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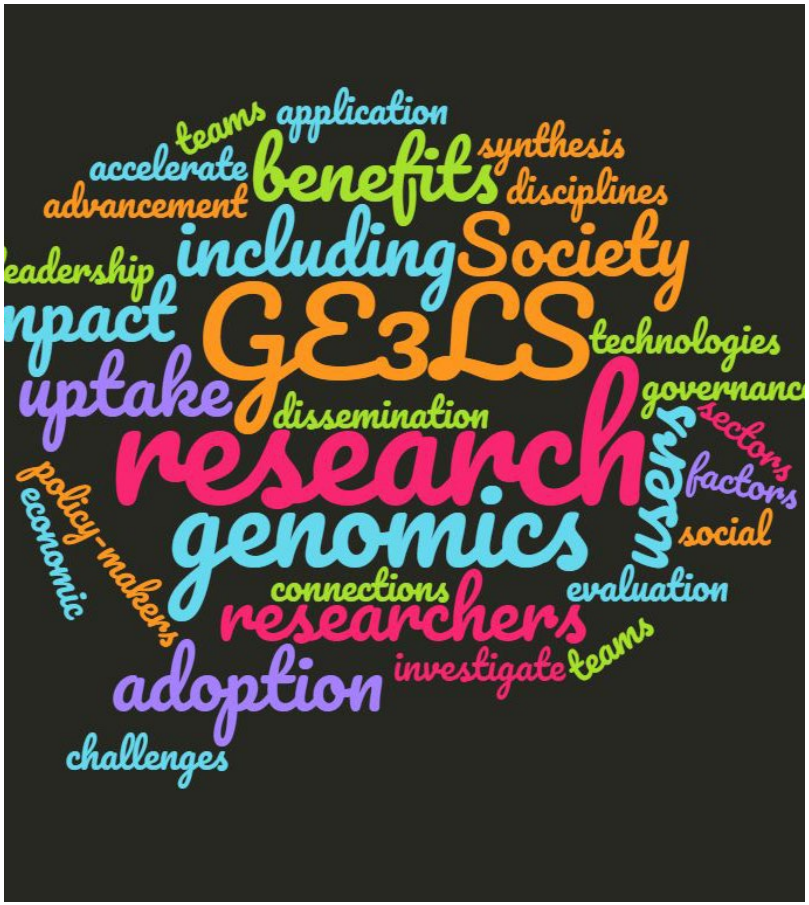
Genomics in Society Interdisciplinary Research Teams

GLOBAL CHALLENGES ✦ GENOMIC SOLUTIONS DÉFIS MONDIAUX ✦ SOLUTIONS GÉNOMIQUES

Objective of the Program

- The *Genomics in Society Interdisciplinary Research Teams* program aims to bring researchers from different regions, sectors and disciplines together to investigate factors affecting the advancement, adoption, evaluation and governance of genomics research and **address issues at the intersection of genomics and society** that will ultimately contribute to Canada's leadership and social and/or economic benefits in these sectors.
- This program helps address one of the action items in the response to the Review of Integrated GE^{3}LS by supporting GE^{3}LS research through funding mechanisms in addition to integrated GE^{3}LS research.



Team Activities

To achieve this objective, team activities could include, but are not limited to, the following:

- undertaking collaborative, interdisciplinary, applied research efforts to address key challenges and opportunities in one or more sectors
- identifying and addressing pressing knowledge gaps in one or more sectors
- promoting existing tools, developing common methodology, applying standardized approaches and/or establishing best practices, where appropriate
- attaining cross-cutting insights and engagement with stakeholders that facilitate the implementation of innovations
- pooling or sharing resources that can be of value to other members of the team
- provide training and skill development including cross-disciplinary learning and understanding, for future generations of GE^{3}LS researchers

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Funding Available and Term

- Approximately $3 million is available from Genome Canada.
- Approximately one-third of the available Genome Canada funding will be invested in each of the three streams listed below with the goal of funding at least one team in each of the three streams.
  1) proposals mainly impacting the **human health sector**
  2) proposals mainly impacting the **agriculture/agri-food** and/or **aquaculture/fisheries** sectors
  3) proposals mainly impacting the **natural resource (forestry, energy, mining**) and/or **environment sectors**

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Funding Available and Term-cont.

