

CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION

Presentation to the Council of Chairs of Canadian Earth Science Departments

October 2023

Agenda

About the CFI

Eligible projects and infrastructure

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About the CFI

With a bold, future-looking mandate, the Canada Foundation for Innovation equips researchers to be global leaders in their field and to respond to emerging challenges.

Our investments in state-of-the-art tools, instruments and facilities at universities, colleges, research hospitals and non-profit research institutions underpin both curiosity- and mission-driven research that cuts across disciplines and bridges all sectors.

The research infrastructure we fund mobilizes knowledge, spurs innovation and commercialization, and empowers the talented minds of a new generation.



Our objectives

- Increase Canada's capacity to carry out important world-class scientific research and technology development
- Support economic growth and job creation, as well as health and environmental quality through innovation
- Expand research and job opportunities for the next generation of Canadian researchers, technicians and entrepreneurs
- Promote productive networks and collaboration among Canadian universities, colleges, research hospitals, non-profit research institutions and the private sector



Since its creation in 1997, the CFI
has committed more than **\$10.2
billion** in support of **12,930 projects**
at **173 research institutions** in
81 municipalities across Canada.*

* As of September 8, 2023



Strategic directions

2023 - 28

1. Fostering the science of tomorrow: Our contribution to building today the research capacity that supports the science of tomorrow
2. Building prosperous and healthy communities: Our contribution to enhancing the connection between research and communities
3. Contributing to a sustainable world: Our contribution to environmental, social and economic sustainability
4. Inspiring the next generation: Our contribution to promoting equity, diversity, inclusion and community
5. Delivering for the research community: Our contribution to leveraging institutional partnerships and collaboration

A unique funding model



INSTITUTIONAL AWARDS

CFI awards are institutional awards for research infrastructure – equipment, renovations, database development.



FUNDING FORMULA

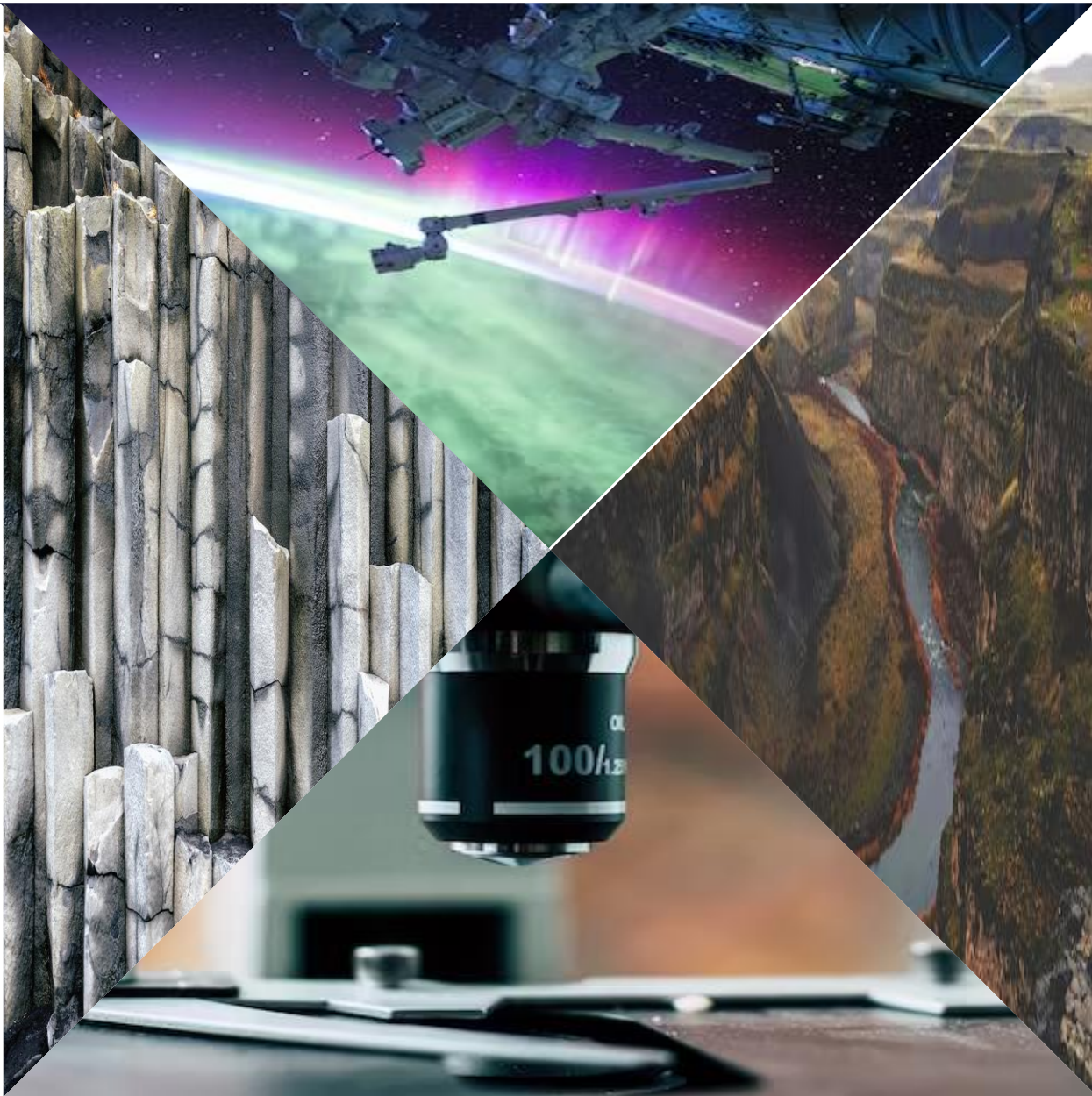
- CFI provides up to 40% of a research project's infrastructure costs.
- The remaining 60% matching fund is provided by provinces, institutions and private sector).
- Tri-council grants are not eligible as matching funds.



OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

The CFI provides 30% of the CFI-funded amount towards operation and maintenance costs through the Infrastructure Operating Fund (IOF).





Eligible projects

The CFI funds infrastructure, across the full spectrum of research, from the most fundamental to applied through to technology development and supports a broad range of research programs including those in natural, social and health sciences, engineering, humanities and the arts, as well as interdisciplinary research.



Eligible infrastructure

- Acquisition or development of research infrastructure to increase research capacity and enable innovative research activities.
- Facilities, laboratories, equipment, computer hardware, software, and databases.
- Including workhorses and upgrade or replacement of aging infrastructure.



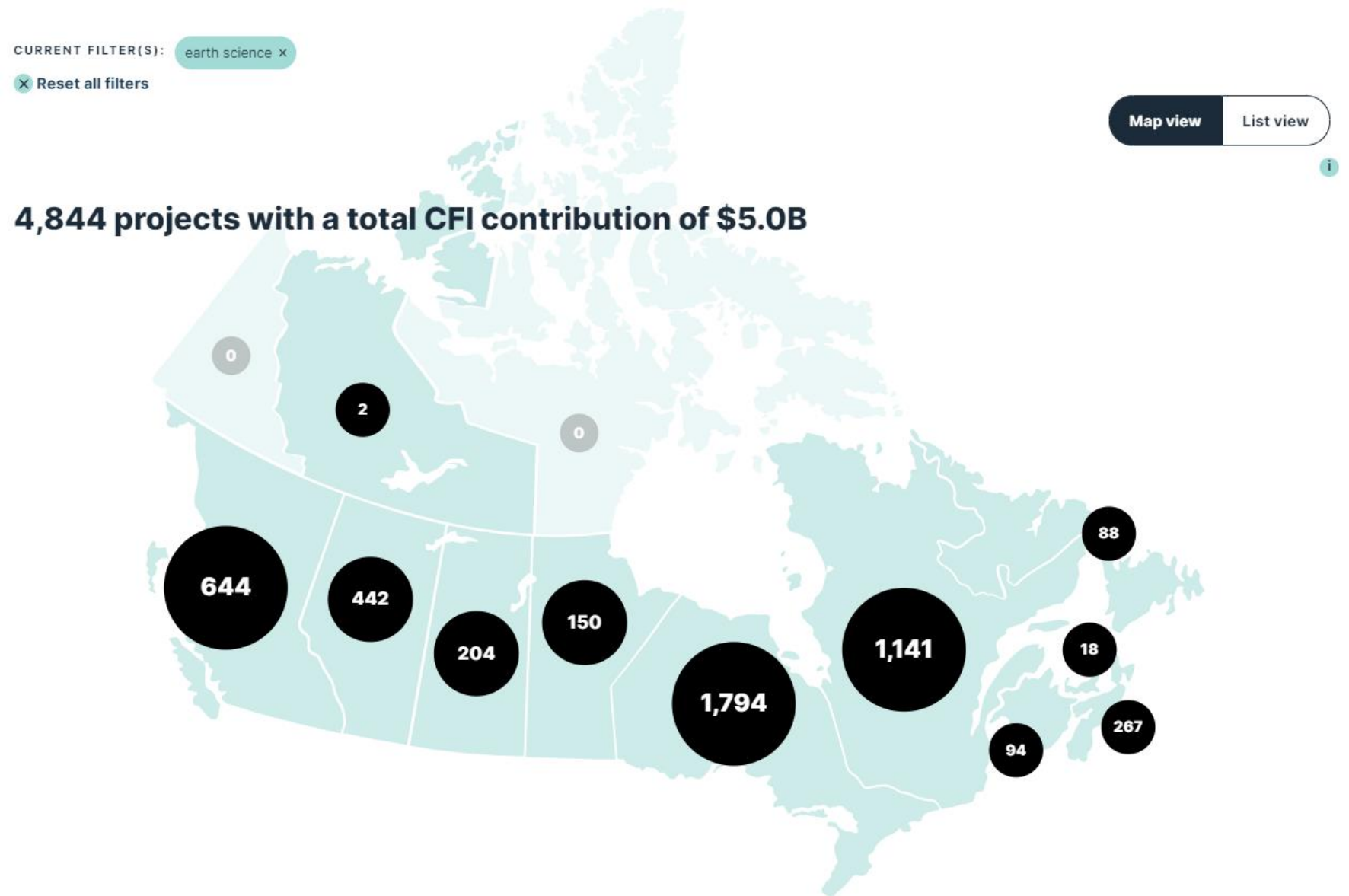
A high-level guide for research infrastructure funding in Earth Science

