



NMIN Strategic Initiative (SI)

Funding: Research, Commercialization, Knowledge Translation/Mobilization

Strategic Initiative (SI) Proposal Overview Guidelines

Final
31 July 2020

A. Overview

NMIN's Strategic Initiative (SI) program focuses on supporting just-in-time research development, commercialization and knowledge mobilization/transfer opportunities that arise in-year and/or require a rapid response in order to generate, promote or accelerate the economic and social benefits of previous or new NMIN or related research investments. These funds are intended to provide support for research, post-discovery commercialization, business planning and knowledge dissemination, mobilization, or translation activities. The projects must be scaled to be achievable within a one-year/12-month timeframe and be aligned with NMIN's mission and vision. Ideally, the SI will be undertaken in partnership with NMIN partners, stakeholders, and/or end-user organizations.

NMIN will consider support for proposed projects that can be completed within a period of one year, and that include, but are not limited to, at least one of the following objectives:

1. Facilitation of projects that provide strategic added value to NMIN-funded research and development initiatives, as well as nanomedicine-related contributions to non-NMIN funded initiatives. **Preference will be given to projects that are related or add value to existing NMIN funded projects.** (Refer to NMIN's [Project Database](#).)
2. Development of a business plan towards facilitating a commercial legacy for NMIN research investments/teams.
3. Contribution to the translation, mobilization and/or application of NMIN-funded research findings to accelerate Canadian innovation, productivity and economic competitiveness and/or improve the quality of life for Canadians.
4. Development of policy frameworks, national strategies, tools, technologies, products, and/or services arising from NMIN research and/or aligned with NMIN's vision and mission.

Budgets may be requested for a **maximum of one year** to a **maximum value of \$50,000.00**. All funding commitments are subject to change based on a review of NMIN funding recipients' progress towards approved milestones and deliverables. Priority will be given to proposals that demonstrate **matching partner support** with a desired **ratio of 2:1 (Partner : NMIN)**, though NMIN recognizes that not all projects will realize the targeted degree of leveraged funding. Partnerships and leveraged support secured by proposals at the time of application will be reviewed and evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Preference will be given to projects that leverage partner support and that bring together multiple institutions as well as multi-disciplinary teams.

B. NMIN Consultation and Application Review Process

NMIN SI applications will be accepted at anytime throughout the year. Applications will be reviewed and approved quarterly (approximately in March, June, September and December) by the NMIN Board of Directors (BoD).

SI Proposal Overview Submission Deadline	Full Application Deadline	*Funding Decision
1 April - 29 May 2020	30 June 2020	September 2020
1 July - 14 August 2020	31 August 2020	December 2020
15 August - 15 September 2020	30 September 2020	December 2020
*Timing of Funding Decision subject to timing NMIN Board of Director meeting schedule		

Prior to submission of an SI application, consultation is encouraged with appropriate [NMIN Theme or Core Leaders](#) or NMIN's Executive Director regarding the relevance to NMIN's research, knowledge mobilization and/or commercialization goals and the value-added potential of a proposed project.

Only Proposed Overviews that are highly aligned and most consistent with NMIN's scientific and strategic priorities will be invited to submit a full SI Application.

SI applications will be reviewed by NMIN's Research Management Committee (RMC). NMIN's RMC will present its funding recommendations to the NMIN Board of Directors for a final decision. There is no appeal process in regard to NMIN project funding decisions for this application; however, applicants will be provided with formative feedback.

A Notification of Award will be sent to successful applicants following NMIN Board of Director's approval. Funding will be issued in installments, subject to satisfactory progress and/or compliance with specific conditions communicated to the applicants. Successful applicants will be required to confirm their acceptance of the terms and conditions of the award as approved, and, if requested, agree to revise the proposal. In addition, successful applicants will be required to sign the NMIN *Acknowledgement of Acceptance* form. Each university holding NMIN funding in trust for NMIN-supported projects is a signatory to NMIN's [NCE Network Agreement](#).

Progress will be assessed against approved milestones and timeframes as well as against anticipated deliverables, outcomes and impacts of each project within the context of NMIN's mission, vision, goals and objectives. If Principal Investigators do not perform to this standard or deliver on the stated goals and objectives of projects within the approved timeframes, funding may be terminated.

A Final Report will be required once the project is completed. Ten percent of the approved funding will be retained at the NMIN Administrative Centre until a Final Report has been received and approved by the RMC. It is important to note that universities may not pre-flow funds to Investigators prior to receipt of payment from NMIN.

C. Proposal Overview Instructions

- Step 1. Confirm your eligibility to hold NMIN NCE (Tri-Agency) funds by consulting the [Grants and Awards Guide](#) of the CIHR.
- Step 2. Identify and consult with the appropriate NMIN Theme or Core Leads or NMIN Executive Director with which the project most closely [aligned](#).
- Step 3. Submit the Proposal Overview to the [Manager of Research & Partnerships](#).

D. Full Application Invitation

Only Proposed Overviews that are highly aligned and most consistent with NMIN's scientific and strategic priorities will be invited to submit a full SI Application.

E. Questions

Questions may be directed to April O'Connell, Manager of Research & Partnerships, at apriloconnell@nanomedicines.ca or to Diana Royce, Executive Director at dianaroyce@deerfieldgroup.ca.