



Beef Cattle Research Council

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CALL FOR PROPOSALS – ESTABLISHMENT OF RESEARCH CHAIRS

The Beef Cattle Research Council's (BCRC) mandate is to determine research and development priorities for the Canadian beef cattle industry and to administer national check-off funds allocated to research. The BCRC has agreed that gaps in research capacity are a high priority and consequently is focused on exploring options to establish Research Chairs in key areas and invest Canadian Beef Cattle Check-Off funding in partnership with other funders. To procure the strongest opportunities for capacity development and encourage matching investments, Research Chair concepts will be considered through an open call for proposals. Evaluation of Research Chair proposals will consider research and capacity priorities that have been identified by industry, the incremental nature of the proposed research capacity, institutional and other matching investments, and program support.

The deadline to submit proposals is October 1, 2018 at 11:59 PM MT.

Research objectives

The BCRC has established clearly defined core research objectives and priority areas through a comprehensive stakeholder engagement process. Please refer to the research objectives and priorities highlighted below and outlined in the [Canadian Beef Research and Technology Transfer Strategy](#) before deciding to submit a proposal.

For the competition, the Beef Cattle Research Council welcomes proposals that work towards the achievement of the three core research objectives outlined below:

1. To *enhance industry competitiveness and reduce production costs*, priority outcomes are to enhance feed and forage production, increase feed efficiency, and decrease the impact of animal health issues and production limiting diseases.
2. To *improve beef demand and quality*, priority outcomes are to reduce food safety incidences, define quality and yield benchmarks supporting the Canadian Beef Advantage, and improve beef quality through primary production improvements and the development and application of technologies to optimize cut-out values and beef demand.
3. To improve *public confidence in Canadian beef*, outcomes are to improve food safety, strengthen the surveillance of antimicrobial use and resistance, develop effective antimicrobial alternatives, ensure animal care, demonstrate the safety and efficacy of new production technologies, improve environmental sustainability and measure the beef industry's environmental benefits.

Within these core research objectives, specific priority areas in the *Strategy* have been established:

- Beef Quality
- Food Safety
- Animal Health and Welfare

- Antimicrobial Use, Resistance and Alternatives
- Feed Grains and Feed Efficiency
- Forage and Grassland Productivity
- Environmental Sustainability

Application forms and information

Proposals must be prepared on the form provided by the BCRC ('BCRC Establishment of Research Chair Proposal Form'). The form, together with instructions, can be downloaded from www.beefresearch.ca.

Capacity investment

Given that this is a new area of investment for the BCRC there is flexibility related to the funding amount and longevity of support for an individual Research Chair. A five-year commitment renewed once, for a total of 10 years, is a recommended timeframe. Other options will be considered however the maximum BCRC commitment is a 10-year period. The BCRC intends to commit funding to support two Research Chairs over the next two years with additional calls in subsequent years subject to annual BCRC funding allocations.

Timelines for submission of Proposals

October 1, 2018 - deadline for submitting proposals in electronic format to proposals@beefresearch.ca.

Preliminary funding decisions by BCRC anticipated to be made by no later than November 15, 2018.

Questions about this Call for Proposals can be directed to:

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