

National Research Council Canada

2016–17

Departmental Results Report

Supporting Information on Lower-Level
Programs

This supporting document will be published only on NRC's website in HTML format.

Sub-programs of the Technology Development and Advancement Program

- Aerospace
- Automotive and Surface Transportation
- Ocean, Coastal, and River Engineering
- Energy, Mining and Environment
- Construction
- Aquatic and Crop Resource Development
- Medical Devices
- Human Health Therapeutics
- Information and Communication Technologies
- Security and Disruptive Technologies

Sub-programs of the Science Infrastructure and Measurement Program

- National Science Infrastructure
- Measurement Science and Standards

Sub-program 1.1.1 Aerospace

Description

This sub-program advances product and process technologies to enhance the prosperity of the aerospace industry sector in Canada that is striving to remain competitive in the face of razor-thin margins and increasing regulatory demands. The sector is important to the Canadian economy as a major contributor to manufacturing trade and for hundreds of thousands of skilled jobs at all levels of the supply chain. It is also important for its impacts on the transportation costs of materials and products that drive the economy. Results are achieved through multi-disciplinary collaborative research and development services in addition to custom technical services in specialized facilities, such as testing and prototyping, for transferring or advancing technologies into deployed solutions and improved practices for the marketplace.

Results Achieved

| Expected Results | Performance Indicators | Target | Date to achieve target | 2016-17 Actual results | 2015-16 Actual results | 2014-15 Actual results |
|--|---|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Advancements of aerospace process and product technologies | Client / stakeholder financial investment in technology development | \$32.0M annually | March 2017 | \$30.8M | \$31.2M | \$31.2M |
| | Licensing and royalty revenue from NRC clients | \$0.03M annually | March 2017 | \$0.09M | \$0.04M | \$0.04M |

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

| 2016-17 Planned Spending | 2016-17 Actual Spending | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 74,178,547 | 67,416,375 | (6,762,172) |

The difference between planned and actual spending is due to an increased allocation (\$3.9M) to the subprogram for use of NRC's internal design and fabrication services. This is offset by a difference arising from a change in accounting practices. In particular, the planned spending includes \$12.5M for a project arising from the 2014 Federal Infrastructure Initiative. The actual spending, however, was reported under Internal Services in consideration of the horizontal cross-NRC nature of the Federal Infrastructure Initiative projects. As such, the planned and actual spending values are not directly comparable.

Human resources (full-time equivalents)

| 2016-17 Planned | 2016-17 Actual | 2016–17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| 391.8 | 398.9 | 7.1 |

Additional information on this subprogram and its research initiatives is available from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/aerospace/index.html> .

Sub-program 1.1.2 Automotive and Surface Transportation

Description

This sub-program provides technical knowledge and advances product and process technologies for producing more fuel-efficient, affordable, and environmentally-responsible ground vehicles and for delivering engineering solutions to complex technology challenges facing surface transport industries including heavy vehicle and rail. This is important for reducing transportation infrastructure and costs and for enhancing Canada's share of ground vehicle supply chains and for enhancing the prosperity of the ground vehicle industry sector in Canada as it is faced with growing environmental concerns, competitive pressures, and stringent regulations. The Canadian economy relies on advanced manufacturing sectors such as the ground vehicle industries as major economic drivers, accounting for a significant portion of manufacturing trade, and therefore must remain competitive. Results are achieved through multi-disciplinary collaborative research and development services in addition to specialized technical services, such as testing, prototyping and system integration, for transferring or advancing technologies into deployed solutions and improved practices for the marketplace.

Results Achieved

| Expected Results | Performance Indicators | Target | Date to achieve target | 2016-17 Actual results | 2015-16 Actual results | 2014-15 Actual results |
|---|---|---------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Advancements in ground vehicle process and product technologies | Client / stakeholder financial investment in technology development | \$27.2M | March 2017 | \$26.6M | \$25.5M | \$19.8M |
| | Licensing and royalty revenue from NRC clients | \$0.40M | March 2017 | \$0.24M | \$0.84M | \$0.70M |

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

| 2016-17 Planned Spending | 2016-17 Actual Spending | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 55,521,673 | 45,192,497 | (10,329,176) |

The difference between planned and actual spending is due to a change in accounting practices. In particular, the planned spending includes \$12.5M for a project arising from the 2014 Federal Infrastructure Initiative. The actual spending, however, was reported under Internal Services in consideration of the horizontal cross-NRC nature of the Federal Infrastructure Initiative projects. As such, the planned and actual spending values are not directly comparable.

