Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Performance Report

For the period ending
March 31, 2001

Canadä

Improved Reporting to Parliament
Pilot Document

Each year, the government prepares Estimates in support of its request to Parliament for authority to spend public monies. This request is formalized through the tabling of appropriation bills in Parliament.

The Estimates of the Government of Canada are structured in several parts. Beginning with an overview of total government spending in Part I, the documents become increasingly more specific. Part II outlines spending according to departments, agencies and programs and contains the proposed wording of the conditions governing spending which Parliament will be asked to approve.

The *Report on Plans and Priorities* provides additional detail on each department and its programs primarily in terms of more strategically oriented planning and results information with a focus on outcomes.

The *Departmental Performance Report* provides a focus on results-based accountability by reporting on accomplishments achieved against the performance expectations and results commitments as set out in the spring *Report on Plans and Priorities*.

The Estimates, along with the Minister of Finance's Budget, reflect the government's annual budget planning and resource allocation priorities. In combination with the subsequent reporting of financial results in the Public Accounts and of accomplishments achieved in Departmental Performance Reports, this material helps Parliament hold the government to account for the allocation and management of funds.

Foreword

In the spring of 2000 the President of the Treasury Board tabled in Parliament the document "Results for Canadians: A Management Framework for the Government of Canada". This document sets a clear agenda for improving and modernising management practices in federal departments and agencies.

Four key management commitments form the basis for this vision of how the Government will deliver their services and benefits to Canadians in the new millennium. In this vision, departments and agencies recognise that they exist to serve Canadians and that a "citizen focus" shapes all activities, programs and services. This vision commits the government of Canada to manage its business by the highest public service values. Responsible spending means spending wisely on the things that matter to Canadians. And finally, this vision sets a clear focus on results – the impact and effects of programs.

Departmental performance reports play a key role in the cycle of planning, monitoring, evaluating, and reporting of results through ministers to Parliament and citizens. Earlier this year, departments and agencies were encouraged to prepare their reports following certain principles. Based on these principles, an effective report provides a coherent and balanced picture of performance that is brief and to the point. It focuses on results – benefits to Canadians – not on activities. It sets the department's performance in context and associates performance with earlier commitments, explaining any changes. Supporting the need for responsible spending, it clearly links resources to results. Finally the report is credible because it substantiates the performance information with appropriate methodologies and relevant data.

In performance reports, departments strive to respond to the ongoing and evolving information needs of parliamentarians and Canadians. The input of parliamentarians and other readers can do much to improve these reports over time. The reader is encouraged to assess the performance of the organization according to the principles outlined above, and provide comments to the department or agency that will help it in the next cycle of planning and reporting.

Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council
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Brian Tobin
Minister of Industry

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Executive Summary

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) is Canada's leading agency for the support of research in the social sciences and the humanities. Through its research grants and graduate fellowships, SSHRC promotes the development of new knowledge and expertise in over 30 disciplines ranging from literature, fine arts, and applied ethics to management, education, economics, regional and environmental studies and social work.

The main challenges facing SSHRC in the coming years are to maximize, within its resources envelope, the rich and diverse contribution of its community to Canada's research and development and innovation goals, and to meet the increased demand for knowledge and graduates in the social sciences and humanities.

This Report shows that SSHRC maintains a strong fundamental research base in the social sciences and humanities, while at the same time developing and managing innovative strategic programs that forge links among researchers and users of research results in order to better address complex issues faced by society. Through its wide range of programs, SSHRC constantly seeks better means to raise the awareness of decision-makers and the Canadian public about the role of social sciences and humanities research. For example, SSHRC's Community-University Research Alliances (CURA) program funds partnerships and collaboration among researchers, decision-makers, practitioners, community groups and other users, thereby facilitating the application of research results to specific social concerns.

In 2000-2001, SSHRC also took up new challenges, in particular designing and managing two major investments made by the federal government to develop Canadian research capacity and knowledge: the Canada Research Chairs program and the Initiative on the New Economy. Also this past fiscal year, the Working Group on the Future of the Humanities, appointed by SSHRC in 1999, published its final Report, based on discussions and recommendations generated at a major national conference on this topic. SSHRC, universities and scholarly associations are using the Report as a background document to their ongoing discussions on how best to reposition and reinvigorate humanities teaching and research both in the academy and in Canadian society as a whole.

Over the past fiscal year, SSHRC has made substantial advances in meeting enhanced federal accountability requirements. These include the completion of the Results-Based Management and Accountability Framework (RMAF), the development of a Web-based report form to collect information on the results of the research activities it funds, and the creation of a Standing Committee on Performance and Evaluation. As a dynamic learning organization, SSHRC

routinely reviews and makes necessary ongoing adjustments to its management systems, policies, procedures and programs.

SSHRC is also collaborating with other federal granting agencies in a number of initiatives that will harmonize its policies and procedures, strengthen its ongoing partnerships with various Canadian academic institutions, provide common administrative services, address issues of ethics in research and develop joint initiatives that address vital cross-disciplinary issues.

Section I: Messages

1. Minister's Portfolio Message

The Government of Canada is committed to making Canada a world leader in the global knowledge-based economy of the 21st century. To meet this goal, the government has set out a very bold vision: to have Canada recognized as one of the most innovative countries in the world.

Why this emphasis on innovation? Innovation is one of the most powerful sources of competitive advantage in modern economies. It fuels productivity and economic growth and that translates into greater prosperity and a better quality of life for all Canadians. Our ability to acquire, adapt, and advance knowledge will determine how well Canadian businesses and Canada as a nation innovate, and in turn, how well Canada competes in the global arena.

> *The Industry Portfolio is …*
>
> Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
> Business Development Bank of Canada*
> Canada Economic Development for Quebec
>   Regions
> Canadian Space Agency
> Canadian Tourism Commission*
> Competition Tribunal
> Copyright Board Canada
> Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation*
> Industry Canada
> National Research Council Canada
> Natural Sciences and Engineering Research
>   Council of Canada
> Social Sciences and Humanities Research
>   Council of Canada
> Standards Council of Canada*
> Statistics Canada
> Western Economic Diversification Canada
>
> ** Not required to submit Performance Reports*

Promoting innovation, research and development is a cornerstone of our government's agenda, and we have made progress. Canadian businesses have boosted their research and development (R&D) spending at the second fastest rate among G-7 countries. We have the fastest rate of growth in R&D jobs. And the government is committed to doubling its R&D investments and catapulting Canada into the ranks of the top five countries in the world for research and development performance by 2010.

When it comes to embracing the Internet revolution, or what has come to be known as connectivity, Canada's record is the envy of the world. Our country is one of the most connected countries in the world. We connected all of our schools and libraries to the Internet over two years ago. We have the highest percentage of our population on-line of any country in the world. Furthermore, the National Broadband Task Force has advised the government on how Canadians together can achieve the critical goal of making broadband access widely available to citizens, businesses, public institutions and to all communities in Canada by 2004.

As Minister of Industry, I am responsible for the Industry Portfolio, which consists of fifteen departments and agencies that play a key role in delivering on the

government's agenda. With over 40 percent of federal government spending on science and technology, and a wide range of complementary programs to help businesses both large and small thrive and prosper, the Industry Portfolio has a national reach, regional depth and community presence across the country.

I am pleased to present this Performance Report for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, which shows its contribution, during 2000-2001, to the government's agenda.

SSHRC's key role in this agenda was reaffirmed in 2000-2001 through a $100 million allocation to launch an Initiative on the New Economy that will contribute to keeping Canada at the forefront of the knowledge economy. This investment will complement the portfolio of SSHRC program in support of research and expertise to address many of the social, cultural and economic challenges facing Canadians including a rapidly ageing population, the effects of globalization on employment and cultural identities, world security and the impact of environmental change. To assist regional economic development, SSHRC has funded an Innovation Systems Research Network addressing the success factors associated with dynamic regional clusters, healthy communities, immigration and integration, literacy, risk management, and natural resources exploitation. In addition, SSHRC has set-up the Canada Research Chairs program in 2000-2001 in support of the government innovation goals and in continuing to assist the brightest Canadian minds in undertaking and pursuing research careers.

