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GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP  
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

A UIDP WEBINAR SERIES



Strengthening  
University-Industry  
Partnerships

January 28, 2021 12-1 PM EDT

# Professor Alejandro Adem

## Natural Sciences & Engineering Research Council



**Moderator**  
**Lisa Amini**  
IBM Research Cambridge



**January 28, 2021 | The webinar will begin momentarily**

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# APRIL 12-16



- Diverse, comprehensive agenda
- Serendipity networking
- Topics curated for YOU

Learn more at  
<https://bit.ly/UIDPVirtual2021>

## Keynotes



Sethuraman Panchanathan  
NSF Director



Abigail Stevenson  
Vice President, Mars  
Advanced Research  
Institute



Vivek Wadhwa  
Author, Academic,  
Entrepreneur



Holden Thorp  
Editor-in-Chief, *Science*

## ...and incredible U-I presenters, including



Nerissa Draeger  
Lam Research

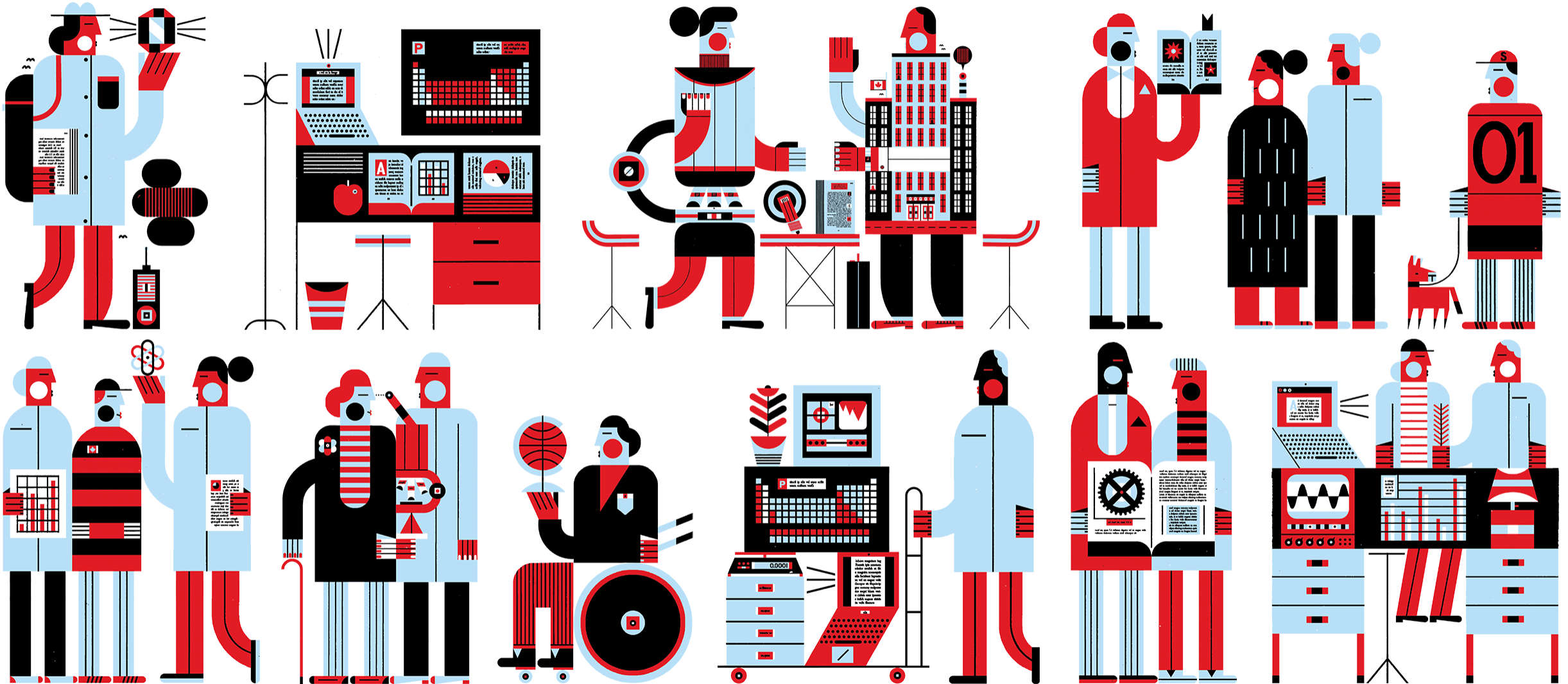


Sean Evans  
Johnson & Johnson



Wendy Yajnik  
Novartis







# Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada

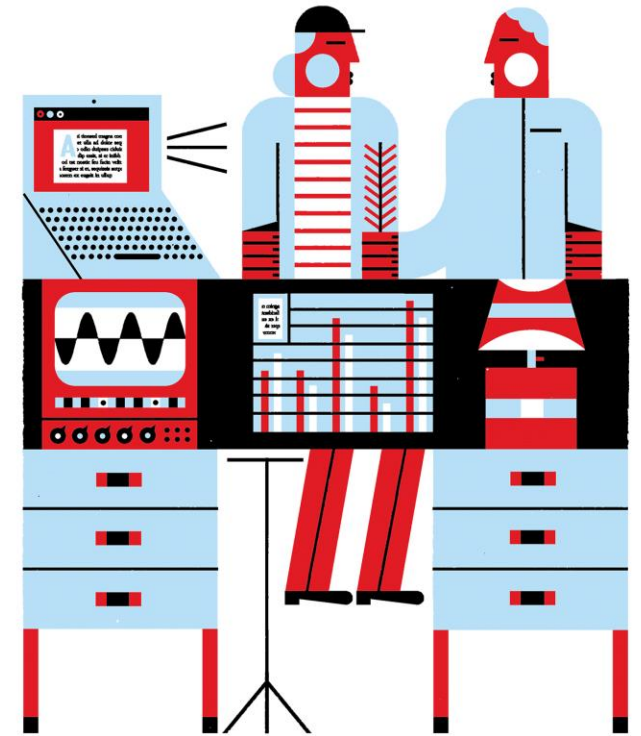
## *Insights & approaches to enhance research collaboration*

Prof. Alejandro Adem, President, NSERC

January 2021

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1. **NSERC's Role** in Canada's Funding Landscape
2. **Alliance Grants**, NSERC's New Partnerships Program
3. **NSERC's National and International Partnerships**, leveraging expertise



# NSERC's role in Canada's innovation ecosystem

- **NSERC funds post-secondary research and training in the natural sciences and engineering**
- **Supports 76 universities and 110 colleges & polytechnics**
- **12,400 professors**
- **3,800 industry partnerships**
- **37,700 students and fellows**