Human resources (full-time equivalents)

| 2016-17 Planned | 2016-17 Actual | 2016–17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| 260.4 | 270.1 | 9.7 |

Additional information on this subprogram and its research initiatives is available from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/ast/index.html> .

Sub-program 1.1.3 Ocean, Coastal, and River Engineering

Description

This sub-program develops and advances technologies and standards for safe and effective operations in Canada's vast ocean, coastal and river environments, including the Arctic. This is important for lowering barriers for natural resource development and for enhancing the prosperity of the Canadian marine transportation and water resource sectors facing costly challenges of harsh environments (ice, wind, waves, currents), extreme weather events (floods, "100 year wave"), and coastal erosion. Results are achieved by working with Canadian industry through multi-disciplinary collaborative research and development services in addition to custom technical services, such as testing, prototyping, numerical modeling, and system integration in specialized facilities, for transferring or advancing technologies into deployed solutions and improved practices for the marketplace.

Results Achieved

| Expected Results | Performance Indicators | Target | Date to achieve target | 2016-17 Actual results | 2015-16 Actual results | 2014-15 Actual results |
|--|---|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Advancements of process and product technologies for ocean, coastal and inland water engineering | Client / stakeholder financial investment in technology development | \$12.1M annually | March 2017 | \$7.7M | \$8.3M | \$8.7M |
| | Licensing and royalty revenue from NRC clients | \$0.10M annually | March 2017 | \$0.10M | \$0.11M | \$0.11M |

The 2016-17 targets were based on an earlier business plan that projected increased client / stakeholder investment in the sub-program's initiatives that advance technologies for Arctic development. The increase did not materialize due to reduced activity in the oil and gas sector. The sub-program will be re-scoped accordingly.

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

| 2016-17 Planned Spending | 2016-17 Actual Spending | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 15,651,402 | 17,299,075 | 1,647,673 |

The difference of \$1.6M between actual and planned spending is largely explained by a higher level of use of the design and fabrication internal service than was originally planned, and therefore, resulted in a higher allocation of cost to the subprogram.

Human resources (full-time equivalents)

| 2016-17 Planned | 2016-17 Actual | 2016–17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| 104.8 | 107.2 | 2.4 |

Additional information on this subprogram and its research initiatives is available from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/ocre/index.html> .

Sub-program 1.1.4 Energy, Mining and Environment

Description

This sub-program develops and advances technologies and techniques for enhancing the innovation capacity and growth of Canada's natural resources and utility sectors. These sectors are important contributors to Canada's GDP that are challenged by volatile global markets and growing environmental pressures. To remain sustainable, industries in these sectors require technologies to reduce production costs. Results are achieved through multi-disciplinary collaborative research and development services in addition to specialized advisory and technical services for transferring or advancing technologies into industrial solutions for the marketplace.

Results Achieved

| Expected Results | Performance Indicators | Target | Date to achieve target | 2016-17 Actual results | 2015-16 Actual results | 2014-15 Actual results |
|--|---|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Advancements of process and product technologies for the natural resources and utility sectors | Client / stakeholder financial investment in technology development | \$6.9M annually | March 2017 | \$6.4M | \$6.1M | \$6.1M |
| | Licensing and royalty revenue from NRC clients | \$0.30M annually | March 2017 | \$0.36M | \$0.13M | \$0.25M |

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

| 2016-17 Planned Spending | 2016-17 Actual Spending | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 29,547,454 | 30,092,917 | 545,463 |

Human resources (full-time equivalents)

| 2016-17 Planned | 2016-17 Actual | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------|----------------|---|
| 192.5 | 201.2 | 8.7 |

Additional information on this subprogram and its research initiatives is available from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/eme/index.html>.

