My Goals Today

1. Brief overview of NSERC Partnerships Programs
2. Grants administered by NSERC Regional Offices
3. How the Regional Office can help
4. Answer questions
Five Core Partnerships Programs

**Industry-Driven Collaborative R&D Program**
- Interaction
- Engage
- Collaborative Research and Development (CRD)
- Industrial Research Chairs
- Partnership Workshops Grants

**Training in Industry Program**
- Industrial Postgraduate Scholarships
- Industrial R&D Fellowships
- Industrial Undergraduate Student Research Award

**Commercialization Program**
- Idea-to-Innovation (I2I)

**College and Community Innovation Program**
- Applied Research and Development
- Innovation Enhancement
- Technology Access Centres
- Applied Research Tools and Instruments
- College-University Idea to Innovation
- Industrial Research Chairs for Colleges

**Strategic Partnerships Program**
- Strategic Networks
- Strategic Projects
- Automotive Partnership Canada
- Chairs in Design Engineering
- Innovation Frontiers

CONNECT. COLLABORATE. PROSPER.
Interaction Grants

...give companies that operate from a Canadian base and researchers from Canadian universities an opportunity to meet and identify a company-specific problem they could solve by collaborating in a subsequent research partnership.

• Maximum of $5,000
Engage Grants

- Foster the development of new research partnerships between university researchers and companies
- Support short-term R&D projects that address a company-specific problem
- No company cash required; must provide in-kind
- Six-month project, maximum grant of $25,000
Applicant Eligibility

- Applicant must be eligible to receive NSERC funding – assistant, associate or full professor at an eligible institution. Adjuncts are eligible only if they work at the university.

- Must have received a peer-reviewed grant in the last six years in for research in a natural sciences or engineering (NSE) field.
Applicant Eligibility (continued)

• Researchers from a health-oriented university faculty (e.g., medicine, pharmacology, dentistry, etc.) are only eligible for an Engage Grant if they have been awarded an NSERC Discovery Grant within the past six years

• Candidates are limited to two Engage Grant awards per fiscal year (April 1st – March 31st)
Industry Partner Eligibility

• The industry partner must be a for-profit company that operates from a Canadian base

• If the partner is a Canadian subsidiary of an international company, it must have a manufacturing and/or R&D operation in Canada

• Start-ups must have been incorporated for at least one year
Industry Partner Eligibility (continued)

- The partner must demonstrate the capacity and intention to further develop and apply the results for the benefit of the Canadian economy

- The company must be at “arm’s-length” from the applicant – no past or present relationship
Eligibility: Proposed Research

• The proposed research must be in a natural sciences or engineering field

• The project must be aimed at solving the company-specific problem through the generation of new knowledge, or the application of existing knowledge in an innovative manner

• Due to the focus on a problem specific to the company, and the short duration of this grant, any intellectual property (IP) arising from the project will belong to the company
Eligibility: Proposed Research (continued)

Proposals are not eligible for an Engage Grant if they:

• focus on the commercialization of a university invention
• focus on the application of existing technology
• provide routine analysis, or routine use of university equipment
• collect data without interpreting underlying mechanisms
• are principally associated with the acquisition and maintenance of scientific equipment
Budget

• Proposed project expenditures must conform to the Use of Grant Funds guidelines (part of the Tri-Agency Financial Administration Guide). All budget items must be carefully detailed and justified.

• It is not a requirement to have grad students work on the project

Engage Grant funds cannot be used for:

• Expenses related to publications and conferences
• Travel expenses for company personnel
Engage Grant Timeline

• No deadline – apply anytime
• Average turn-around time on applications is 4 to 6 weeks
• Success rate: 85%
Partnership Workshops Grants

- Support workshops aimed at building new collaborations between Canadian university researchers and the non-academic community (industry and government)
- Address research & technology needs identified by the non-academic community
- Award up to $25,000 to cover meeting costs and travel, accommodation of academic participants
- No deadline; apply anytime
Partnership Workshops Grants (continued)

- Intended for small, focused groups ranging from 20 to 40 participants from multiple Canadian universities and non-academic organizations
- Workshops must be held in Canada
- Workshops must include a leader from a Canadian university, and a leader from a non-academic organization
Partnership Workshops Grants (continued)

Evaluation criteria:
1. Need for the proposed workshop
   - issues to be tackled; potential for new cross-sector collaborations
2. Future benefits to Canada
3. Appropriateness of the workshop leaders
4. Workshop plans and budgeting
5. Workshop deliverables and outcomes
   - future meetings; potential for future funding proposals, etc.
NSERC Regional Offices

- Pacific Region – Vancouver
- Prairies Region – Winnipeg
- Ontario – Mississauga
- Quebec – Montreal
- Atlantic Region – Moncton
What NSERC Regional Offices can do for you:

• Connect you to the regional research and innovation community
• Partner with you on events related to research and innovation
• Provide advice and feedback on potential Interaction, Engage, and Partnership Workshops applications
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