



UK – Canada Sustainable Critical Minerals Research Partnerships

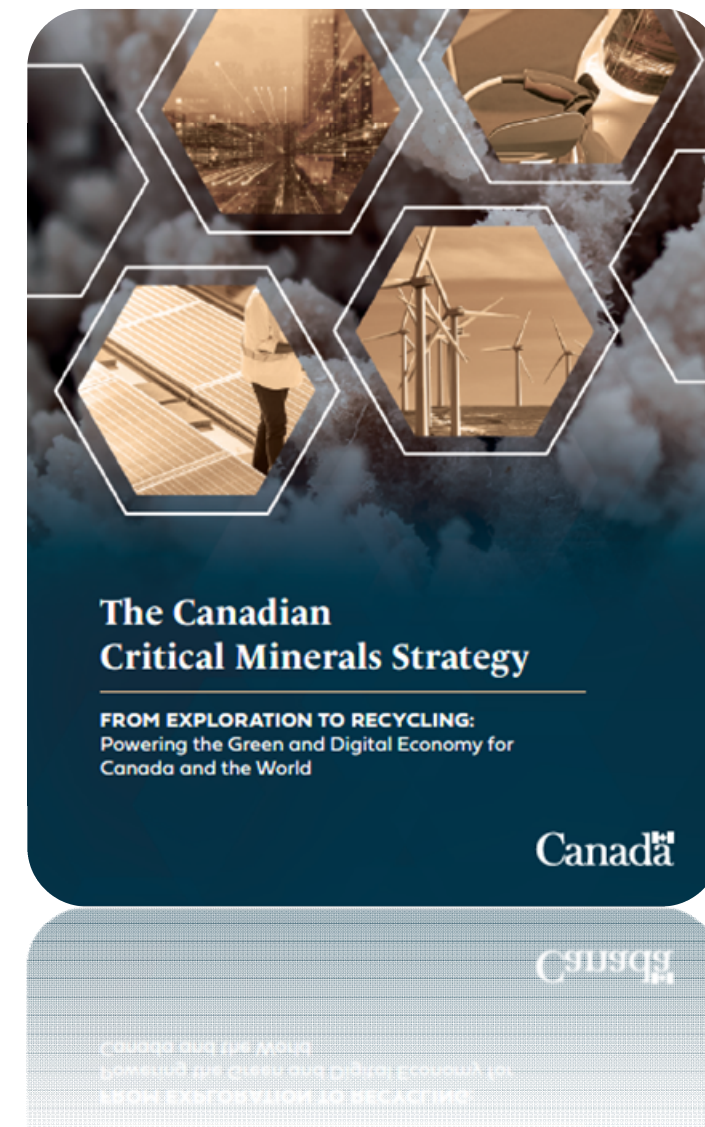
Instructions to Canadian applicants applying to the NSERC supplement

June 2024

Objectives of the call

UK-Canada Sustainable Critical Minerals Research partnerships grants will:

- Support the development of UK-Canada academic research partnerships to enhance resilience and sustainability of critical minerals supply. Research addressed by these partnerships will focus on *optimisation of efficiency* and *minimisation of environmental impacts* across critical mineral value chains and support development towards a circular economy for critical minerals
- Provide Alliance Missions Critical Minerals awardees the opportunity to develop collaborations with their UK-based counterparts.



Objectives of the call

- Applications to the UK-Canada Sustainable Critical Minerals Research partnerships should address research aligning with one or both of the following research challenge areas of the NSERC Alliance Missions grants:
 - Challenge 1: Advance knowledge, models, processes, tools and technologies to optimize efficiency, minimize environmental impacts, or support data-driven decisions along critical mineral value chains, from exploration to recycling
 - Challenge 2: Develop efficient options to advance to a circular economy with less reliance on primary mineral resources, for example through mine reclamation or critical mineral recycling or reprocessing

*Same targeted Critical Minerals as the Alliance Missions call, with the exception of scandium

Overview of the initiative

UK-Canada Sustainable Critical Minerals Research Partnerships – NSERC supplemental funding

Who?

Alliance Missions –
Critical Minerals research
awardees*, collaborating
with an eligible UK-based
researcher

How long?