Sub-program 1.1.5 Construction

Description

This sub-program provides technical knowledge and it advances product and process technologies to enhance the prosperity of the Canadian construction industry sector as it faces critical challenges in responding to expectations for better performing and more affordable buildings and infrastructure while striving to remain competitive in the global marketplace. The success of this sector is critical as a major contributor to Canada's GDP, employing millions of individuals, and managing assets valued in the trillions of dollars. Results are achieved through multi-disciplinary collaborative research and development and standardization services in addition to custom technical services -- such as testing, product and process validation, prototyping, and system integration in field and in specialized facilities -- for transferring or advancing technologies into deployed solutions and improved practices for the marketplace.

Results Achieved

| Expected Results | Performance Indicators | Target | Date to achieve target | 2016-17 Actual results | 2015-16 Actual results | 2014-15 Actual results |
|---|---|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Advancements of process and product technologies for the construction industry sector | Client / stakeholder financial investment in technology development | \$15.0M annually | March 2017 | \$21.8M | \$17.5M | \$11.4M |
| | Licensing and royalty revenue from NRC clients | \$0.84M annually | March 2017 | \$0.98M | \$0.86M | \$0.68M |

The sub-program benefited from a larger-than-expected increase in client investment during 2016-17, especially in strategic research projects and increased licensing of building code products that support a building construction industry valued at more than \$130B per year. With an increased pipeline of incoming projects, it is anticipated that the client / stakeholder investment will be sustained in the immediate future. This increased engagement indicates client and stakeholder confidence in the sub-program's offerings.

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

| 2016-17 Planned Spending | 2016-17 Actual Spending | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 28,538,634 | 32,191,021 | 3,652,387 |

The difference of \$3.6M between actual and planned spending is explained largely by the increased use of spendable revenue.

Human resources (full-time equivalents)

| 2016-17 Planned | 2016-17 Actual | 2016–17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| 178.3 | 196.3 | 18.0 |

The difference between planned and actual FTEs reflects increased program delivery in response to client demand.

Additional information on this subprogram and its research initiatives is available from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/construction/index.html> .

Sub-program 1.1.6 Aquatic and Crop Resource Development

Description

In collaboration with industry, this sub-program develops improved varieties of crops and develops technologies for maximizing crop value and converting biomass to enhance the prosperity and global market share of the Canadian agriculture, bio-product, and natural health product industry sectors. This includes development and validation of value-added goods – from natural ingredients and health products through to chemicals and industrial oils and other products – for leveraging Canada's abundant aquatic and crop resources. Results are achieved through multi-disciplinary collaborative research and development services in addition to specialized technical services for transferring or advancing technologies into deployed solutions and improved practices for the marketplace.

Results Achieved

| Expected Results | Performance Indicators | Target | Date to achieve target | 2016-17 Actual results | 2015-16 Actual results | 2014-15 Actual results |
|---|---|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Advancements in agricultural crops and related value-added products | Client / stakeholder financial investment in technology development | \$5.5M annually | March 2017 | \$6.6M | \$6.2M | \$4.7M |
| | Licensing and royalty revenue from NRC clients | \$0.40M annually | March 2017 | \$0.58M | \$0.52M | \$1.17M |

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

| 2016-17 Planned Spending | 2016-17 Actual Spending | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 41,574,725 | 32,047,467 | (9,527,258) |

The difference between planned and actual spending is mainly caused by changes within investment planning projects. Overall, projects totalling \$6.7M in planned spending were either cancelled or temporarily delayed following an affordability review completed by NRC across all investment plan projects. Included in the \$6.7M is \$2.8M in frozen capital funding due to the cancellation of a project in Saskatoon funded by the 2014 Federal Infrastructure initiative.

Human resources (full-time equivalents)

| 2016-17 Planned | 2016-17 Actual | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------|----------------|---|
| 217.7 | 220.0 | 2.3 |

Additional information on this subprogram and its research initiatives is available from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/aquatic/index.html> .

Sub-program 1.1.7 Medical Devices

Description

This sub-program applies expertise in biochips, nano-materials, micro-devices, in vitro diagnostics, imaging, optical bio-photonics, medical simulation, and radio-frequency engineering and electronics to develop and advance technologies for enhancing the prosperity of the medical device industry as it strives to respond to increasing demands for equipment and supplies that are faster, more accurate, more informative, more affordable and less invasive. The industry is important for its growing contribution to Canada's GDP and its contribution to effective and efficient health care. Results are achieved through provision of industry-driven technical services and multi-disciplinary collaborative research.

