WIN-NRC Nanotechnology Joint Seed Funding Program

Program Description
The Waterloo Institute for Nanotechnology (WIN)-National Research Council’s Nanotechnology Research Centre (NRC-NANO) Joint Seed Funding Program is a competitive program designed to foster interdisciplinary research between partners for “high risk-high reward” blue-sky discoveries typically not supported by traditional granting agencies. The targeted areas of research for this program are nanomaterials and nano-enabled sensors. The intent of the program is to kickstart research that could provide some initial data points and insights as a first step in targeting various programs sponsored by the NRC or others as appropriate. NRC collaborative R&D programs and initiatives include: (1) Challenge programs, which focus on disruptive technologies to address economic, social, and environmental challenges facing Canada, (2) Supercluster support programs, which are focus on supporting the 5 Innovation Superclusters and (3) Ideation fund initiatives, which support exploratory research by NRC researchers collaborating with external partners.

Funding Amount
The total funding available is $100,000 CAD in cash, primarily to be used for HQP support provided by WIN, and $100,000 CAD of in-kind contribution (facilities use and access to technical expertise) by NRC. The project duration for the requested funding is for one year.

Eligibility
The team must consist of at least one full-time research staff member at NRC and one full-time Core member of the University of Waterloo’s WIN. Associate members of WIN may apply as a co-applicant.

Application Guidelines

Length
The exact distribution of pages among the sections is at the applicant’s discretion. The proposal should be a maximum 5 pages in total including images and graphics.

Proposal
Addressing the points below, describe the proposed research to be supported.

- Introduction & Background: a short description of the problem this research addresses
- Project Team: affiliation and expertise of each team member
- Intellectual Property (IP): description of background IP and anticipated IP to arise from research
- Objectives: define short- and long-term objectives of research
- Methodology: describe the methods and proposed approach with sufficient details to allow reviewers to assess the feasibility of the research activities
- Project Plan: include summary of tasks and parties responsible for each task
- Project Milestones and Deliverables: include timelines and/or Gantt chart
- Alignment with United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goal(s) (UNSDG): articulate how your project aligns with one or more of the UNSDGs
- Budget Table and Justification: provide a detailed explanation and justification for each budget item, with sufficient information to allow reviewers to assess appropriateness of expenditure requests
- References: provide a list of literature references to support your proposal (do not refer to websites for additional information or hyperlinks in your proposal)

Format
Applicants should only use a standard, single-column on an 8.5” x 11” page layout. The proposal must be written using a 12-point, black-coloured font, single line spacing (six lines per inch) and with no condensed type or spacing, with a margin of no less than 2.5 centimetres (1 inch) around the page.
**Plain Language Summary**
The submission of the proposal should also include the *Plain Language Summary* (1500 characters).

**Cover Page**
WIN researchers are required to complete the WIN-NRC NANO Seed Funding Program coversheet, along with the standard cover sheets as required for all application submissions at the respective institution.


For NRC-NANO applicants: prior to completing proposal, submit [Opportunity Outline](mailto:OpportunityOutline) to Andrew Myles for approval. NANO researchers can contact Carol Hebert for assistance with form.

For interested NRC parties from outside of the Nanotechnology Research Centre, please contact Andrew Myles, NRC-NANO R&D Director for details.

**Timelines**
Applications are to be submitted via e-mail to Lisa Pokrajac at lisa.pokrajac@uwaterloo.ca 11:59pm Eastern Time on 30 October 2021.

**Review Process**
Applications will be reviewed by a Joint Committee of WIN and NRC representatives. Decisions will be communicated to Principal Investigators by 3 December 2021.

**Reporting Requirements**
A survey will be sent out 12 months following the end of the project to document research results including Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).