Our strategy has been to strengthen Canada's capacity for innovation by investing in research and knowledge, and in particular, by helping Canadians gain the skills required in the modern knowledge-based economy. We are assisting all Canadians with life-long access to the tools and skills they need for success. We are laying the foundation of a state-of-the-art research environment in which our best and brightest can make their ground-breaking discoveries right here at home. And we are working with our researchers and entrepreneurs to make sure that Canada is the place where new products and processes get to market first and fastest.

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The Honourable Brian Tobin

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2. Message from the Secretary of State
   (Science, Research and Development)

We have confidence in Canada's potential to foster a culture of discovery and innovation. The federal government is taking measures to reinforce Canada's competitiveness, improve the well-being of Canadians and build on Canada's image as a truly innovative society that values the contribution of its talented and skilled people.

New discoveries, knowledge infrastructure, business environment, human capital and marketing of knowledge are all things that we as a country need to strengthen to ensure Canadian leadership in the area of innovation. The National Research Council Canada, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada play essential parts in helping Canadians innovate and understand their world through science, research and development. We call upon experts from the social sciences, natural and physical sciences, humanities, medicine and engineering to inform us of what their disciplines can, and cannot, tell us about the increasingly complex issues that we face every day. This partnership allows us to better comprehend the full scope of the issues we face as a society, and helps us to frame the questions that remain to be answered.

The federal government has important roles as both a performer and a facilitator of science and technology. It fulfils these roles by performing research, using intra-mural capabilities and facilities, by funding extra-mural research, and by fostering partnerships between government, industry and universities. With the recognition that the sciences and technology are moving to the centre of decision-making in all walks of life, this is an opportune moment to pause and reflect on how we as a society keep abreast of the impacts and implications of science and technology.

The Honourable Gilbert Normand

Section II: Agency Performance

1. Societal Context

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) is Canada's leading agency for the support of research in the social sciences and humanities. Through its research grants and graduate fellowships, SSHRC promotes the development of new knowledge and expertise in over 30 disciplines ranging from literature, fine arts, and applied ethics to management, education, economics, regional and environmental studies and social work.

Research in these fields leads to a better understanding of, and ability to deal with, social, cultural, intellectual, economic and environmental issues. It promotes greater appreciation of the diverse cultures across Canada and abroad. It provides insights into how people learn and adapt to change and how organizations develop, manage, market, and create conditions in which people can realize their full potential and learn throughout their careers. It also provides analyses, tools and processes for better public policy and decision-making in such areas such as the ageing population, adapting to the technological revolution in all spheres of human activity, globalization and its impact on employment and cultural identities, the place of youth in society, the moral and ethical implications of genome research, and Canada's changing role in the world.

Challenges

The main challenges facing SSHRC in the coming years are to maximize, within its resources envelope, the rich and diverse contribution of its community to Canada's research and development and innovation goals, and to meet the burgeoning demand for knowledge and graduates in the social sciences and humanities.

- *Enhancing Capacity in Canadian Universities*

    It is estimated that, by 2010, more than 20,000 of Canada's 33,000 full time university faculty will have retired or left their position. Faculty aged 55 or more now represent 31% of the total; in 1977 the figure was 11%. Although all disciplines must contend with an ageing professoriate, the situation is particularly acute in the humanities, where 40% of full-time faculty are now 55 years or older. This situation is much exacerbated by the fact that, over the next decade, Canadian universities expect a 20% increase in enrolments. As a result of this combination of massive faculty retirements and substantial growth in student numbers, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) anticipates that Canadian universities need to hire 30,000 new faculty over the next ten years. It will be an important challenge to

ensure that the number, range and expertise of available doctoral graduates will be sufficient to meet these needs.

The massive influx of thousands of new faculty will put significant pressure on the system of federal research support for the social sciences and humanities. The new generation of researchers seems to be prepared for, and more committed to, research than previous cohorts and they are expected to apply in large numbers to the federal granting agencies. In a highly competitive international market for university professors, access to adequate research support will be an essential incentive to counter brain drain and to meet the hiring needs of the postsecondary education system. SSHRC's core programs for support of graduate students and researchers play a key role in addressing these challenges.

- *A Growing Demand for Social Sciences and Humanities Knowledge*

Demand for knowledge has increased significantly in recent years as governments, businesses and community groups strive to design policies, programs and interventions based on rigorous analysis and expert knowledge. Increasingly, SSHRC is solicited to help generate policy-relevant knowledge that will assist a range of different partners in carrying out their respective mandate. Three new Joint Initiatives were implemented in 2001 (see page 15) and discussions about launching others are under way with a number of potential partners.

- *Building Bridges*

SSHRC continues to promote and develop innovative strategic programs that forge links among researchers and users of research results in order to better address complex issues faced by society. As well, SSHRC constantly seeks better means to raise awareness of decision-makers and the Canadian public about the vital role of social sciences and humanities research. For example, SSHRC's Community-University Research Alliances (CURA) program funds partnerships and collaboration among researchers, decision-makers, practitioners, and other users, thus facilitating the application of research results to specific social concerns. SSHRC will also be including a similar program as part of the Initiative on the New Economy (INE), a new initiative announced in the fall 2000 Budget Statement (see below).

2. Performance Results Expectations

In 2000-2001, SSHRC took important steps to move from activity-based reporting to results-based reporting. SSHRC's Results-Based Management and Accountability Framework (RMAF), required under the Policy on Transfer Payments, was approved during the winter. With this Framework, SSHRC re-affirms its commitment to offering excellent, innovative programs and services that are relevant to the needs of its clientele and that will be of long-term benefit to Canadian society. SSHRC's RMAF links to the following chart, "Key Results Commitments". It includes a list of indicators, as well as measurement and monitoring strategies.

Key Results Commitments

To provide Canadians with:	To be demonstrated by:	Achievements reported in:
1. A world-class Canadian research capacity in the social sciences and humanities;	• high quality, peer-reviewed research • national and international awards and honours for SSHRC-supported researchers in international research	DRP Section II
2. Knowledge that contributes to our understanding of, and our ability to deal with social, cultural, intellectual and economic issues;	• social, cultural, intellectual, or economic impacts of research • contribution by SSHRC-supported researchers to public debate	DRP Section II
3. A new generation of well-trained researchers and highly skilled professionals who are equipped to meet the needs of Canadian universities, the public and the private sectors;	• successful completion of doctoral and post-doctoral programs • students trained on SSHRC research grants • employment trends and career success of SSHRC-supported fellows and social sciences and humanities graduates	DRP Section II
4. Communication and transfer of knowledge generated through SSHRC-funded research for use by the academic, public and private sectors, and by the Canadian public	• publication of scholarly journals and other media by SSHRC-supported researchers • awareness and use of SSHRC-supported research by researchers, partners and other stakeholders	DRP Section II
5. policy leadership for the development of social sciences and humanities research capacity in Canada	• impact of policy and program initiatives in shaping the development of social sciences and humanities research in Canada	DRP Section II

Agency Overview

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
Business Line

Support of Research and Scholarships in the Social Sciences and Humanities

Planned Spending	$145,800,000
Total Authorities	$151,769,498
2000-01 Actuals	$143,039,486

3. Performance Accomplishments

3.1 Performance Measurement Issues and Approaches

To address gaps in the availability of data necessary for reporting on results and for evaluation, SSHRC will be implementing, in Fall 2001, a new electronic Final Research Report form to capture and analyze data on performance. The form, which is being developed through consultations with the research community, will provide data on research productivity, knowledge dissemination and transfer, interdisciplinarity, training, international collaboration, non-academic partnerships, leveraging of financial resources, etc. The information gathered using the Report will greatly improve SSHRC's capacity to track results (from both qualitative and quantitative perspectives) in order to best implement our results-based approach to evaluation.