# NSERC's budget breakdown

**\$727M**

Discovery Research

**\$393M**

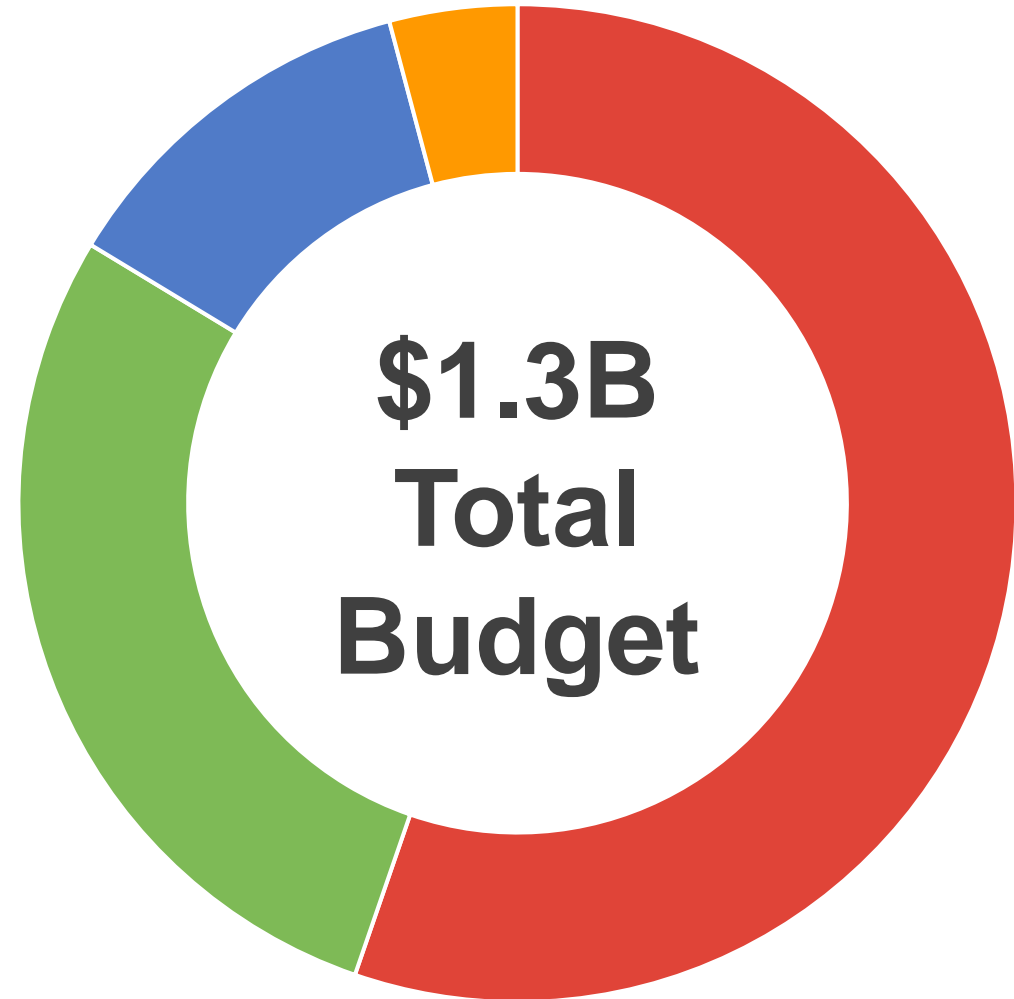
Research Partnerships

**\$155M**

Research Talent and Training

**\$55M**

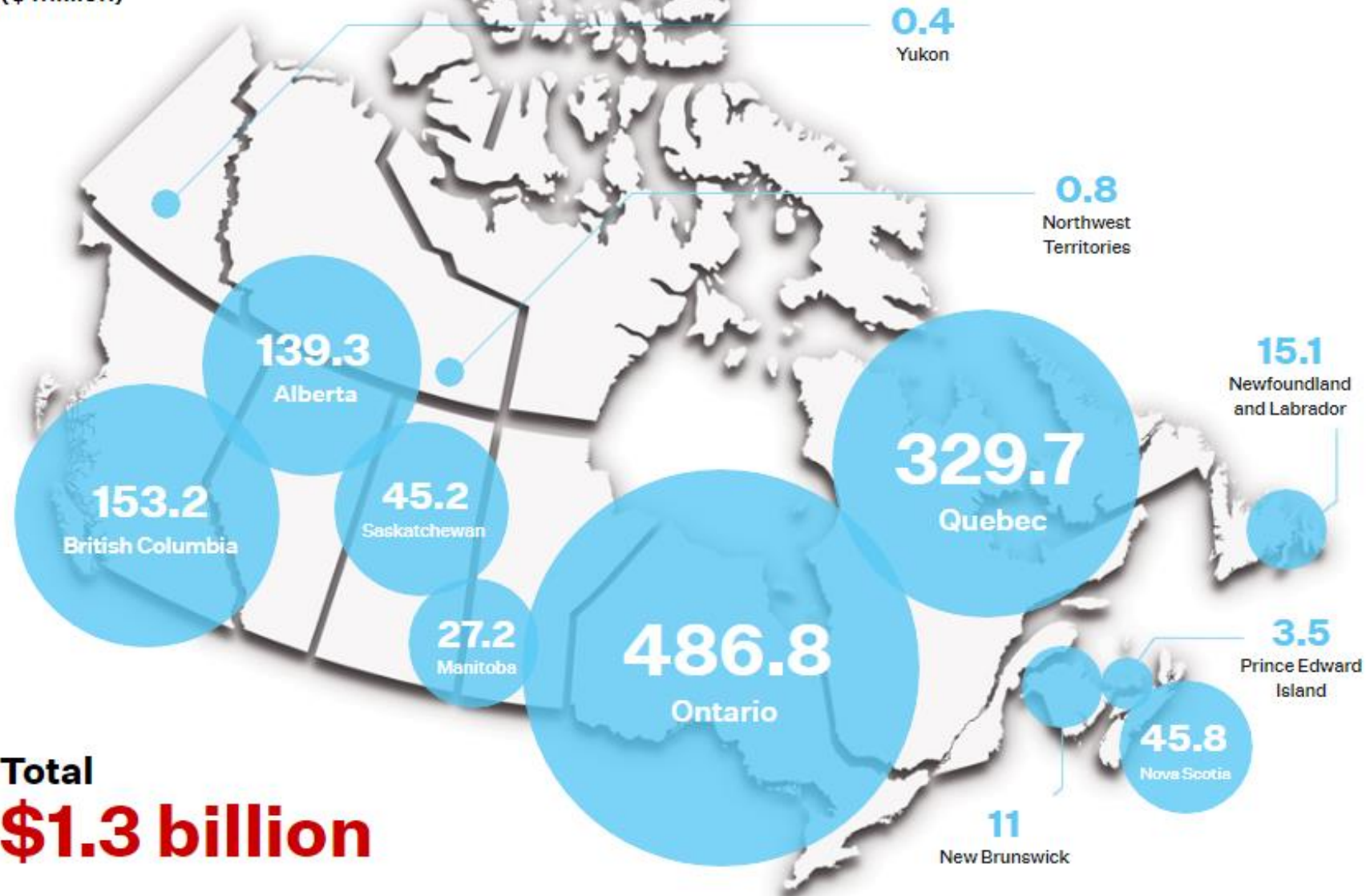
Administrative





# NSERC Investments across Canada in 2018-19

(\$ million)



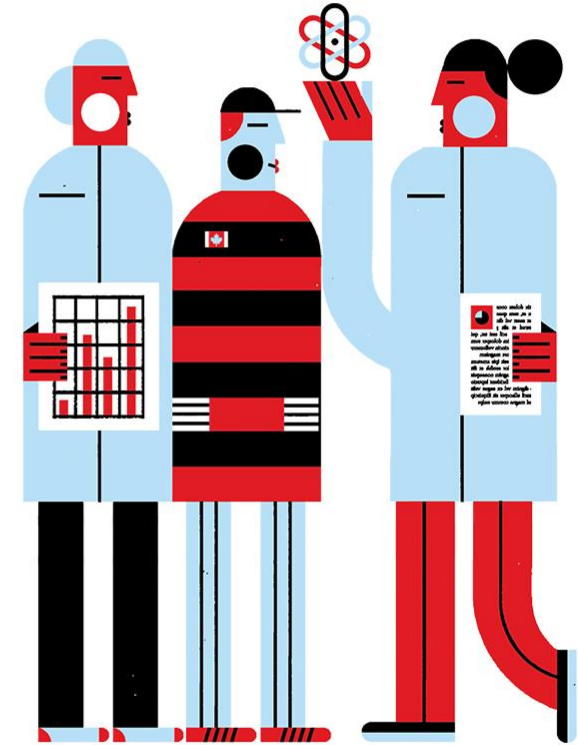
# Celebrating our Top Researcher



**Remarkable discoveries that put the next generation  
of medical treatments within our grasp.**

[PLAY VIDEO](#)

# Alliance partnerships program



## Alliance Grants

# Program objectives

**SUPPORT** research in the natural sciences and engineering (NSE) led by strong, complementary, collaborative teams.

**ENABLE** collaborations with a broader set of partner organizations  
(private, public, not-for-profit sectors)

**CREATE** economic, social and/or environmental benefits

**REMOVE** barriers and provide more flexibility in building partnerships that will effectively generate new knowledge and accelerate the application of research results for the benefit of Canadians.