For research projects that require:	Consider funding sources:	In addition:
Operating funds incl HQP support, small equipment incl computers, consumables, etc.	Not eligible for CFI funding. Consider applying to NSERC (DG, RTI, etc.), and other relevant funding sources	
Infrastructure to equip and upgrade research labs, incl upgrades to existing equipment, databases, and needed renovations	May be eligible for CFI funding. Consider JELF, IF and other programs, at 40%, with 60% from matching funds.	Consult with Digital Research Alliance of Canada when planning to request advanced research computing infrastructure

Note this guide is only a starting point. For more information, consult the CFI Policy and Program Guide 2023 and similar documentation at other funding agencies.



Funded projects dashboard



Examples: Recent awards for Earth Science research (JELF 2022)

From the CFI Funded Projects Dashboard,
(see www.innovation.ca/projects-results/funded-projects-dashboard#!list-view)

By selecting:

University / Natural Sciences/ JELF / 2022



Examples: selected recent awards for Earth Science research (JELF 2022)

Optimization of Electron-Beam Facilities for Earth Materials Research, University of British Columbia, \$156,000

Tracking the coevolution of Earth's biosphere, hydrosphere and geosphere using novel isotope systems, University of Waterloo, \$198,412

Characterization of rock and geochronometer deformation with electron backscatter diffraction (EBSD), Université du Québec – INRS, \$125,080



CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION

Funding programs



Innovation Fund

Projects funded through the Innovation Fund help Canada remain at the forefront of exploration and knowledge generation while making meaningful contributions to generating social, health, environmental and economic benefits and addressing global challenges.



By the numbers (2006 – 2020)



599

Number of world-class research projects supported since the Innovation Fund started in 2006