The SSHRC Board has approved the creation of a standing committee on performance and evaluation in order to improve Council's ability to monitor the performance and outcomes of its programs. The Committee— composed of two Council members, a university representative and an external evaluation expert— will begin work in fall 2001. Its mandate is to further develop SSHRC's RMAF and oversee its implementation, approve updates of the evaluation plan, review recommendations arising from evaluation frameworks and reports, and recommend action to Council.

3.2   Program Performance

Programs to Support Research and Research Development

Council's diverse programs support advanced scholarly research in all fields of the humanities and social sciences. These include, among many others, economics, administrative studies, social work, geography, history, philosophy, fine arts and literature. SSHRC also supports interdisciplinary and collaborative research on a wide range of topics that include the new economy, innovation, globalization, social cohesion, the information revolution, socio-economic development, communities and citizenship, the changing nature of work and the ageing population. Detailed 2000-2001 competition statistics for all programs (e.g., distribution of allocations by university, region, gender) are available on SSHRC's Web site.

Standard Research Grants (SRG) is SSHRC's largest program, with a 2000-2001 budget of $39.3 million. This program provides three-year grants to individual researchers and to small research teams. In 2000-2001, the program supported 642 new research projects in all disciplines of the social sciences and humanities. This represents a 41.6% success rate, a slight decrease from the 43% funded in 1999-2000.

The Impact of SSHRC Research

Rethinking Literary History—Comparatively is a project that will transform the way we think about history and culture. Using an innovative approach that studies a vast body of literature, including the writings of popular culture (comic strips, soap operas, sermons, scientific essays), the project provides a better understanding of how literature is created and received. The project also examines how this literature has influenced the cultures under study (from Latin America to Central and Eastern Europe) over time and across geographical regions. With more than 300 researchers involved internationally, it is the largest comparative literary history project in the world. It will culminate in the publication, in 2001, of five volumes by Oxford University Press.
Source: EDGE, Research, Scholarship and Innovation at the University of Toronto, Fall 2000, Vol. 1, No. 2.

The Canadian Families Project, led by historian Dr. Eric Sager at the University of Victoria, has shown that families in the past were as complex as they are today and that the idea there is a "crisis" in the structure or nature of the family is not new. Over the past century, there have been recurring "crises" brought on by the Industrial Revolution, the First and Second World Wars and the entrance of women into the workforce. The survival of the family suggests the great importance Canadians attach to it as a first source of welfare, health care, learning and love.
Source: Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada, Fact Sheet on Canadian Family and Family Policies, November 2000.

Innovation Systems Research Network (ISRN): Over 50 researchers are exploring the success factors associated with dynamic regional clusters of innovation in four regions of Canada (Western Canada, Central Canada–Ontario, Central Canada–Quebec, Atlantic Canada). "If the ISRN meets its milestones and produces research that answers many of the questions surrounding regional innovation, the results could be a gold mine for public policy makers." (Re$earch Money, June 2001) Researchers are examining the biomedical and photonics/wireless industries as well as traditional industries like wood products, food and beverages, and automobile and steel manufacturing industries.

Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (MCRI) supports large-scale research projects of high international visibility and prestige undertaken by interdisciplinary research teams. In 2000-2001, the program supported six new and 17 ongoing projects. The new projects will examine, among other issues, how local and regional groupings of firms contribute to economic growth and development in various regions of Canada; how the expression of the Francophone identity in North America reflects the characteristics of the cultural mixes in Canadian society; the impact of the 2000 federal election on the future of Canadian political party system; cultural change and continuity in Siberia; the effects of childhood developmental problems on educational performance; the relation between integration into the labour market and general well-being; and a comparative study of how migration and displacement affect gender and family relations in four immigrant and refugee groups to Canada.

New Research in Areas of Importance to Canadians

Innovation
A comparative analysis of national innovation systems
Innovation, organisation et relations de travail : le changement dans les fonctions publiques

Skills and training
The development of scientific literacy skills: evaluating reports in the news and on the Net
Cultural influences on learning

Information technology
Investigating the development of information technology competence in line managers
Adoption and usage of commercial Internet services

Trade and Investment
Corporate investment decision-making in Canada
Globalization, trade and domestic standards: an enquiry into the "standard of standards"
Performance and costs in the Canadian mutual fund industry

Children and Families
Canadian adolescent boys and literacy
Children's goals in conflict with their parents

Health Care
A multidimensional study of health-care codes of ethics
La communication dans l'organisation des soins palliatifs à domicile

Environment
Contested terrains: the globalization of environmental agendas
Measuring the effects of economic growth on environmental quality
La recherche sur l'environnement global et sa contribution à la politique de l'environnement

Stronger Communities
The state of community practice within marginalized communities in Ontario
Teachers' work in Aboriginal communities

Canadian Culture
A bibliography of Robertson Davies
Le multiculturalisme canadien : des discours officiels aux interventions
Histoire littéraire du Québec

International Studies
Borders and bodies: Canadian and U.S. immigration and border control policies in the new North America
Enduring rivalries in the Asia-Pacific region
Ethics and international intervention

Since its launch in the fall of 1997, the Research Development Initiatives (RDI) program has supported 102 experimental and innovative projects out of a total of 291 applications. Eight initiatives are now completed. For example: an international symposium— initiated by the Maritime Centre of Excellence for Women's Health— was held to assess the uptake and impact of gender equity analysis on research and policy. The symposium provided the impetus for the development of a network of researchers, policy workers and activists to identify and carry out further policy-relevant research.

Several other completed initiatives examined the impact on society and on research practice of digital communications technologies and increased computing capacity. One research team examined theoretical and practical ramifications of unifying local- and regional-level economic data bases and geographic information systems (GIS). Program funds were also used to create a research institute, the Digital Library Institute, on human-computer interaction and on digital libraries as well as to develop a research agenda, engage in further research in this emergent field, and build up a collaborative network among researchers and other users of digital libraries.

The Community-University Research Alliances (CURA), a pilot program geared to community development through alliances among universities and local and regional action groups, completed a second competition in 2000-2001. Current CURA projects are focusing on issues such as: evaluating social strategic planning in Newfoundland, sustaining rural communities in Nova Scotia, developing a recreation and tourism industry in mid-northern Quebec, countering the effects of climate change on water resources in Ontario, rehabilitating the inner-city core in Winnipeg, and the effectiveness of law enforcement and justice in matters of domestic violence in the Prairie provinces.

Lessons learned to date in the program include the need for change in both university reward systems and in funding programs to increase recognition of research conducted in active partnership with communities. Experience also shows that time and attention are required to nurture university-community partnerships and that trust is a key element of these partnerships. Partners also need to be sensitized to the value of evidence-based decision-making.

SSHRC is presently seeking new sources of funding so that we can offer this highly successful pilot program on an ongoing basis.

