

# CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST RESEARCH CAPACITY

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 develop and maintain Research Capacity 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 Capacity concepts will be considered through an open call for Expressions of Interest (EOI). Evaluation of Research Capacity EOIs will consider research and capacity priorities that have been identified by industry, institutional and other matching investments, and the clear explanation of the proposed funding structure.

# The deadline to submit Expressions of Interest is May 21, 2024 at 11:59 PM MT.

# **Application Forms and Information**

Expressions of Interest must be prepared using the file 'BCRC EOI Form – Research Capacity' provided by the BCRC and submitted electronically to <u>proposals@beefresearch.ca</u>. The form, as well as instructions and guidelines for submission, can be downloaded from <u>www.beefresearch.ca</u>.

# Timeframe

The earliest start date for a position funded through this call will be July 2025, unless clear justification for an alternate date is provided and accepted by the BCRC. The interval between BCRC funding decisions and the position start date is intended to allow time for necessary matching funds to be procured.

#### **Capacity Investment**

Preference will be given to applications that:

- propose to leverage industry funding significantly with other government and Institutional funding, and
- clearly demonstrate the creation of new research capacity or support the transition of high priority capacity in the beef industry.

Examples of positions that may be covered by an EOI:

commitment beyond five years.

 Research Chair: a new, long-term position that will build on existing strengths and add incremental research capacity to the Canadian beef industry. The maximum BCRC commitment will be ten years, with an interim review required for any



- Transitional Funding: funding to establish a short-term position that will allow a retiring researcher to train a qualified candidate to take over their existing position.
- Start-up Funds: funds to attract new researchers to vacant positions by providing start-up funding to develop their research program.

A one-time commitment for each position.

• Other: Innovative ideas to build research capacity are encouraged.

# Timelines

May 21, 2024 – deadline for submitting EOIs Applicants will be notified if a full proposal is requested.

# **Research Outcomes**

Please refer to the <u>Canadian Beef Research and Technology Transfer Strategy</u> before deciding to submit an EOI. Ensure that your EOI clearly indicates how this new position will play a key role in achieving the intent of the high-level priority areas and detailed research outcomes identified in the Strategy.

# Contact

Any questions concerning this Call for Expressions of Interest should be directed to Leah Rodvang, BCRC Operations Manager, Phone: 403-295-5591, Email: <a href="mailto:rodvangl@beefresearch.ca">rodvangl@beefresearch.ca</a>.

# RESEARCH OUTCOMES DRAWN FROM THE CANADIAN BEEF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER STRATEGY

Through the <u>Canadian Beef Research and Technology Transfer Strategy</u>, the beef industry has defined core research objectives under which more specific priorities and research outcomes are established:

- 1. Increase producer profitability by increasing productivity or decreasing costs of production and risks.
- 2. Develop, enhance and encourage adoption of beneficial practices and innovations that maximize the environmental benefits industry provides and continue to reduce our environmental footprint, while supporting industry competitiveness.
- 3. Support continuous improvements in Canadian beef demand through advancements in the quality and safety of Canadian beef.
- 4. Generate science to inform decision makers, policy and best management practices and to support consumer confidence and public trust.
- 5. Develop, enhance and encourage adoption of leading-edge technologies that support industry competitiveness, automation and sustainability.
- 6. Ensure the maintenance and rejuvenation of critical research capacity and infrastructure that facilitate proactive inquiry and innovation to support industry advancement.



For the competition, the BCRC welcomes EOIs that work towards the achievement of these core objectives through the specific established priority areas:

- Beef Quality
- Food Safety
- Animal Health, Welfare and Antimicrobial Resistance
- Feed Grains and Feed Efficiency
- Forage and Grassland Productivity
- Environmental Sustainability
- Extension

Please refer to the research objectives and priorities outlined in the <u>Canadian Beef Research and</u> <u>Technology Transfer Strategy</u> before deciding to submit an EOI.