\$2.1 billion*

Amount invested through the Innovation Fund so far

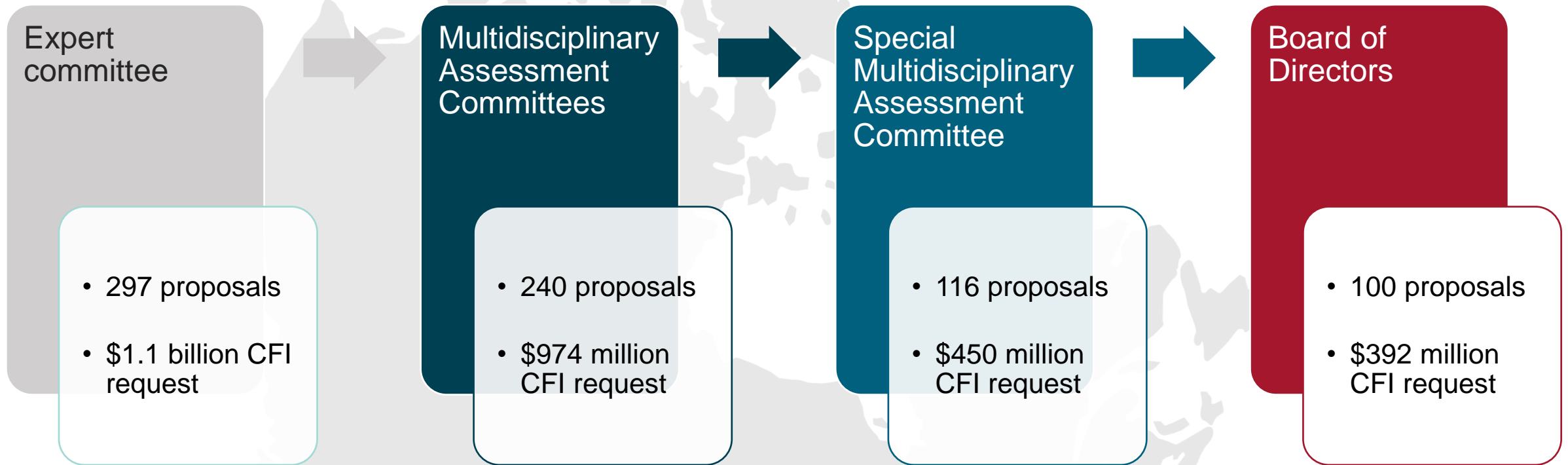


9,915

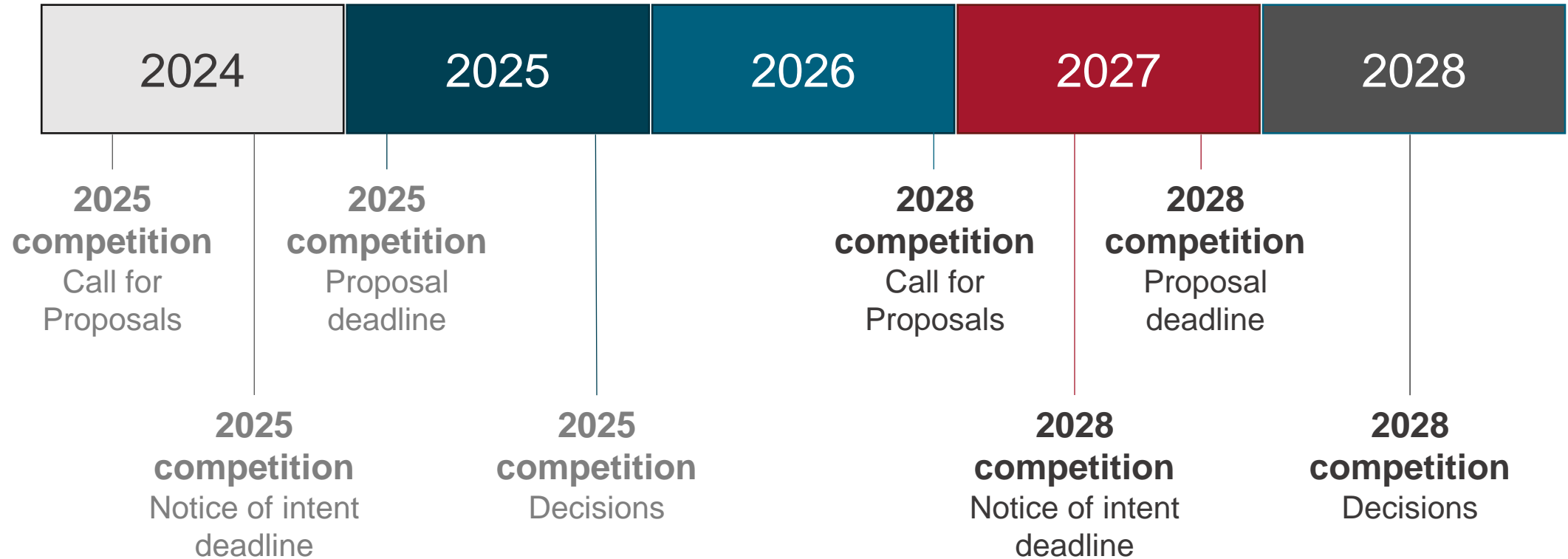
Number of students and postdocs who report having advanced their research using infrastructure funded through this fund since 2006