> **Community-University Research Alliances**
>
> The [Nemetz Centre for Dispute Resolution](#) at the University of British Columbia (UBC) has been set up as a result of a SSHRC CURA grant to evaluate new dispute resolution alternatives in family law, construction disputes, human rights cases and personal injury automobile accidents. Housed at UBC's Faculty of Law, the project involves academic specialists, student research assistants, practitioners and volunteers, along with the following 14 community partners: the Supreme Court of British Columbia, the Provincial Court of British Columbia, the Ministry of the Attorney General, the Law Society of British Columbia, the Canadian Bar Association, the B.C. Human Rights Commission, the B.C. Human Rights Coalition, the B.C. Federation of Labour, the Coalition of B.C. Businesses, the Business Council of B.C., the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia, the B.C. Automobile Association, the B.C. Condominium Home Owners' Association, and the Vancouver Regional Construction Association. The results of research conducted at the centre have been integrated into UBC's law curriculum.
>
> The UBC teaching and research programs in dispute resolution at UBC are gaining recognition as being the most innovative and comprehensive anywhere. The CURA grant enabled the Faculty of Law to lever additional funds for new components to the program. The most significant new development is the creation of an Asian Pacific consortium of scholars from seven universities to collaborate in cross cultural and comparative research in conflict resolution.

The [Strategic Theme](#) program continues as one of Council's important investments for the support of research in key areas of national importance. In 2000-2001, 99 researchers in newly funded projects — working in collaboration with 41 public, non-profit and private sector partners — were supported under the following themes: Women and Change (last year of the program); Rethinking Productivity; Exploring Social Cohesion in a Globalizing Era; and Challenges and Opportunities of a Knowledge-Based Economy. The number of researchers and partners funded has decreased in 2000-2001 given the smaller number of theme programs in existence. New themes are being identified through an extensive consultation process initiated by SSHRC (see page 22).

Society, Culture and the Health of Canadians II is a three-year Joint Initiative initially undertaken by SSHRC and Health Canada's National Health Research and Development Program, much of which has now been incorporated into the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR). The program was part of the transition programming leading to the creation of CIHR. The one-time competition under this initiative was completed in 2000-2001, resulting in the joint funding of 27 collaborative projects.

Challenges and Opportunities of a Knowledge-based Economy (KBE), the new strategic theme program launched in December 1998, has been integrated into the Initiative on the New Economy (INE) (see below).

In 2000-2001, SSHRC invested $2.15 million in five major research projects funded under its strategic program [Rethinking Productivity](#)**.** The projects examine productivity issues in various contexts (i.e., for social workers, employment counsellors, child protection workers and income security workers, seniors, and in Aboriginal communities), as well as the social and economic conditions that make the workplace and the economy "productive." One project is expected to contribute to a redefinition of the concept of "productivity", by incorporating social and cultural factors into traditional measures of productivity.

Partnerships and Interdepartmental/Intersectorial Initiatives

In 2000-2001, SSHRC launched three new initiatives in the Joint Initiatives program:

- [The Non-profit Sector in Canada](#), launched in partnership with the Kahanoff Foundation, supports research that increases our understanding of the role non-profit organizations play in society. It contributes to the development of effective public policy on related issues and informs relevant public policy. Fourteen proposals were funded from among those submitted to the first competition, held in 2000-2001.

The Non-Profit Sector in Canada Program

A research team composed of researchers from Dalhousie University, St. Mary's University and McGill University is developing and implementing an evaluation framework for the Lunenburg County Community Mentorship Initiativ**e** in Nova Scotia. The research will improve our understanding of the place of community development initiatives, such as mentoring, in overall community health and will generate a rich discussion and awareness of the relevant issues. The partnership supporting the project includes two community-based non-profit organizations as well as the three universities.

Researchers at the Canadian Council on Social Development are examining how Canada's participation in international trade and investment agreements, such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and other international agreements, affect public policy for the non-profit sector. The research is expected to generate knowledge that will inform policy development related to the non-profit sector in the context of Canada's involvement in multilateral trade and investment negotiations. The researchers will be working closely with an advisory committee composed of representatives of the Voluntary Sector Roundtable, government officials and members of the academic community. A national workshop will bring together a larger group of experts to review the research findings and consider options for public policy.

- *The Ocean Management National Research Network Initiative* was launched with the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to create a national network of interdisciplinary research teams to promote new research, integrate knowledge, and accelerate the application of critical thinking and best practices in support of sustainability within ocean ecosystems. As a result of a peer-reviewed competition held in 2001-2002, it was determined that the national secretariat would be located in Halifax, Nova Scotia, at the Gorsebrook Research Institute of Saint Mary's University. The three national research teams will be located at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, British Columbia; at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg Manitoba; and at Memorial University in St. John's, Newfoundland.

- The *Virtual Scholar in Residence* initiative was launched in partnership with the Law Commission of Canada (LCC) to enhance its capacity to conduct multidisciplinary legal policy research using innovative research and management practices. The initiative provides a stipend to engage an individual researcher for a six-month period of intensive research within one of the LCC's four research themes. The theme for the 2001 program was "Social Relationships".

In addition, the *Federalism and Federations* joint initiative between SSHRC and the Privy Council Office (Intergovernmental Affairs) was renewed in 2000-2001.

These four new initiatives represent an investment of over $2.6 million from the above partners plus an equivalent amount from SSHRC. To date, SSHRC's Joint Initiatives strategy has generated nearly $40 million in additional funding for social sciences and humanities research (see Appendix 2, page 37).

In 2000-2001, as part of the SSHRC/Statistics Canada *Canadian Initiative on Social Statistics* (CISS), a network of regional Research Data Centres were established at nine Canadian universities. Under secure conditions to protect confidentiality, and through a rigorous peer review process, these Research Data Centres will provide researchers with access to a series of large-scale longitudinal data sets collected and maintained by Statisitics Canada. The Research Data Centres will also act as access points to non-confidential research data and as statistical analysis computing laboratories for highly accomplished researchers in a broad range of disciplines.

To improve statistical research capacity in Canada, SSHRC and Statistics Canada have established the CISS Data Training Summer School Program. Operated at four universities across the country, these summer schools offer

high-level training in statistical research methods to university researchers, graduate and undergraduate students, policy analysts and data librarians.

In 2000-2001, the federal government reaffirmed SSHRC's key role in the national innovation agenda by investing in two important initiatives: the Canada Research Chairs program and the Initiative on the New Economy (INE).

The INE, first announced to Parliament in the fall 2000 Budget Statement, benefited from extensive consultation undertaken by SSHRC. The consultation included a committee of 20 representatives from the university community, the federal and provincial governments, the private sector, and from non governmental organizations, that helped identify research issues to be addressed under four themes: General New Economy Issues, Management and Entrepreneurship, Education, and lifelong Learning.

The following funding mechanisms were determined as a result of extensive discussions by the design committee and SSHRC's governing council.

> INE Research
> - INE Research Grants;
> - INE Research Alliances;
> - INE Collaborative Research Initiatives.
>
> INE Partnerships
> - INE Joint Initiatives.
>
> INE Development Grants (grants designed to help researchers identify priorities and evaluate progress in their fields).
>
> INE Outreach Grants (grants designed to support activities that actively promote broader public understanding of the new economy through community events, television and radio broadcasts, newspapers and magazines, Web sites, presentations and other projects).

The INE program will be launched in 2001-2002. It is expected to generate research that will contribute to keeping Canada at the forefront of the knowledge economy and that will enable the country to adapt to rapid and complex changes in a competitive international environment.

Under the Canada Research Chairs program, which was established as a result of the 2000 Federal Budget 291 research chairs were appointed in the first round of competitions held in 2000-2001. These chairs will enable Canadian universities, together with their affiliated research institutes and

hospitals, to achieve the highest levels of research excellence, and to become world-class research centres in the global, knowledge-based economy.

The Canada Research Chairs program is governed by a steering committee consisting of the presidents of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), CIHR, SSHRC and the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), as well as the deputy minister of Industry Canada.

SSHRC is responsible for the operation of the program's Secretariat.

SSHRC also continued to co-administer the Networks of Centres of Excellence Program, together with NSERC and CIHR, and in cooperation with Industry Canada. The 2000-2001 competition has led to the SSHRC research community participating in four new networks: The Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network, in which social sciences and humanities content and research expertise feature most prominently; The Automobile of the 21st Century; The Canadian Water Network, and The Stem Cell Genomics and Therapeutics Network.