Results Achieved

| Expected Results | Performance Indicators | Target | Date to achieve target | 2016-17 Actual results | 2015-16 Actual results | 2014-15 Actual results |
|---|---|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Advancements in medical devices for the marketplace | Client / stakeholder financial investment in technology development | \$3.2M annually | March 2017 | \$2.7M | \$3.1M | \$2.2M |
| | Licensing and royalty revenue from NRC clients | \$0.26M annually | March 2017 | \$0.15M | \$0.34M | \$0.36M |

Client/stakeholder financial investment was lower than expected due to delays in the start of some projects and the financial challenges of small to medium sized companies in the Canadian medical device sector. However, as evidenced by the 60 Confidentiality Agreements signed during 2016-17, there was an increased interest in the support that the subprogram can provide to accelerate the development of medical device technologies.

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

| 2016-17 Planned Spending | 2016-17 Actual Spending | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 11,803,400 | 10,160,639 | (1,642,761) |

The difference between planned and actual spending is mainly caused by reduced operating costs. The cost of operations was less than planned due to various factors, including reductions in FTEs, and a reduced level of statutory spending related with contract services as indicated in the performance indicators.

Human resources (full-time equivalents)

| 2016-17 Planned | 2016-17 Actual | 2016–17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| 67.0 | 63.7 | (3.3) |

Additional information on this subprogram and its research initiatives is available from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/medical/index.html> .

Sub-program 1.1.8 Human Health Therapeutics

Description

In collaboration with industry, this sub-program develops vaccines and biologics for enhancing the prosperity of the Canadian bio-therapeutics industry, and to provide more effective treatments to Canadians. Activities include developing biologic materials for treating and preventing infectious and chronic diseases, and technologies to deliver therapeutics from circulation in the blood to the central nervous system. Results are achieved through multi-disciplinary collaborative research and development services in addition to specialized technical services for transferring or advancing technologies into deployed solutions and improved practices for the marketplace.

Results Achieved

| Expected Results | Performance Indicators | Target | Date to achieve target | 2016-17 Actual results | 2015-16 Actual results | 2014-15 Actual results |
|---|---|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Improved and more affordable vaccines and biologics for the marketplace | Client / stakeholder financial investment in technology development | \$15.7M annually | March 2017 | \$15.9M | \$19.3M | \$14.8M |
| | Licensing and royalty revenue from NRC clients | \$2.9M annually | March 2017 | \$3.9M | \$4.7M | \$2.51M |

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

| 2016-17 Planned Spending | 2016-17 Actual Spending | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 52,094,948 | 49,230,813 | (2,864,135) |

The slight difference in planned versus actual spending is explained by delays in the start of some projects due in part to time required to develop complex contracts and the intellectual property issues associated with them. Nonetheless, the subprogram (HHT) continues to advance a rich pipeline of prospective drug candidates for its industry clients, particularly in biologics and vaccines. Industry adoption of HHT technologies is indicated by strong performance in licensing and royalty revenue. In 2016-17, HHT signed licence agreements with an international company that has a strong R&D footprint in Canada. The HHT technology will enable the company's therapeutic products to reach the brain, and this will generate \$1M (US) in up-front payments and future milestone payment revenues.

Human resources (full-time equivalents)

| 2016-17 Planned | 2016-17 Actual | 2016–17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| 299.4 | 331.6 | 32.2 |

The difference between planned and actual FTEs is associated with anticipatory growth required to increase the capacity and capability to address imminent applied research needs.

Additional information on this subprogram and its research initiatives is available from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/hht/index.html> .

Sub-program 1.1.9 Information and Communication Technologies

Description

In support of Canada's digital economy, this sub-program applies leading-edge expertise in software development, semiconducting materials and photonic device design and fabrication to design, validate, demonstrate and deliver both physical and software solutions that lead to new market opportunities for industries in Canada's Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector that seek to profit from an explosive growth of data and from escalating needs for greater connectivity and for revolutionary ways to use computers to make decisions, synthesize information, and discover new knowledge. This is important for increasing Canada's global share of the growing ICT market. Results are achieved through multi-disciplinary collaborative research and development services in addition to specialized technical services in state-of-the-art facilities for transferring or advancing technologies into deployed solutions and improved practices for the marketplace. This includes custom manufacturing of novel components for innovative photonic, electronic, and opto-electronic devices.

