



Genomics positively impacts life, every day.

# Genomics Innovation Fund Information Session

Genome BC - Virtual  
13 February 2024



# AGENDA



WELCOME AND  
INTRODUCTION  
(2 MIN)



INTRODUCTION TO  
GENOME BC  
(5 MIN)



OVERVIEW OF THE  
GENOMICS INNOVATION  
FUND (GIF)  
(15 MIN)



QUESTIONS  
(35 MIN)

# GENOME BC: WHO WE ARE

## VISION:

Genomics positively impacts life, every day.

## MISSION:

Applying the power of genomics to pressing societal and economic challenges.



ACADEMIA



GOVERNMENT



INDUSTRY

# GENOME BC: ACROSS SECTORS



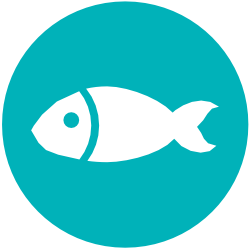
Data and  
Technology



Health



Forestry



Fisheries and  
Aquaculture



Environment



Mining



Energy



Agrifood



Education



Genomics  
and Society

# GENOME BC: RECORD OF SUCCESS



**\$1.3 B**

Portfolio



**525**

Projects,  
tech platforms and  
innovation initiatives



**1,202**

International Partners



**\$1.0 B**

Co-investments



**3,957**

Scientific  
Publications



**810**

Patent  
Applications\*



**173**

Companies  
Advanced



**Genome**  
BritishColumbia

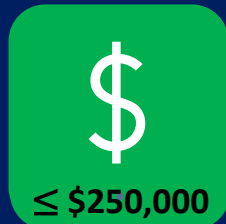
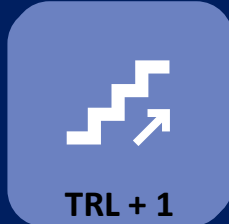
Figures are cumulative to March 31, 2023  
\*All countries, including provisional

# THE GENOMICS ENTERPRISE IN CANADA



# Genomics Innovation Fund (GIF)

**Objective:** To support the development of transformative innovation genomics projects with commercial potential





# OBJECTIVE

- **To support the development of transformative innovation\* genomics projects with commercial potential.**

Specifically, Genome BC aims to support:

- technology development projects that could be game-changing and advance the field of genomics with commercial potential, or
- new applications that could likely lead to new commercial products.

*\*Innovation: the practical translation of ideas and research outcomes into new and improved products, services, processes, systems or social interactions.*



# PARAMETERS

- Maximum funding available per project is **\$250,000**
- Maximum project duration is **up to 12 months\***
- **No co-funding** is required
- **One intake per year**
- Approximate funding envelope per intake will be **\$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000**

\* A project duration of up to 18 months will be considered by Genome BC if a strong rationale is provided. Note that projects will not be permitted to extend beyond 18 months.

# ELIGIBILITY - APPLICANT

The **Project Leader** must be appointed as faculty or employed at one of the following types of BC institutions or entities:

- a. Post-secondary institutions or their affiliated hospitals or research institutes
- b. Laboratories or units of government departments, ministries or agencies
- c. Non-governmental, not-for-profit organizations (including community or charitable organizations) with an explicit research or knowledge translation mandate
- d. Industry and commercial enterprises based in BC

Note that Genome BC will only flow funds to a **BC-based entity** and the funds must be **spent in BC**.

# ELIGIBILITY - PROJECT

## Projects must:

- Involve innovation in the area of **omics** or use omics as a means to innovate,
- Have **freedom to operate (FTO)** and be able to confirm FTO,
- Advance the innovation by **at least one step along the TRL scale**,
- A **plan for the next steps** beyond the proposed project,
- **Potential for impact** (e.g., societal, environmental, economic)

# GENOME BC – DEFINITION OF GENOMICS/OMICS

- **The comprehensive study, using high-throughput, cutting edge technologies, of the genetic information of a cell or an organism.**
  - Includes the function of specific genes, gene clusters, their interactions with each other or the surrounding environment as well as regulation.
  - Includes (but is not limited to) related disciplines such as:
    - bioinformatics (as applied to omics)
    - epigenomics
    - lipidomics
    - metabolomics
    - metagenomics
    - proteomics
    - transcriptomics

# GENOME BC - TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVELS (TRL)

- Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) are a type of estimation which can be used to assess the maturity level of a particular technology.



- See [Appendix 1 of the GIF Guidelines](#) for details about each step, including comparable descriptions for genomics-related technologies.
- GIF projects must advance the innovation by **at least 1 step** along the TRL scale.

# GIF APPLICATION PROCESS

## 1. Expression of Interest (EOI)

- Form available at: <https://www.genomebc.ca/funding-opportunity/genomics-innovation-fund>
  - Note that form has been revised to remove questions about the research plans.
- Provides information on the project, focusing on the innovation and impact
- Project Leader may not submit more than one EOI to a GIF intake.
- Each EOI should only describe one project.
- EOI form includes a section to list potential reviewers:
  - Should not be in conflict of interest with applicants
  - Final selection of reviewers is up to Genome BC

# EOI REVIEW PROCESS

- EOIs will be reviewed by Genome BC with the assistance of external experts.
- Will consider both **eligibility** and relevant **evaluation criteria**.
- **Around 20 EOIs** will be invited to proceed to the next stage (application).
- Genome BC's goal is to support a **range of projects** from different entities and sectors that align with Genome BC's strategic goals and have the potential to provide societal, environmental or economic benefits to BC. This will be taken into consideration during the EOI review process to determine which projects are selected for the application stage.



# GIF APPLICATION PROCESS (CONT.)

## 2. Application

- Components:
  - Application form (PDF including any requested attachments)
  - Project budget
  - Signature pages
- Provides more information on the project, including:
  - Project team
  - Innovation
  - Impact
  - Research plans
  - Gantt chart
  - IP protection
  - Management and decision-making plans
  - Budget

# APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

- Applications will be reviewed by Genome BC with the assistance of external experts, including experts with specific expertise relevant to your project.
  - Important to provide clear keywords and suitable reviewer suggestions in the EOI
- Will consider both **eligibility** and **all** evaluation criteria.
  - Innovation, Impact, Research, Management and Financial
  - See [Appendix 2 of the GIF Guidelines](#)
- *Genome BC reserves the right to decide which applications will be awarded funding and decisions will be final.*
- *Genome BC reserves the right to modify the review process to accommodate the number of EOIs and/or applications and ensure that sufficient funds are available for subsequent intake(s).*

# PROJECT COSTS

## ■ Recent change in eligible/ineligible costs:

- Salaries for project team members are eligible. Note that these must represent at least 0.15 FTE per annum.
- Salaries for Project Leader or Co-leaders are eligible, unless the individual holds a salaried position that covers their activities within the project. Note that salaries for these roles will require strong justification for their inclusion in the project budget.

## ■ Ineligible costs:

- Indirect costs to the project (overhead).
- Regular facility rental costs.
- The opportunity cost of using existing infrastructure.
- Costs related to the preparation and submission of an application for funding from a funding agency.

- See [Appendix 3 of the GIF Guidelines](#) for details about eligible costs.



# TIMELINES - 2024

- For future intake timelines see: <https://www.genomebc.ca/funding-opportunity/genomics-innovation-fund>

High-level Outline of Process	Date
Expression of Interests (EOIs) deadline	May 6, 2024
Applicants notified of the decision for their EOI Selected applicants will be invited to submit an application	June 25, 2024
Applications deadline	August 27, 2024
Notification of results	December 9, 2024



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[www.genomebc.ca](http://www.genomebc.ca)