Research Training and Career Development Programs

Approximately 61% of all full-time master's and doctoral students in Canadian universities are registered in social sciences and humanities programs. SSHRC allocates 25% of its basic grants and scholarships budget (excluding the allocation for the Canada Research Chairs program) to doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships programs. In 2000-2001, SSHRC awarded 591 new fellowships as a result of its annual competition under the Doctoral Fellowships program. In total, 1,627 students (new and ongoing fellowships) were funded in 2000-2001 under this program, at a cost of $26,209,000. Under SSHRC's Postdoctoral Fellowships program, 112 new postdoctoral fellowships were awarded as a result of the annual competition. A total of 230 postdoctoral fellows (new and ongoing fellowships) were supported at a cost of $6,677,660. In the future, SSHRC hopes to introduce a Master's Scholarship program to expand the range of training it supports and to increase the number of highly qualified individuals with training in the social sciences and humanities.

Other Council programs also recognize the importance of student training. In the Standard Research Grants program, 53 % of the funds awarded in the 2000-2001 competition went towards hiring students. Students acquire invaluable hands-on research training and practical marketable skills through their participation in these SSHRC-funded projects.

SSHRC Fellowships: Stepping Stones to Employment

Carrie Dawson received a Postdoctoral Fellowship for research in the Department of English at Queen's University She has been offered a position in the Department of English at Dalhousie University.

Stéphane Côté, a SSHRC Doctoral Fellow, completed his Ph.D. at the University of Michigan and has returned to Canada to accept a position in the University of Toronto's Joseph L. Rotman School of Management.

Lauchlan Munro used his SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship to complete a Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Manchester and has recently taken up the position of Chief of Planning, Division of Evaluation, Policy and Planning, at UNICEF in New York.

Carolyn Crook was awarded a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship in 1997-1998 for studies in geography. She completed her Ph.D. in 2000-2001, and received a SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowship for research in the area of natural resources geography. She has recently taken up a position of Policy Researcher with Environment Canada's Policy Research Directorate.

Research Communication and Knowledge Transfer Programs

In 2000-2001, SSHRC invested $5.7 million to support research communication and knowledge transfer. Under the Aid to Scholarly Publications program, administered by the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada, SSHRC supported the publication of 145 books. The Council's Aid to Research and Transfer Journals program provided ongoing support to 173 journals. The Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses in Canada program provides opportunities for Canadian social scientists and humanists to communicate research findings and to share knowledge, not only among themselves, but also with international experts, decision-makers, and policy developers. In 2000-2001, the program supported 132 research conferences and congresses, most of which have already been held.

> **Examples of upcoming conferences supported by SSHRC**
>
> Third International Conference of the International Network on Auto Work in the Americas: Mexican, US and Canadian Autoworkers Responses to Continental Restructuring, Hamilton, Ontario, November 8-10, 2001.
>
> Rural Canada: Moving Forward or Left Behind in a Globalizing and Urbanizing World, Regina, Saskatchewan, November 22-24, 2001.
>
> Building Women's Leadership in Atlantic Canada, Halifax, Nova Scotia, December 7-9, 2001.
>
> Worlds in Collision: Critically Analyzing Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Contact Narratives, Victoria, British Columbia, February 21-24, 2002.

3.3 Agency Performance

Program Evaluation, Monitoring and Review

In 2000-2001, SSHRC's efforts in program monitoring, evaluation and review were devoted primarily to reframing its evaluation function to meet new Treasury Board requirements. Staff articulated a new evaluation strategy closely aligned with Council's Results-based Management and Accountability Framework (RMAF) and to the federal government's revised Evaluation Policy. Evaluations at SSHRC will focus on results. Evaluation activities/issues will be selected strategically according to corporate priorities, risk assessment, and the need for evidence-based decision-making. Managers will involve themselves more directly in order to identify key questions and specific concerns, and to maximize the usefulness of evaluations and the integration of results.

As well, given that many of SSHRC's broad research objectives and policies concern several or all of its programs (i.e., training, team work, perspectives on interdisciplinarity, partnerships and knowledge transfer), SSHRC intends, over time, to measure and assess the contribution of its overall program portfolio to these objectives.

Under the strategy, in order to assess progress made towards meeting objectives, SSHRC will also continue to monitor programs to evaluate their on-going effectiveness, design and delivery. This will be achieved through management reviews of core programs, mid-term reviews of new program initiatives (e.g., Community-University Research Alliances), and mid-term

reviews of large, collaborative multi-year research projects (e.g., Major Collaborative Research Initiatives).

Evaluation Studies

Immigration and the Metropolis: In 2000, SSHRC and Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) conducted a strategic assessment of this jointly funded initiative to provide evidence as to whether or not to renew the program (which was entering its final phase of support). This review built on a scientific peer-review of each Metropolis Project centre that had been undertaken the previous year. The main conclusions of the review were that:

- The research centres funded under the initiative are meeting the initial objectives of the program. They are actively setting research agendas and carrying out innovative research in partnership with research users. Students are well integrated in their research activities. The centres disseminate research results to target audiences and also provide expert advice.

- The federal funding partners' evolving needs make increased linkages with the centres a necessity. The Metropolis team that manages the program at CIC could play an active role in developing these linkages.

- More pan-Canadian comparative studies are needed in this area and carrying out such studies would eventually place the centres in a better position to undertake international comparative studies

Based on these two combined reports, CIC and SSHRC have confirmed in principle their renewed commitment to fund a second phase of this program.

Chairs in the Management of Technological Change: In 2000-2001, SSHRC and NSERC began the development of an evaluation framework for the joint program, Chairs in the Management of Technological Change. The framework is expected to be completed during summer 2001 and the evaluation report should be completed in fall 2001. The results of the evaluation will assist SSHRC and NSERC in deciding whether or not to renew their Memorandum of Understanding for this program.

Review of Research Time Stipends (RTS): SSHRC has also launched a review of its RTS policy in order to better understand the various institutional circumstances in which stipends are used, to clarify universities' expectations of universities in this matter and to collect sufficient information to generate policy options for potential

modifications to the RTS policy. The review will be completed in fiscal year 2001-2002.

Canada Research Chairs (CRC) and *Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE)* programs: In fiscal year 2001-2002, SSHRC will also oversee evaluation of the NCE program and planning for the mid-term review of the CRC program.

Research Policy Intervention and Infrastructure Development

Humanities on the Move Everywhere

In response to growing concerns about the need to highlight the value and relevance of research in the humanities, SSHRC set up the Working Group on the Future of the Humanities in May 1999. The Working Group was mandated to assess the current state of humanities research and education in Canada, to identify major trends and challenges, and to recommend ways to strengthen humanities research and education. In 2000-2001, the Working Group published its report entitled Alternative Wor(l)ds: The Humanities in 2010, largely based on the discussions and recommendations generated at a major national conference on the future of the humanities held in Toronto in October 2000 and sponsored by SSHRC with the cooperation of the three Toronto-area universities. At the conference, more than 100 university representatives shared their concerns and argued for their viewpoints.

The report acknowledges the enthusiasm and achievements of the humanities research community in Canada. It reaffirms the central role played by the humanities in our postsecondary education system, their key contributions to a knowledgeable and productive work force, and their crucial and irreplacable role in ensuring the viability of national cultures and civil society. The report reminds us that, in a era of globalization, Canada must remain a producer of new knowledge—and not only technical and scientific knowledge.