2 years

How much?

Up to \$50K

* Alliance Missions awardees will only be eligible to receive additional funding from NSERC for involvement in one partnership project. Additional collaborations are permitted but no further additional funding support from NSERC or UKRI will be available.

Use of the NSERC funds

What can the NSERC supplemental funding be used for?

- The NSERC fund is intended to cover the direct costs of the research for the Canadian project team. Any travel and travel-related subsistence expenditures for the UK project team will be requested through the UK funding opportunity.
- NSERC-eligible direct costs of research could include, for example:
 - activities that support collaborations and knowledge mobilisation related to the project, including the costs associated with building the international collaboration with UK research teams; and
 - activities to develop and grow the research collaborations with UK research teams.

The Application – Letter of Support

What's in the Letter of Support?

- Two-page template that will contain the following information:
 - Name and affiliation of the UK principal investigator and title of the UK-led project
 - Your Alliance Missions application number
 - A brief description of how the Canadian and UK project teams are engaged and how they intend to work together to the benefit of both countries
 - An outline of the additional activities to be undertaken by the Canadian team and the amount of supplemental funds requested by the Canadian team in years 2 and 3 of their project; and
 - A detailed justification of how the supplemental funds will be used.

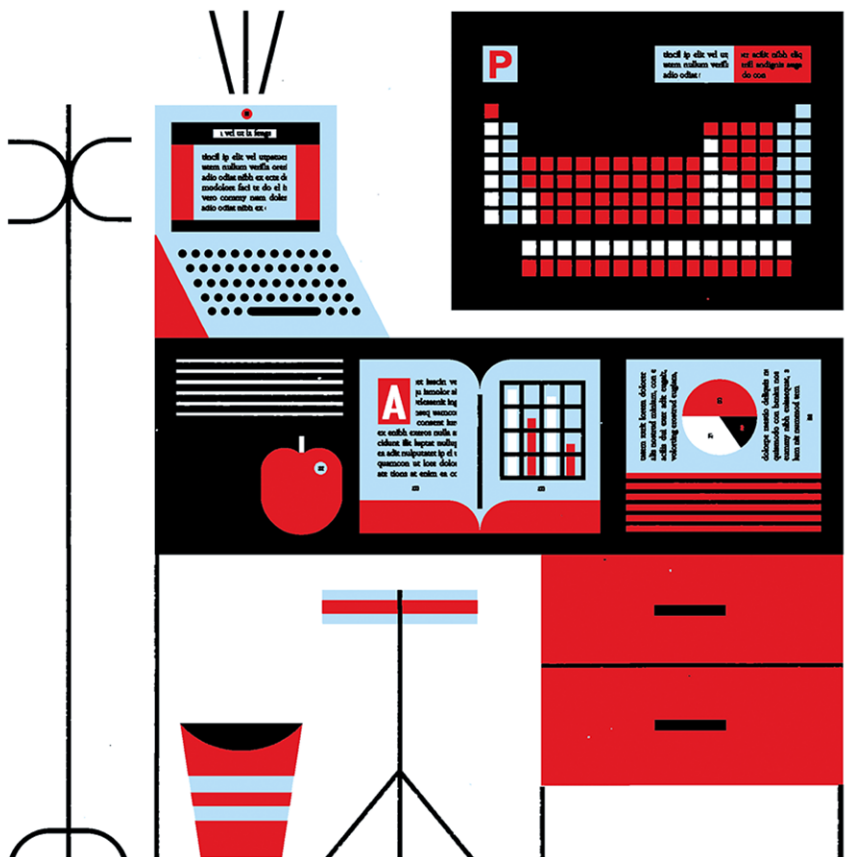
The Application – Letter of Support

What's in the Letter of Support?

In addition:

- The template should specify whether the Alliance Missions grant and proposed additional partnership work with UK applicants aims to advance any of the listed areas in the [Sensitive Technology Research Areas \(STRA\) List](#).
- If the work aims to advance any of the listed STRA, the application must include the [STRAC Attestation Forms](#) duly filled for all researchers in named roles.

For more information, please refer to [Tri-Agency Guidance on the STRAC Policy](#)



Questions?

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