordance with the federal STRAC policy.
- Identify international and domestic research partnerships that pose risks to Canada's national security and the integrity of Lakehead University's research ecosystem.



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Need:

Currently there is limited human resource capacity in the Office of Research Services (ORS), Human Resources, Innovation, Partnerships, and Economic Development (IPED) and the Library to support compliance with the federal Research Security Policy and Research Data Management Policy. This new position will fill a critical gap to assist both researchers and Lakehead University comply with the National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships, a goal aligned with the RSF Research Security indirect costs program.

Institutional Commitment: \$3,500 annually for professional development

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased knowledge and awareness of the federal and provincial research security policies within the Lakehead University community;
- High risk international research collaborations will be identified prior to project initiation, reducing risk and protecting valuable intellectual property and research data for Canada;
- Compliance with Canada's National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships, Ontario's "A Shared Commitment by Universities to Protect Ontario's Research Framework", Canada's Controlled Goods Program, and the Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy;

Performance Indicators:

- Research Security and Data Specialist in place by August 1, 2024
- Research Security webpage completed by October 14, 2024
- Two Research Security workshops delivered by December 2024
- Two Research Data Management workshops to be delivered by March 31, 2025.

Anticipated Results:

- increased awareness within the university community of federal and provincial policies support research security;
- Institutional compliance with the National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships;
- Protection of valuable research data and intellectual property for Canada, Ontario and Lakehead University; and
- Decreased liability and risk to Lakehead researchers and the institution.

Timeline:

Recruitment of the Research Security and Data Specialist will be completed by July 15, 2024 with an estimated start date of August 1, 2024. The position is full-time and will continue to be supported in 2025-2026.



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Incremental Project Grants (IPG) Overview

Incremental Project Grant Allocation \$0

Describe your strategic vision

IPG Projects