The report challenges all members of the humanities research community—SSHRC, universities and learned societies—to assume responsibility for change, while allowing humanists to set their own research agendas. It recognizes classroom teaching as making an essential contribution to civil society and presents teaching informed by research as humanists' first level of public engagement. The report invites humanists to share their scholarship with the broadest possible audience by using exciting, accessible language. It also urges scholars to convey the importance of their role in our collective civic life by publicly addressing problems of immediate concern to Canadian society.

At its June 2001 meeting, SSHRC Council approved a formal response and action plan that endorses the Report's recommendations, while at the same time emphasizing that supporting and promoting humanities research and teaching in Canada is a collective responsibility. SSHRC plays a leading role in this effort, but to realize the fullest potential of the humanities also requires the involvement and commitment of individual scholars, learned societies, universities, governments and private and public organizations. Copies of Council's response have been distributed to universities and scholarly associations across the country with a request that they prepare specific plans to guide their own efforts to promote the humanities in the coming years. By uniting SSHRC's energies with those of universities and humanities researchers across the country, Council hopes to help humanities scholarship continue to play a central role in Canadian society.

Consultation on Strategic Research Themes

SSHRC has completed a public consultation on the development of new strategic themes for targeted research. Significant input was received from universities, government departments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. The consultation helped to identify a number of themes that enjoy broad support, and highlighted issues and topics for future joint initiatives and for the role of strategic research in that context. SSHRC will analyze the results of the consultation and post a synthesis report on the Council Web site during fiscal year 2001-2002. The Standing Committee on Research Support will carefully examine the report and recommendations arising from the consultation to ensure they are appropriately integrated into future thematic programs.

National Research Data Archive Consultation

In partnership with the National Archives of Canada, SSHRC is undertaking a national consultation on the archiving and management of social sciences and humanities research data. This consultation involved two phases, the first is a needs assessment; the second, recommendations for action.

The needs assessment, now complete, found that while there is a growing need for research data archival services, few researchers were aware of SSHRC policies requiring them to archive their data in university libraries; and few libraries had the resources to archive this material properly. The study recommends that Council continue to work with the National Archives and other partners in the research community, to explore models for a truly national data archiving function and ways to building researchers' awareness of data archiving. The Phase One Report is available on SSHRC's Web site.

SSHRC/NSERC Task Force on Northern Research

The SSHRC/NSERC Task Force on Northern Research released its report in September 2000. The report is the result of extensive consultations and provides an in-depth analysis of the situation in the North. The Task Force urges Canada to rebuild its university-based northern research capacity in order to help northerners cope with the unprecedented social, physical and environmental challenges facing the region. The report calls for new partnerships between universities and northern communities, and the direct involvement of northerners in research and training. The Task Force proposes a five-point program to strengthen Canadian northern research, including the establishment of research chairs, the creation of graduate and postdoctoral scholarships, the support of strategic research projects, the development of partnerships (modelled on SSHRC's Community-University Research Alliances program), and the funding of critical equipment, infrastructure and logistical needs. SSHRC is presently studying which options will best address the report's recommendations. As well, the report is widely used by federal government inter-departmental working groups on the North to inform policy and program development.

Enhanced Administrative Support Structures

Informatics

Corporate Information Systems: SSHRC's corporate Award Management Information System (AMIS), now in its third year of operation, has been well received by its internal client user community. It is flexible enough to adapt in a timely manner to changing business processes and to the introduction of new program initiatives such as the Initiative on the New Economy (INE). Recent updates made to AMIS have enabled our corporate system to enter the era of "real-time" application management. In 2000-2001, approximately 85% of all applications to SSHRC's major programs were submitted over the Internet and then transferred into AMIS. When fully implemented, this process will allow SSHRC to seamlessly incorporate data into its central data repository with minimal effort or intervention. In coming years, SSHRC intends to continue leveraging information technology in order to be increasingly responsive and proactive when dealing with both internal and external users.

Electronic Service Delivery Initiatives: In 2000-2001, SSHRC continued to demonstrate its capacity and strong commitment to provide valuable Web-based solutions that respond to the needs of its research community, as well as to the federal government's directives concerning on-line information. In recognition of its clientele's expectations, SSHRC has established a formal governance structure—headed by the Vice-President, Programs in

collaboration with the Electronic Service Division (ESD)—to oversee the development and implementation of new initiatives, and the maintenance of existing initiatives. SSHRC has also recently developed an interactive Web-based peer review process in support of the Canadian Initiative on Social Statistics (CISS) program. This fully electronic initiative allows SSHRC and Statistics Canada to concurrently monitor and track the progress of applicants requesting access to Statistics Canada Research Data Centres. As mentioned above, significant steps have been taken in the development of a new Web-based Final Research Report, to be launched in fall 2001.

Human Resources

In 2000-2001, SSHRC took up the challenge to become an Employer of Choice and committed itself to encouraging employees to identify opportunities for improvement. To assist it in defining and implementing the Employer of Choice strategy, Council hired a private consulting firm in May 2001 to conduct an employee survey which gave staff the opportunity to express their views openly, but in confidence, on various aspects of SSHRC's work environment. The survey questions were developed in consultation with staff; Results of the survey will be analysed during summer 2001. They are expected to provide a framework that will help SSHRC address issues in its efforts to become an Employer of Choice.

SSHRC has also launched a review of its job classification system, a process that we expect to be completed in fiscal year 2002-2003. Participation from employees Council-wide will be a key element in establishing a new job evaluation system.

SSHRC has also developed a communications strategy to raise employee awareness of the Official Languages Act and staff rights and obligations pursuant to the Act. Council also increased its efforts to achieve employment equity by participating in career fairs that target designated groups and by creating a separate data base of designated groups of applicants that staffing managers can readily access. As well, increased corporate communications on the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) was initiated. Areas and issues of high priority to SSHRC staff have been identified with the assistance of the EAP service provider and by means of an employee questionnaire. These needs will be addressed through information sessions and learning events in fiscal year 2001-2002.

Finance

On January 1, 2001, the three federal granting agencies—SSHRC, NSERC and CIHR (formerly the Medical Research Council)—launched their harmonized "Eligibility of Expenses" document, thus completing Phase I of the Harmonization Project that was initiated two years ago in response to

requests by the research community. The objective of the project is to harmonize and simplify the policies and regulations governing the use of funds awarded by the three agencies. Phase I dealt with the rules on eligible expenses and Phase II—targeted for completion in November 2001—will cover administrative policies such as transfers and terminations. A great deal of work went into harmonizing the guidelines, which respect the cultural differences of the three agencies and their respective research communities.

In March 2001, the terms and conditions of SSHRC's overall program of Grants in Aid of Research were reviewed and approved in accordance with the new Policy on Transfer Payments. The revised terms and conditions remain in effect until October 31, 2005.

On April 1, 2000, SSHRC achieved compliance with the Financial Information Strategy (FIS) and began transmitting transactions to the new central treasury system, and monthly trial balances to the Central Financial Management Reporting System (CFMRS). Accrual accounting policies, including capitalization of assets, were also developed and implemented to determine the opening balances for the 2001-2002 fiscal year. A new Salary Management System was also implemented in 2000-2001 to provide more accurate and timely information on salary forecasts and accruals.

Public Outreach and Knowledge Transfer

With an ongoing commitment to effectively promote the social sciences and humanities, SSHRC Communications implemented a number of exciting outreach initiatives in 2000-2001. In addition to providing support for 132 conferences, congresses and other scholarly meetings, SSHRC established a youth-oriented, communications project, the Students Promoting Awareness of Research Knowledge (SPARK) program. This one-year pilot project has enabled students from nine universities to gain professional writing experience. Mentored by university staff, these young men and women profile SSHRC-funded research and researchers in their universities' publications.

