



Evaluation Summary of the Class Grant and Contribution Program

What is the Class Grant and Contribution Program?

In place since 2002, the Canadian Space Agency's Class Grant and Contribution Program promotes space-related research and development to support knowledge development and innovation to address Canada's space priorities.

It is the **only** federal grant and contribution program entirely dedicated to the development of the space sector.

About the evaluation

Evaluation covers the period of October 2009 to March 2014

Conducted by the Canadian Space Agency's Evaluation function from 2014-2016 in response to the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat's Policy on Evaluation (2009) and to the Policy on Transfer Payments (2008).

The evaluation's purpose is to provide decision-makers and Canadians an **evidenced-based, neutral assessment** of the Class G&C Program's value for money with respect to both the program's continued relevance and performance.

The evaluation used a **mixed-methods approach** that combined **qualitative and quantitative analyses** which included:

- Program documents and archival data review
- Survey to 124 key informants (funding recipients, non-recipients and Canadian Space Agency employees)
- Telephone interviews with 4 federal transfer payment programs to provide points of comparison and identify best practices.

What have we learned?

The program's objectives are consistent with both federal and departmental priorities and the program **falls within the federal government's jurisdiction**.

There is a continued need for the program to **continue supporting capacity development and collaboration**, and fund projects in priority areas.

The program is **effective** and achieved all its intended outcomes:

- **Space-related S&T knowledge** has increased and disseminated.
- **Canada's focus on space** has increased, as have national and international collaborations which led to increased space-related capacities and **successful multidisciplinary collaborations**.

How can we improve the program?

1. **Review the Program's Terms and Conditions** with respect to the Awareness and Learning component.
2. **Standardize** the application, selection, and feedback **processes** for both solicited and unsolicited proposals, clearly **communicate** it to the **Canadian space community**.
3. Revise the program's Performance Measurement Strategy, data entry, collection, and storage processes. Also, **standardize the process for identifying ranked lists** of funding priorities applicable to all grant and contribution initiatives across the main branches.

[Link to full evaluation report including the Management Action Plan](#)



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Over the 5 year evaluation period, the program spent **\$40 M** and successfully funded **195 space science and technology** projects.

242

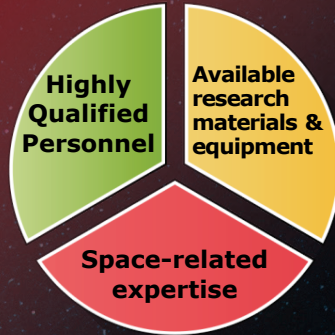
different national and international organizations participated in the funded projects research teams



Almost **1000** HQP were involved in funded projects' research teams



The program beneficially impacts **3** specific types of capacity building:

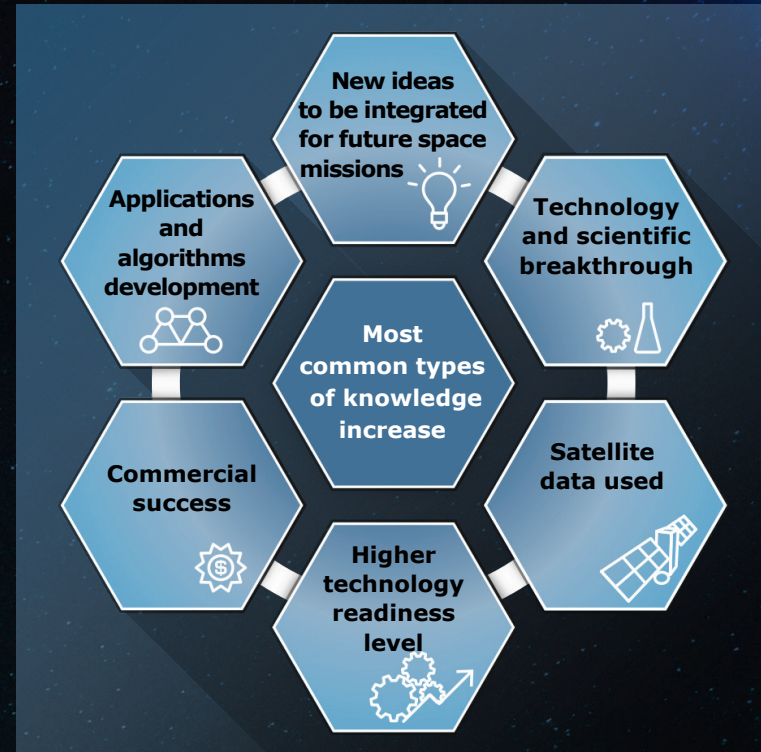


10 Announcements of Opportunity produced

117 projects



50% of the funded projects brought **new** players into space-related research fields



The Program produced **good value with respect to use of public funds** by achieving its expected outcomes and bolstering Canada's reputation for space research and development through modest and flexible investments.

