

## **NSERC DG Changes**

- Early Career Researchers (ECRs)
  - Researchers who have non-academic research experience may be considered as ECRs (includes all researchers who are within three years of their first independent academic position)
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)
  - Researcher will not be negatively impacted if they do not have an EDI plan, however those researchers that do provide one will obtain additional points
  - It is suggested that researchers take the Unconscious Bias Training module – [available on NSERC's website](#)
- Section on HQP Instructions clarified
  - Applicants will need to address their past contributions to training in terms of the type of training received by students and overall benefits/impact of the training
  - Future training activities: what is the plan going forward, what skills or experiences (unique methods, special equipment, etc.), do students acquire from training in your lab and how does that translate into making them attractive to industry?
- Relationship to Other Research Support instructions clarified
  - Applicants must clearly indicate whether the expenses applied for in the DG are not supported **or submitted for support by other sources.**
- CIHR Applicants who also submit to NSERC must provide sufficient information that the DG funding is essential to carry out the work, failure to do is an automatic “insufficient”.

## **NSERC RTI Applications**

- Changes in RTI Selection Criteria
- The number of selection criteria has been reduce from 5 to 3
- This change will provide applicants with more detailed scoring on their proposals to help improve subsequent applications

## **Additional Suggestions**

- The majority of successfully funded projects are submitted by groups of researchers
- Avoid listing past students or previous supervisors as “suggested External Referees”
- Include at least one international reviewer in the list of suggested reviewers
- Avoid cutting and pasting sections from other applications as in most cases reviewers can spot that the text does not have the same flow