Results Achieved

| Expected Results | Performance Indicators | Target | Date to achieve target | 2016-17 Actual results | 2015-16 Actual results | 2014-15 Actual results |
|--|---|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Advancements of process and product technologies for the information and communications technology sectors | Client / stakeholder financial investment in technology development | \$11.0M annually | March 2017 | \$23.7M | \$15.4M | \$9.7M |
| | Licensing and royalty revenue from NRC clients | \$0.40M annually | March 2017 | \$0.23M | \$0.49M | \$0.32M |

Client/stakeholder financial investment has increased due to research and development efforts to support Canada's growing digital economy including activities related to the development and fabrication of photonics components.

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

| 2016-17 Planned Spending | 2016-17 Actual Spending | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 42,133,168 | 41,207,290 | (925,878) |

Human resources (full-time equivalents)

| 2016-17 Planned | 2016-17 Actual | 2016–17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| 217.2 | 239.7 | 22.5 |

The difference between planned and actual FTEs is associated with growth required to increase the capacity and capability of the subprogram to address research needs as well as deliver on significant increases in contract services as indicated by the performance indicators.

Additional information on this subprogram and its research initiatives is available from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/ict/index.html> <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/ast/index.html>.

Sub-program 1.1.10 Security and Disruptive Technologies

Description

This sub-program builds and validates emerging technology platforms (such as nanotechnology, quantum technologies and the convergence of nano-, bio- and information technologies) that can be applied in a range of industries to sustain Canada's industrial competitiveness by opening new markets and value networks for Canadian industries in tomorrow's economy. Efforts focus on applications for addressing national security challenges because security and defence innovation players are amongst the earliest adopters of such technologies from which broader commercial adaptations ultimately evolve, replacing existing technologies. Results are achieved through multi-disciplinary collaborative research and development services in addition to specialized technical services in state-of-the-art facilities for ultimately introducing disruptive and transformational technology solutions into practice and the marketplace.

Results Achieved

| Expected Results | Performance Indicators | Target | Date to achieve target | 2016-17 Actual results | 2015-16 Actual results | 2014-15 Actual results |
|--|---|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Advancement of process and product technologies in security and other industry sectors | Client / stakeholder financial investment in technology development | \$2.9M annually | March 2017 | \$3.2M | \$3.9M | \$3.4M |
| | Licensing and royalty revenue from NRC clients | \$0.16M annually | March 2017 | \$0.14M | \$0.24M | \$0.08M |

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

| 2016-17 Planned Spending | 2016-17 Actual Spending | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 42,965,743 | 27,373,945 | (15,591,798) |

The difference between planned and actual spending is mainly caused by changes in accounting practices. In particular, the planned spending includes a project arising from the 2014 Federal Infrastructure Initiative. The actual spending, however, was reported under Internal Services in consideration of the horizontal cross-NRC nature of the Federal Infrastructure Initiative projects. As such, the planned and actual spending values are not directly comparable.

Human resources (full-time equivalents)

| 2016-17 Planned | 2016-17 Actual | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------|----------------|---|
| 159.2 | 158.0 | (1.2) |

Additional information on this subprogram and its research initiatives is available from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/security/index.html> .

Sub-program 2.1.1 National Science Infrastructure

Description

This sub-program manages Canada's astronomical observatories as mandated in the National Research Council Act, and it compiles and disseminates astronomical data while leveraging access to international observatories for Canadian researchers in astrophysics. This sub-program uses funding from the following transfer payment: Contributions to the International Astronomical Observatories Program.

Results Achieved

| Expected Results | Performance Indicators | Target | Date to achieve target | 2016-17 Actual results | 2015-16 Actual results | 2014-15 Actual results |
|--|---|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Canadian scientists have access to astronomical observatories and data | User access and downloads of astronomy data | 4000 ¹ annually | March 2017 | 9000 | 7000 | 8300 |
| | Scientific publications by telescope users | 490 annually | March 2017 | 611 | 501 | 451 |

Access of Canadian scientists to astronomical observatories and data is a function of the Government of Canada's contribution to the astronomical observatories in which it has an interest. Performance indicators for this sub-program thus reflect maintenance of current levels of access to observatories.