- At least 50% of the requested funds for eligible costs for each team must be obtained through co-funding.
- The maximum contribution from Genome Canada to an approved team will be $1 million. There is no limit on the amount of co-funding and therefore no maximum team size.
- Teams requiring less than a total of $500,000 from Genome Canada will not be considered.
- Successful teams will be awarded funding for a term of up to four years.

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Eligibility Criteria

- To be eligible for this competition proposals must:
  - The main focus of the team must be to take an interdisciplinary approach to address topics related to the implications of genomics in society (GE^{3}LS research) that will have an impact nationally.
  - Teams must include at least **three researchers** from different **disciplines** at the Leader or Co-Investigator level.
  - Teams must demonstrate engagement and integration of appropriate genomic scientists and users.
  - Teams that bring together researchers and users from different regions of the country could have a bigger impact nationally; while this approach is encouraged it is not a requirement.
  - Incorporation of new researchers into the team is encouraged. New researchers include those that are new to genomics as well as early stage investigators.

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Eligible Research Areas

Include, but are not limited to, topics such as:

- exploration of the societal implications of novel technologies such as **CRISPR/Gene-editing** and **Synthetic Biology** (e.g., public perception and understanding, public trust, regulatory guidelines, policies and government oversight of these technologies)
- uptake of genomics technologies for mitigation of, and adaptation to, **climate change** (e.g., risk/benefit analysis of effects of climate change; identification of management strategies for wildlife conservation; development of management frameworks that address related safety, environmental, and regulatory issues)

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Eligible Research Areas

- incorporation of **traditional knowledge** with local **Indigenous stakeholders** to gain social license for research activities; implementation of research in a way that recognizes rights, respect, cooperation, and partnership with local Indigenous communities
- challenges and opportunities facing the application of 'omics technologies to help ensure food security, food safety and sustainable production practices as the world's population grows (e.g., community well-being, resource management, sustainable development, climate change adaptation; understanding effects of regulation on new breeding techniques; access and benefit sharing, crop yield models, international treaty frameworks)

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Eligible Research Areas

- Examining the barriers and opportunities related to translation of genomics into the clinic (e.g., understanding the health economic evidence for clinical implementation of whole-exome sequencing (WES) and whole-genome sequencing (WGS) for cancers and rare diseases).

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User Engagement and Benefits for Canada

User Engagement

- All projects must clearly demonstrate engagement with users in the development and execution of the research plan in order to help ensure receptor uptake and practical applicability of the research.

Benefits for Canada

- All applications must describe, with supporting evidence, the concrete **deliverable(s) that will be realized by the end of the funding term** that have the potential for subsequent translation into significant social and/or economic benefits for Canada.
- Applications must include a strong plan for knowledge translation and development of benefits (i.e., how the deliverables from the research will be transferred, disseminated, used, and/or applied to realize the social and/or economic benefits).

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Timeline

DATE	ACTIVITY
MAY 30, 2019	Deadline for submitting registrations to Genome Canada
SEPTEMBER 11, 2019	Deadline for full applications to Genome Canada
MID-NOVEMBER, 2019	Review committee meets
DECEMBER 2019	Funding Decision and Notification

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Genome Centre Contacts

Kristin Tweel	Genome Atlantic	ktweel@genomeatlantic.ca
Diana Iglesias	Génome Québec	diglesias@genomequebec.com
Dennis McCormac	Ontario Genomics	dmccormac@OntarioGenomics.ca
Simon Potter	Genome Prairie	spotter@genomeprairie.ca
Niall Kerrigan	Genome Alberta	nkerrigan@genomealberta.ca
Catalina Lopez-Correa	Genome British Columbia	clopez@genomebc.ca

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Questions?