**TRAIN** new researchers in areas that are important to Canada and to the partner

## Alliance Grants

### Key notes

- **FLEXIBLE** from \$20K to \$1M, per year, Duration: 1-5 years
- **NO DEADLINE** apply at any time
- **STREAMLINED** review process
- **INTERNATIONAL** collaborations can be incorporated at the proposal stage
- **INTERDISCIPLINARY** 30% of grants can be spent on disciplines outside the natural sciences and engineering



# 1 funding opportunity

## 2 options

### Both options have the same:

- Objectives
- Evaluation criteria
- Peer review process for overall merit assessment
- Academic community and types of partner organizations served
- Requirements for the recognition of partner organizations

## Alliance option 1

### Grant size

**\$20K to \$1M  
per year**

The limits of the funding range are not yearly averages.

### Cost-sharing

**50% to 66.7%  
from NSERC**

Determined by type of partnership and global size of the partner organization(s) recognized for cost-sharing.

## Alliance option 2

### Funding

**Up to 90 to 100 %  
from NSERC**

if the characteristics are met and depending  
on the type of partner organizations

### Cost-sharing

**at least 1 partner  
organization**

must have contributions recognized  
for cost-sharing, even if NSERC  
is providing 100% of the funding

## Alliance option 2

**societal impact  
making connections  
broad outcomes**

**The proposal must meet specific  
characteristics to qualify for option 2**

## Alliance Grants

# National University–Industry Partnerships

- **I-POCUS: An Intelligent Point-of-Care Ultrasound System for Neonatal Intensive Care Units in Canada's Hospitals. Ryerson University with Dapasoft Inc.**
- **Sustainable Indoor Intelligent Aquaponics Farming based on Industry 4.0. University of Alberta with NutraPonics Canada Corporation.**
- **Lighting that is Easier on the Eyes and the Environment Memorial University of Newfoundland and Lumentra Inc.**



Alliance Partnerships with Government Organizations

## Platforms for ‘Societal Co-leadership’ and ‘Public Impact’

**2018 - Whale Science For the Future.**

**NSERC and Fisheries and Oceans Canada**

***Oceans Protection Plan***

**2019 - Advancing Climate Change Science in Canada.**

**NSERC with Environment and Climate Change Canada and Health Canada**

***Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change***

**2020 - Plastics science for a cleaner future.**

**NSERC with Environment and Climate Change Canada**

***Canada’s Plastics Science Agenda (CaPSA)***

## Powering international partnerships

- The Alliance program enables university researchers to collaborate with international private-sector, public-sector or not-for-profit organizations.
- NSERC fosters an open and connected research environment to facilitate international partnerships.



## Powering international partnerships

- In 2020, NSERC and Innovate UK (UKRI) partnered to launch a call for proposals on quantum technologies
- December 2020, NSERC announced a partnership with the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research to fund collaborative research projects on hydrogen and fuel cell technologies



## Alliance grants: International

# Joint Canada-UK projects on Quantum Technologies

- 8 grants awarded to share **£2M** from the UK and **C\$4.4M** total investments from Canada to foster research collaborations between academia, industry and government partners
- Collaborative project to fund quantum technologies in the fields of secure communications, sensing and imaging, and computing and simulation

University of Waterloo & Bristol University

University of Waterloo & University College  
London

Université Sherbrooke & Oxford  
Instruments

University of Waterloo & Bristol University

University of Saskatchewan & Nottingham  
University

McGill University & University College  
London

Institut national de la recherche scientifique  
& Heriot-Watt University

Institut national de la recherche scientifique  
(INRS) & University of Sussex

# International Universities and Industry Partnerships

## 1. Reference-Frame Independent Quantum Communication for Satellite-Based Networks

**UK:** *Craft Prospect Ltd., University of Bristol, University of Strathclyde*

**CANADA:** *University of Calgary and Waterloo, COM DEV International Ltd, Canadian Space Agency, Ontario Research Fund Excellence*

## 2. Advanced Manufacturing Toolkit for Quantum Sensing and Quantum Computing

**UK:** *Oxford Instruments, Nanotechnology Tools Limited, University of Glasgow*

**CANADA:** *Université de Sherbrooke, Oxford Instruments, SBQuantum Inc., PROMPT, Nord Quantique,*

## 3. Making noisy quantum processors practical: from theory to applications

**UK:** *Phasecraft Limited, Univ. of London – Univ. College London*

**CANADA:** *University of Waterloo, Perimeter Inst for Theoretical Physics, Quantum Benchmark Inc.*



# NSERC Synergy Awards for Innovation

## Celebrating partnerships between universities, colleges and industry

- R&D in the natural sciences and engineering
- Recognition of tangible benefits
- Universities receive \$200,000 grant
- Industrial partners \$30,000 valid for **Alliance grant** cash contribution