Budgetary financial resources² (dollars)

| 2016-17 Planned Spending | 2016-17 Actual Spending | 2016-17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 143,225,497 | 97,848,262 | (45,377,235) |

The difference of \$45.4M is mainly caused by delays associated with Canada's participation in the Thirty Metre Telescope (TMT), an international collaboration to construct one of the most advanced optical telescopes on Earth, extending astronomers' vision to the most distant reaches of the universe. The project has been delayed due to conditions outside of NRC's and Canada's control at the proposed construction site. NRC has reprofiled \$46.6M in TMT grants and contributions from 2016-17 to 2017-18.

¹ NSI's astronomy database is populated by participating observatories. The subprogram manages the data and it provides data access and related analytical products to the astronomy user community. In any given year, the target represents the level of access that is required to ensure that the user community is appropriately served.

² The planned and actual spending values include \$53,672,800 contribution to TRIUMF, which is a transfer payment program that is administered at the program level and is unrelated to the National Science Infrastructure subprogram.

Human resources (full-time equivalents)

| 2016-17 Planned | 2016-17 Actual | 2016–17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| 114.3 | 124.5 | 10.2 |

The difference between planned and actual FTEs is due to growth required to increase the capacity and capability to address research needs.

Additional information on this subprogram (operating as Herzberg Astronomy and Astrophysics) and its research initiatives is available from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/hsi/index.html>.

Sub-program 2.1.2 Measurement Science and Standards

Description

As mandated under the National Research Council Act and also the Weights and Measures Act, this sub-program investigates and determines standards and methods of measurement for Canada's national measurement system. This national metrological system is critical for underpinning trade and commerce in the global economy. The sub-program supports international metrological treaties and arrangements to establish and maintain foreign recognition and acceptance of Canada's standards and measures that are critical for participation in multi-lateral and free-trade agreements. The sub-program provides a wide variety of calibration and measurement services that underpin the accuracy of millions of measurements conducted annually in public and private sector testing and calibration laboratories. In addition, the sub-program provides expert assessments and formal recognition of the measurement capabilities of industrial calibration laboratories. This is important for providing Canada's trading partners confidence in the reliability of Canadian industries' measurements and test certifications of compliance to regulatory and product standards that govern trade. The sub-program also develops measurement standards for emerging technologies that open new global market opportunities for Canadian industries.

Results Achieved

| Expected Results | Performance Indicators | Target | Date to achieve target | 2016-17 Actual results | 2015-16 Actual results | 2014-15 Actual results |
|--|--|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Internationally-recognized national system of measurement that meets Canada's evolving needs | Clients served | 725 annually | March 2017 | 742 | 826 | 789 |
| | Calibration and measurement capabilities recognized internationally ³ | 600 annually | March 2017 | 621 | 621 | 623 |
| | Scientific and other publications in metrology | 1500 ⁴ annually | March 2017 | 2630 | 3221 | 2124 |

The variance in the number of scientific and other publications in metrology arises from fluctuations in the sales of certified reference materials. The variance in the number of clients served is due to amalgamations within the industry as well as to increased sales to returning clients.

³ The number of calibration and measurement capabilities recognized by international agreement during the reporting period. It is measured by the number of approved calibration and measurement capabilities of this Sub-Program as published in the Key Comparisons Database of the Bureau international des poids et mesures.

⁴This target was increased for 2017-18 in consideration of consistent high performance in advancing scientific knowledge in metrology.

Budgetary financial resources (dollars)

| 2016-17 Planned Spending | 2016-17 Actual Spending | 2016–17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 25,444,951 | 27,755,881 | 2,310,930 |

The difference of \$2.3M between planned and actual spending is mainly caused by increases as a result of growth in contract services as well as the sales of certified reference materials.

Human resources (full-time equivalents)

| 2016-17 Planned | 2016-17 Actual | 2016–17 Difference (actual minus planned) |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| 164.1 | 166.6 | 2.5 |

Additional information on this subprogram and its research initiatives is available from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/mss/index.html>.