With the hiring of new Communications staff, including a Media and Public Relations Officer and a Government and Stakeholder Officer, SSHRC has established new systems to help it more effectively and efficiently inform the university community, government departments and agencies, the media, the private and non-profit sectors, and the general public about social sciences and humanities research in Canada. The Council Web site remains SSHRC's most cost-effective outreach tool. Currently undergoing a major redesign, it will deliver more electronic services and will also meet the Government On-Line target of 2004. As well, to increase media awareness, SSHRC has implemented an electronic media tracking system that allows users to access

over 30 national daily newspapers and media outlets, to review SSHRC-related stories and to initiate media searches. A third infrastructure tool involves the creation of specific data bases that facilitate internal as well as external communications.

Through these initiatives and others that promote its programs, SSHRC is now able to more assertively and effectively promote its efforts to all of its stakeholders, including Parliament, researchers, the general public and the media.

Ethics

Most universities have implemented the *Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans* (TCPS*)* which the three granting councils (SSHRC, NSERC, and CIHR) issued in 1998. The policy statement is intended to ensure that Canadian society benefits from research that is conducted in a socially and scientifically responsible manner.

As a result of the Governance Study commissioned in 1999 and examined over the course of 2000-2001, the three councils have agreed to create an interdisciplinary Panel on Research Ethics, which will be the cornerstone of a new governance structure for the TCPS. The Panel, which will be served by a Secretariat, will support further development, interpretation and modifications of the policy.

The Panel's precursor, the Tri-Council Advisory Group for the TCPS, will be phased out in August 2001.

The Tri-Agency Working Group on Expectations/Roles and Responsibilities

Three partners share responsibility and accountability for public funds distributed by the three federal research funding agencies (SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR): the funding agencies themselves, institutions (i.e., the universities) and award holders. For their part, institutions have been calling for greater transparency and clarity in agency expectations, ease of access to policies and guidelines, and harmonization of policies and practices among the agencies. The universities are also concerned about the cost of administering awards for a wide range of agency programs.

To address these concerns and strengthen their ongoing partnerships with institutions, the three funding agencies have set up the Tri-Agency Working Group on Expectations/Roles and Responsibilities. In consultation with institutional representatives, this group has helped the agencies to consolidate —in a single compendium—the principles governing their partnership with institutions and to clarify their relative roles and responsibilities. The first

phase of the compendium was developed in 2000-2001 and, after another round of consultations and revisions, will form the substance of a Memorandum of Understanding that the agencies and the institutions will sign in fiscal year 2001-2002.

At the same time, the three agencies continue to harmonize and clarify a broad spectrum of policies and practices that pertain to grants and awards, including procedures for conflict resolution and actions in cases of non-compliance. Also, the development and refinement of best practices continues.

Section III: Agency Overview

1. Mandate, Mission and Vision

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) was created by Part 1 of the Government Organization (Scientific Activities) Act, 1976. As stipulated in the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Act (1976-77, c. 24, s. 2), Council's mandate is to:

- promote and assist research and scholarship in the social sciences and humanities; and

- advise the Minister in respect of such matters relating to such research as the Minister may refer to the Council for its consideration.

SSHRC obtains its funding through an annual parliamentary vote and reports to Parliament through the Minister of Industry. Under the terms of its mandate, SSHRC functions as an arm's-length agency, reporting to Parliament annually on how it spends its budget, but having full authority to set its priorities, policies and programs and to make funding decisions. The President is the Chief Executive Officer of the Council and is responsible for directing all ongoing operations of the agency.

As a key national agency helping Canada to build the knowledge and skills it needs to thrive in a global, knowledge-based economy, SSHRC:

- promotes and supports university-based research in the social sciences and humanities and the training of highly qualified professionals in these fields;
- plays a leadership role in the development of research policy;
- provides critical leadership in the development of social sciences and humanities research across Canada and of policies governing research;
- consolidates and structures the national research effort in the social sciences and humanities; and
- enhances knowledge-building and innovation, and responds effectively to the changing needs of the public, private and community sectors, and to those of Canadian society as a whole.

By investing in research and training in the social sciences and humanities, SSHRC makes an important contribution to improving the quality of life of Canadians.

In the coming years, SSHRC will continue to act as a catalyst within the research community and to steer the national research effort in directions that further enhance research excellence, innovation, productivity, and social and economic relevance. The federal Science and Technology (S&T) strategy positions SSHRC as a key partner in the government's overall S&T effort and makes it clear that the social sciences and humanities play a vital role in a healthy and vibrant national research enterprise.
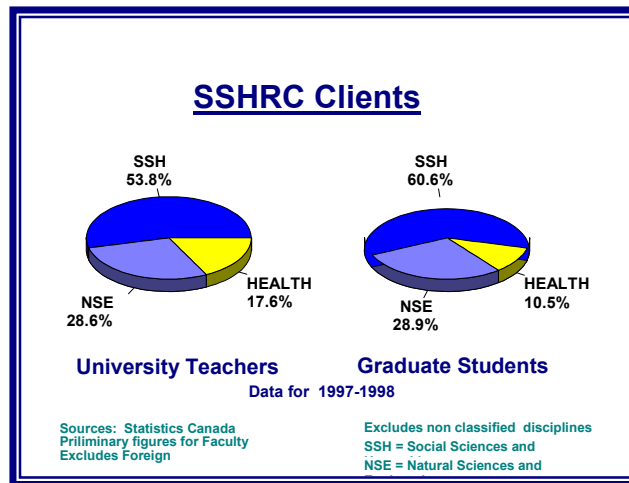
SSHRC develops and administers a diversified set of funding programs. The complement of programs evolves over time in response to the changing needs and expectations of SSHRC's clientele and of Canadian society as a whole. SSHRC's primary clientele consists of some 20,000 professors and 33,000 full-time graduate students in the humanities and social sciences—over 55 % of the total number of faculty and graduate students at Canadian universities.

2. Agency Organization

Governing Council

A full description of SSHRC's governing Council and administrative structure is available on the SSHRC Web site.

In 2000-2001, the Council approved a new standing committee structure—with two new committees—to maintain effective oversight of SSHRC business. The Research and Dissemination Committee and the Strategic Programs and Joint Initiatives Committee were merged into the new Research Support Committee in order to provide an integrated forum for discussion of program policies and procedures. As mentioned above, the creation of the Standing Committee on Performance and Evaluation will provide Council with the tools required to

better assess the impact of its investments and to respond to the evolving government expectations for accountability and reporting.

Late in the 2000-2001 fiscal year, SSHRC concluded that ensuring the broader circulation of research-generated knowledge within Canadian society requires a dedicated, ongoing knowledge-brokering function within the organization. A new vice-presidential position has been established, with a mandate to define and operationalize a Knowledge Products and Mobilisation Division in fiscal year 2001-2002, distinct from the Communications Division and able to produce deliverables in the short term while concurrently developing longer term plans.

Business and Service Lines and Organization

SSHRC has one business line: support of research and scholarship in the social sciences and humanities. All SSHRC objectives and activities relate to and support this single business line, which is in turn supported by five service lines:

- programs to support research and research development;
- partnerships, interdepartmental and intersectorial initiatives;
- programs to support research training and career development;
- research communication and knowledge transfer programs;
- corporate and administrative services.

Four service lines are defined in terms of program clusters. The corporate and administrative services line supports program delivery as well as Council participation in policy and planning initiatives, communications activities (including knowledge brokering) and other corporate functions.

Peer Review

SSHRC awards grants and fellowships through an independent and highly competitive adjudication process based on peer review, which ensures that only the best research and the best candidates are funded.

Section IV: Other Information

Legislation Administered

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) does not administer any legislation.

The Council was created by Part 1 of the Government Organization (Scientific Activities) Act, 1976. The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Act (1976-77, c. 24, s.2) gives Council the authority to:

- promote and assist research and scholarship in the social sciences and humanities; and

- advise the Minister in respect of such matters relating to such research as the Minister may refer to the Council for its consideration.

