Office of Research Services

Canada Foundation for Innovation
2024 John R. Evans Leaders Fund (CFI JELF)
Ontario Tech Internal Competition – **February 26, 2024**

1) PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	
Applicant:	
	select if ECR
Co-applicant(s), if applicable (2 maximum):	
1.	**select if ECR**
2.	**select if ECR**

All applicants must provide a Tri-Council CV or CCV (refer to attachments)

Early Career Researchers* (ECR) – applicants who have obtained their first independent academic position within the last five years. The five-year window for being considered an ECR will be adjusted to take into account instances where a researcher has had an eligible delay in research (for example, maternity, parental, personal illness).

Those ECRs who have experienced eligible delays may provide a brief description (separate page) for review by ORS to confirm their ECR status. This information will not be shared with the committee.

2) ONTARIO POWER GENERATION (OPG) SUPPLEMENT (optional)

Applicants may apply for Ontario Power Generation (OPG) supplemental funds to support their total project costs. To be eligible considered for the supplement, please identify the thematic area that aligns with the proposed project:

support OPG's Climate Change Plan;

Digital and Data Innovation (artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, augmented and virtual reality);

Refurbishment Technologies, Aging Management, Decommissioning Technologies,

Reactor Safety;

Power Plant Simulator Training;

Next Generation Technologies including SMRs, and Renewable/Sustainable Energy Technologies.

To be considered for supplemental funds, applicants must also clearly demonstrate a clear benefit of the research to OPG and explain the alignment of the project to the thematic area selected.

3) BUDGET

Estimated Total Project Cost:	
Estimated Request from CFI: *(A minimum $75,000 request is encouraged. Request must be less than $400,000)*	Calculated at 40% of total project cost
Notes on budget: Applicants must provide a copy of all vendor quotes, with vendor in-kind discounts specified. Refer to the ***Vendor Quote Guidelines for CFI*** provided for more information. Applicants should be aware that once the relevant taxes, shipping and associated costs are applied to the total cost of the requested infrastructure in the application budget, the contribution by a vendor may actually work out to slightly less than the required 20%. **Additional matching funds by the applicants may be required to make up for the resulting short-fall.** *The Office of Research Services will work with approved applicants to finalize their budget for the CFI application. Revisions to vendor pricing may be required.*	

4) SPACE AND RENOVATIONS

All Ontario Tech infrastructure requests must be accommodated within **existing Faculty space** and receive **Dean's approval**. Renovation costs must be covered by the Faculty and/or factored into the total budget costs. ***Those selected to apply to the CFI will be required to obtain an estimate of the renovation cost needed to accommodate the infrastructure from OCIS and confirm the proposed space is suitable for the equipment.*** Applicants should be aware that renovation costs can also include such expenses as changes to a space in order to accommodate a piece of equipment that has special power requirements, ventilation needs or environmental cooling (for example).

Proposed Infrastructure Location: Specify the building and proposed room location for all infrastructure.	
Is any of the equipment over 1000 lbs with dimensions larger than 3ft (914mm) L and W?	**Yes:** **No:**
Does the equipment require electrical other than 120V or 208/230V single phase?	**Yes:** **No:**
Does the equipment require gas/air/water?	**Yes:** **No:**
Does the equipment introduce a hazard that is not already controlled within the lab (e.g. radiation, biohazards, acid/base containment)	**Yes:** **No:**

5) OVERLAP WITH OTHER GRANT APPLICATIONS

A. Does any of the requested infrastructure overlap with equipment requested in a NSERC RTI grant submitted in Fall 2023?
   Yes: **No:**

B. Does any of the requested infrastructure overlap with equipment requested in a 2025 CFI Innovation Fund proposal under development or submitted?
   Yes: **No:**

6) SUSTAINABILITY AND FACULTY COMMITMENT

This section must be completed in collaboration with your **Dean**.

What commitment (cash and/or in-kind) will the Faculty contribute towards the project? (e.g. funding, technicians, etc).

7) SIGNATURES

By signing below, you agree to submit the proposal for consideration into Ontario Tech's internal competition for the 2024 CFI JELF. You acknowledge that CFI applications (and the accompanying ORF applications) are institutional, not individual applications. As such, if chosen to move forward to the national competition you agree to work with and adhere to the deadlines set out by the Vice-President Research and Innovation and the Office of Research Services in the preparation of the CFI and Provincial proposals.

If selected to apply to the national competition, you agree that the project scope will not change from what was approved at the internal competition. Selected proposals must submit an application to the June 2024 national competition.

Applicant Name:	**Signature:**
Co-Applicant Name:	**Signature:**
Co-Applicant Name:	**Signature:**

By signing below, the Dean confirms any Faculty contributions for the project outlined above. The Dean also confirms that space has been identified within the Faculty allocation to house the infrastructure requested.

Dean's Name:	**Signature:**
Dean's Name (of co-applicant):	**Signature:**
Dean's Name (of co-applicant):	**Signature:**

8) REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Applicant and Co-Applicant CVs (any Tri-Council CV or CCV format accepted)

Vendor Quotations

Proposal (max 6 pages – refer to instructions on page 4)

Addressing Reviewer Comments (one page - for resubmissions only)

(optional) ECR eligible delays description (one page max)

9) RESEARCH PROPOSAL (ATTACHMENT – 6 PAGES MAXIMUM)

Please note that Proposals will be evaluated by a **multi-disciplinary committee**. Applicants are therefore encouraged to write their Proposals for a broad audience.

Presentation standards: single spaced, 12pt font, margins set to a minimum of ¾" (1.87 cm).

Using the headings provided outline the following:
1. **Research and/or Technology Development**
    a. Describe the innovative research program or technology development with a high-level outline of objectives and research activities enabled by the requested infrastructure.
    b. Demonstrate the innovativeness and feasibility of the proposed activities by describing how it is different from comparable programs being conducted nationally and/or internationally.
2. **Team**
    a. Describe the researchers' track record, including scientific and technical expertise relevant to conduct the proposed activities. If more than one applicant is listed, articulate the role of and need for each in the proposed research activities.
    b. Describe any collaborators or partners essential to the success of the proposed activities.
3. **Infrastructure**
    a. List all infrastructure items requested and explain why the infrastructure is necessary and appropriate to conduct the proposed research activities.
    b. Articulate what this infrastructure will enable that cannot be done otherwise and how this infrastructure represents a unique and innovative request.
4. **Sustainability**
    a. Describe the annual operation and maintenance needs of the equipment. Will technical support be required? How will the operation and maintenance costs of the equipment be funded? Will user fees be charged?
5. **Benefits**
    a. Describe the expected benefits to Ontario and Canada (e.g. societal, health, economic and/or environmental).
    b. Describe how the infrastructure will enhance the current training environment for HQP and better prepare HQP for research and other careers.
    c. Describe the benefit of the infrastructure to Ontario Tech. How does it increase research capacity in an area of strategic importance?
    d. (for OPG supplemental funds only) Explain how the project aligns with specific OPG thematic areas, as identified in the application form.

10)   ADDRESSING REVIEWER COMMENTS (ATTACHMENT - 1 PAGE MAXIMUM)

For any resubmission of a proposal that was unsuccessful at a previous CFI JELF national competition, applicants must also submit a maximum one page attachment addressing reviewer comments. Presentation standards: single spaced, 12pt font, margins set to a minimum of ¾" (1.87 cm).

Please note that any additional information provided beyond that outlined in this section, will not be considered by the internal Committee during the assessment process.