2023 Innovation Fund



Timeline of upcoming competitions



* June 2023 CFI Update



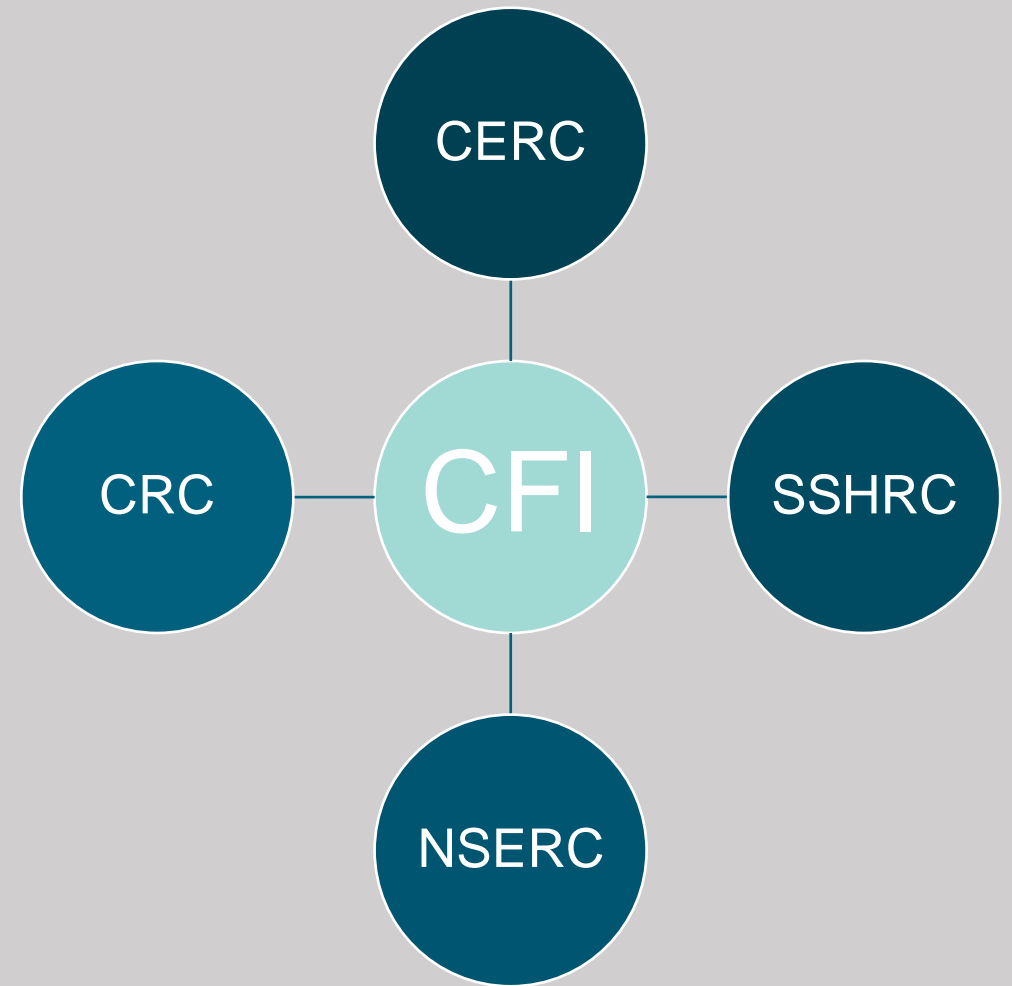
John R. Evans Leaders Fund

The John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF) is a critical strategic investment tool designed to help institutions attract and retain the very best of today's and tomorrow's researchers. The fund's name pays tribute to the outstanding contributions of John R. Evans, the first Chair of the CFI's Board of Directors.

Funding streams

Unaffiliated: This stream accepts proposals for research infrastructure that are standalone and not affiliated with an application submitted to any of our funding partner organizations.

Partnership: These streams accept proposals that are submitted alongside an application for research support from our funding partners.



Review process

$\leq \$400k$

Written
review by 2+
experts

**$\$400k -$
 $\$800k$**

Expert
Committee

QC Projects

Expert
Committee lead
by the QC
government



By the numbers

~60%

Applicants/awards are
PLs with ≤ 10 years
since PhD

3

Submission cycles
per year (Feb,
June, Oct)

100
- 250

Proposals
submitted per
cycle

\$150
thousand

Average CFI
request

~80%

Success rate

~\$80
million

Average annual
CFI JELF awards

Contact information

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