

INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL PROOF OF CONCEPT RESEARCH AND CLINICAL TRIALS

The Beef Cattle Research Council (BCRC) invites proposals focused on projects **related to proof of concept research and clinical trials** that support the sustainability and competitiveness of the Canadian beef industry.

Timelines

October 1, 2020 – deadline for submitting proposals

November 15, 2020 – applicants will be notified of the funding decision

Project Timeframe

Projects that are six months to one year in duration may be submitted unless a clear need for a longer timeframe can be demonstrated.

Who is eligible to apply?

Any individual or organization (academic institution, private industry, government or not-for-profit/non-government organization) from Canada or elsewhere with ability and/or a track record of success in carrying out research projects in areas relevant to the Canadian beef industry is eligible to apply.

Budget

Total Budget

The total BCRC funding request must NOT exceed \$50,000 regardless of project duration.

Equipment

Details must be provided around proposed equipment purchases, as all equipment purchases greater than \$10,000 must be preapproved.

Indirect/Overhead Costs

Projects conducted at Universities or at other non AAFC facilities are eligible for overhead costs which will be calculated by BCRC to a maximum of 15% of total project costs.

Additional Funding

Matching funding is encouraged but NOT required for proposals submitted under this call. This funding is intended for small scale projects. The intent of this funding is not to support existing funding for ongoing projects.

If applicable, proposals should identify all sources and amounts of additional funding for the proposed research project, including both in-kind and cash contributions.

In-kind Contributions

In-kind contribution means the fair value* attributed to eligible costs of goods and/or services required to complete the project that are provided by the recipient, or other project supporters (governments and/or industry supporters, partners or association members). Full-time salaries of research leads and collaborators

are not eligible as in-kind contributions.

**Fair value of in-kind contributions should reflect current, relevant and market-based information or another methodology acceptable to BCRC.*

Animal Care Approvals

All animals used in research projects approved by the BCRC must be cared for according to Guidelines of the Canadian Council of Animal Care. Where required, documentation indicating that the institution's Animal Care Committee has approved the proposed protocol(s) must be received by the BCRC before funding will be released.

If there are any revisions to the research protocol required by the animal care committee, the BCRC will review the revised proposal prior to allowing the project to be initiated to ensure revisions do not detract from the validity of the research.

The BCRC recognizes that obtaining an 'Institutional Animal Care Approval' can be an onerous process and therefore does not insist on having the Institutional Animal Care Approval completed before proposal submission. It is encouraged that this process be initiated as soon as practical so as not to delay project initiation if the BCRC approves funding.

Letters of Support

The BCRC does NOT require or read letters of support.

Documentation submitted after the deadline for project proposals

Once a project proposal has been submitted, the BCRC may request any missing or additional documentation. No unsolicited documentation is permitted after the project proposal submission deadline.

Appeals of awards for funding projects

Decisions taken on awards made to projects by the BCRC are considered final.

Reporting

All reporting requirements will be defined in the funding agreement.

Policy to prevent duplication

The BCRC regularly communicates with other beef research funding bodies. When a researcher that has submitted a proposal to the BCRC also submits similarly titled proposals to other beef research funders, the BCRC is willing to share its proposals and associated peer reviews. The purpose of this policy is to improve communication and coordination of research priorities among funders, minimize duplication of effort, and ensure the most strategic and efficient use of beef research funds.

Confidentiality of research proposed to the BCRC

All those who review research proposals submitted to the BCRC (peer reviewers as well as persons directly associated with the BCRC), are required to sign a statement of confidentiality in their review of the proposed research.

Signatures

Signatures are required along with proposal submission. If the document 'Approvals and Signatures - Proof of Concept' containing signature(s) of the researcher and co-investigator(s) is not submitted with the proposal, it must be received by BCRC within two weeks following the proposal submission deadline. Electronic signatures are acceptable.

Checklist for submitting a **Proposal**

Have you:

Read and followed the 'Instructions and Guidelines for Submitting LOIs and Proposals – Proof of Concept' document?

Completed the following documents and emailed them to proposals@beefresearch.ca prior to the deadline:

- 'BCRC Proposal Form – Proof of Concept'.pdf
- 'Approvals and Signatures – Proof of Concept'.pdf
 - *Electronic signatures ARE acceptable.*
 - *Signatures can be submitted separately using the PDF signature file.*
- An Institution Animal Care Approval
 - *Note that this is not required upon submission but must be received by the BCRC prior to project initiation.*
 - *If the institution's Animal Care Committee requires changes to experimental protocol that compromise the scientific or practical value of the research, funding approval may be withdrawn.*