### **Synergy Award for Innovation**

Category: Two or More Companies

University of Calgary and University of Alberta

Microseismic Industry Consortium

*Datasets and algorithm  
modelling for extraction  
industries and environmental  
protection*



### **Synergy Award for Innovation**

Category: Small and Medium-Sized Companies

Ryerson University

Warranty Life

*Social analytics and AI to optimize  
consumer warranties*



### **Synergy Award for Innovation**

Category: Two or More Companies

McMaster University

FCA Canada Inc.

*Innovation for electric and  
hybrid vehicles*

## Our research partnerships toolkit



**Find NSERC-funded experts  
& research partners**

- **cognit.ca**
- **NSERC Awards Database**



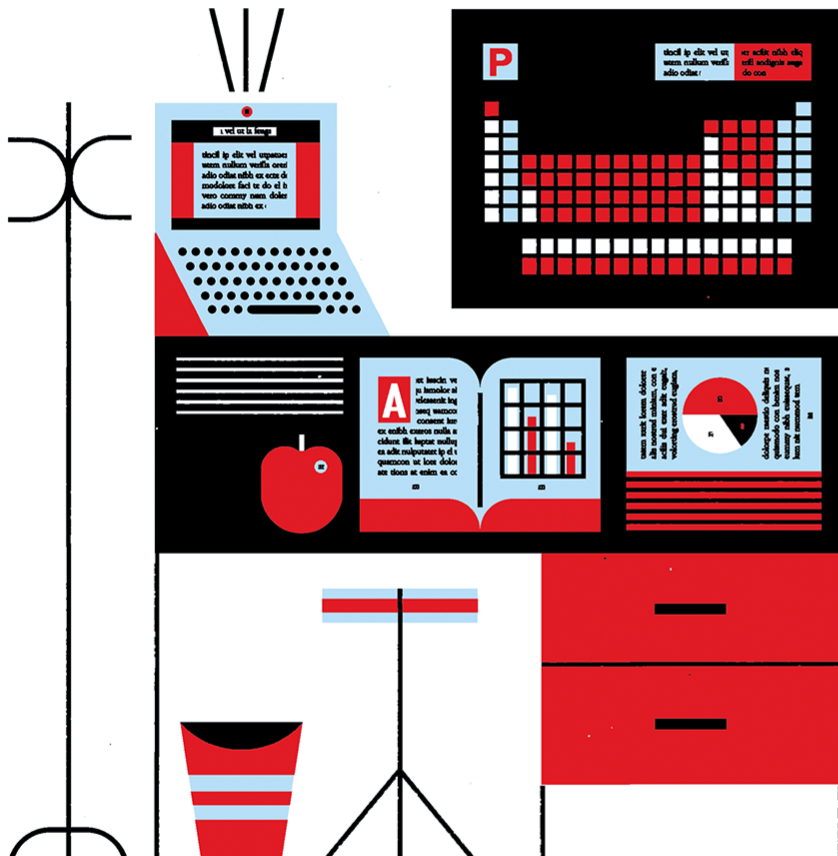
**NSERC's investments  
& partnerships**

- **NSERC funding Dashboard**



**Partnership  
opportunities**

- **Alliance**



# Questions?

[alliance@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:alliance@nserc-crsng.gc.ca)

[international@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:international@nserc-crsng.gc.ca)

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# UIDP Webinar Running to Stand Still: Legislative Realities for the New Administration and 117th Congress

February 10, 2021 12–1 p.m. EST



Leslee Gilbert  
Van Scoyoc Associates





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Strengthening  
University-Industry  
Partnerships

March 25, 2021 12-1 P.M. EST

# Alice Frost

## UK Research and Innovation

Alice Frost,  
Director of Knowledge Exchange Policy,  
Research England