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Financial Performance

Financial Performance Summary

The required financial information for SSHRC is provided in the following tables. In fiscal year 2000-2001, there were no major differences between planned and actual spending levels.

Table 1: Summary of Voted Appropriations - Financial Requirements by Authority ($M)

		2000-01		
Vote		**Planned Spending**	**Total Authorities**	**Actual Spending**
	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council			
95	Operating expenditures	8.6	13.9	**12.5**
100	Grants	136.1	136.7	**129.3**
(S)	Contributions to employee benefit plans	1.1	1.2	**1.2**
	Total Agency	**145.8**	**151.8**	**143.0**

Note: Total Authorities are Main Estimates plus Supplementary Estimates plus other authorities

Table 2: Comparison of Total Planned Spending to Actual Spending by Business Line ($M)

	2000-01		
	Planned Spending	**Total Authorities**	**Actual Spending**
Support of Research and Scholarship in Social Sciences and Humanities			
FTEs	126	126	130
Operating [1]	9.7	15.1	13.7
Capital	-	-	-
Voted Grants & Contributions	136.1	136.7	129.3
Subtotal: Gross Voted Expenditures	145.8	151.8	143.0
Statutory Grants and Contributions	-	-	-
Total Gross Expenditures	**145.8**	**151.8**	**143.0**
Less:			
Revenue Credited to the Vote	-	-	**-**
Total Net Expenditures	**145.8**	**151.8**	**143.0**
Other Revenues and Expenditures			
Revenue credited to General Government Revenues (GGR)	(0.7)	(0.2)	(0.2)
Cost of services provided by other departments	1.5	1.8	1.8
Net Cost of the Program	**146.6**	**153.3**	**144.5**

[1] Operating includes contributions to Employee Benefit Plans
Note: Total Authorities are Main Estimates plus Supplementary Estimates plus other authorities

Table 3: Historical Comparison of Total Planned Spending and Actual Spending by Business Line ($M)

			2000-01		
	Actual 1998-99	Actual 1999-00	Planned Spending	Total Authorities	Actual Spending
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council	102.5	125.8	145.8	151.8	**143.0**
Total	**102.5**	**125.8**	**145.8**	**151.8**	**143.0**

Note: Total Authorities are Main Estimates plus Supplementary Estimates plus other authorities

Table 4: Non-Respendable Revenues ($M)

			2000-01		
	Actual 1998-99	Actual 1999-00	Planned Revenues	Total Authorities	Actual Spending
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council	0.8	0.2	0.7	0.2	**0.2**
Total Revenues Credited to the GGR	**0.8**	**0.2**	**0.7**	**0.2**	**0.2**

			2000-01		
Table 5: Transfer Payments ($M)					
	Actual 1998-99	**Actual 1999-00**	**Planned Spending**	**Total Authorities**	**Actual Spending**
Support of Research and Scholarship in the Social Sciences and Humanities					
GRANTS	92.6	115.0	136.1	136.7	**129.3**
CONTRIBUTIONS	-	-	-	-	-
Total Transfer Payments	**92.6**	**115.0**	**136.1**	**136.7**	**129.3**

Note: Total Authorities are Main Estimates plus Supplementary Estimates plus other authorities

Joint Initiatives Cumulative Table (all year)
(updated to reflect modifications to memorandums of understanding and actual payments)

A. New and Ongoing Joint Initiatives

Program Name	Partner (s)	Partner Contribution	SSHRC Contribution
Chairs in the Management of Technological Change	Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)	14,751,330	4,917,110
Immigration and the Metropolis	Citizenship and Immigration Canada with seven other federal partners	5,097,000	3,063,000
Graduate Supplements	Canadian Forest Service (CFS)	75,000	No cost to SSHRC
Forest Research Partnerships Program	CFS; NSERC; private sector	(1)	650,000
Relationships in Transition	Law Commission of Canada	400,000	400,000
Canada in the World Grants	International Development Research Centre (IDRC)	200,000	45,000
Valuing Literacy in Canada	National Literacy Secretariat, Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC)	1,250,000	1,250,000
Federalism and Federations	Intergovernmental Affairs, Privy Council Office (PCO)	1,200,000	570,000
Canadian Tobacco Research Initiative	National Cancer Institute of Canada, Canadian Cancer Society, Health Canada, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada	2,500,000	1,300,000
Society, Culture and the Health of Canadians II	Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR), National Health Research and Development Program (NHRDP)	5,400,000	5,400,000
Virtual Scholar in Residence	Law Commission of Canada	245,000	175,000
Canadian Initiative on Social Statistics: Data Training Schools	Statistics Canada	141,631	244,047
Ocean Management National Research Network Initiative	Department of Fisheries and Oceans	500,000	645,000
The Non-profit Sector in Canada	The Kahanoff Foundation	750,000	750,000
Community-University Research Alliances in Housing	Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation	352,425	600,000 **(2)**
	Sub-Total	**$32,862,386**	**$20,009,157**

1   Estimated contribution from partners total $1,300,000. Projects are funded on the following basis: 50% of the costs are covered by the private sector; the remaining 50% are covered jointly (one-third each) by CFS, SSHRC and NSERC. SSHRC's contribution is for projects in the social sciences and the humanities.

2   Three-year commitments as a result of a first competition. The program is on hold until SSHRC identifies new sources of funding for the CURA program.

APPENDIX 2
Joint Initiatives Cumulative Table (all year)
(u*pdated to reflect modifications to memorandums of understanding and actual payments*)

B. Completed Joint Initiatives

Program Name	Partner (s)	Partner Contribution	SSHRC Contribution
Project on Trends	Policy Research Secretariat	145,000	330,000
Innovation Systems Research Networks	National Research Council of Canada (NRC) , NSERC	420,000	180,000
Health Institutes Design Grants	Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (CHSRF)	150,000	666,400
Electronic Publishing Networks	Industry Canada	100,000	100,000
Health Career Awards	Medical Research Council (MRC) and NHRDP (now CIHR)	(3)	196,050
CHSRF/SSHRC Doctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowships	CHSRF	260,626	260,626
Science Culture in Canada	Northern Telecom Limited	250,000	250,000
The Integration of Persons with Disabilities	Status of Disabled Persons Secretariat, HRDC	750,000	750,000
Health Promotion	Health Canada	1,475,000	1,525,000
Family Violence and Violence Against Women	Health Canada	1,250,000	1,250,000
Canadian Global Change	NSERC	1,146,000	247,000
Aboriginal Affairs	Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development	600,000	600,000
Law and Social Issues	Department of Justice, Department of the Solicitor General	30,000	90,000
Canadian Multicultural Society	Multiculturalism and Citizenship Canada	30,000	30,000
Arts Literacy	Canada Council	30,000	30,000
Cultural Development in an Open Economy	Department of Communications	50,000	50,000
Sub-total		**$6,686,626**	**$6,555,076**
Total Value of Contributions		**$39,549,012**	**$26,564,233**

3   SSHRC covered the cost of the first year awards during the transition phase to CIHR; all costs in subsequent years will be covered by CIHR

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Information is also available on SSHRC support in the following areas:

> Aboriginal Studies in Canada
> Canadian Science and Technology
> Life in Canada and our Canadian Heritage
> The Family and Society
> Women's Studies in Canada
> Canadian North (1991-1998)
> Education (1992-1998)
> Employment and Labour (1995-1997)
> Environment and Related Areas (1991-1998)
> Health and Related Areas (1991-1998)
> Innovation, Technology and Industrial Development (1991-1998)
> Law and Related Areas (1993-1997)
> Poverty and Related Areas (1991-1997)
> Social Cohesion (1993-1997)
> Youth, Training and Employment (1991-1998)