

**NRC-CNRC**

# Guidelines for communication of NRC IRAP support



Resources for firms (2023)



National Research  
Council Canada

Conseil national de  
recherches Canada

Canada 

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## Overview

**This document is designed to assist you in issuing public communications announcing or referencing the advisory services and funding your firm is currently receiving, or has received in the past, from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP).**

This document contains information and guidance with respect to:

- obligations of the firm
- approval process
- general guidance and sample wording for:
  - third party news releases
  - social media
  - website content and use of NRC's visual identifier (logo)
- who to contact for assistance



## **Obligation to seek NRC IRAP approval**

**The obligations of the firm with respect to treatment of public communications related to the contribution agreement are laid out in Clause 11 of your signed NRC IRAP Contribution Agreement, which reads as follows:**

The Firm shall, in all public communications related to this Contribution Agreement (including but not limited to Web site, publications, news releases, presentations, annual reports, on-site signage) acknowledge the financial contribution of the Government of Canada. The Firm must not use the name of the National Research Council Canada (NRC) or the Government of Canada in any manner that may imply endorsement or approval of a product, process, or business. The Firm shall consent to a form of acknowledgement which has been approved by the NRC, and which may include text in both official languages, an official government symbol and/or other graphic elements. The Firm also consents to limit the acknowledgement to applications agreed upon by the NRC and to terminate the acknowledgment upon the request by NRC.

## Approval process

The approval process is managed via your NRC IRAP Industrial Technology Advisor (ITA). Please allow for **up to 5 business days for NRC approvals**. Support should only be announced once approval has been granted by NRC IRAP. If you are announcing new funding, the NRC IRAP Contribution Agreement must be final, having been signed by your firm and NRC IRAP.



### Step 1:

If you choose to issue communications announcing or recognizing your NRC IRAP support, please provide the following to your Industrial Technology Advisor (ITA):

- an electronic copy of the content (e.g. news release, social media or web content) in an MS Word document
- the anticipated distribution date (with the 5-day approval timeline built in)
- the proposed distribution method



### Step 2

Your ITA will work with NRC IRAP's Communications team to review your content and make minimal changes, as required, based on:

- the agreement between NRC IRAP and your firm (i.e., accurate Contribution Agreement amount, project description, etc.)
- the writing guidelines listed in this document



### Step 3

NRC IRAP's Communications team will move the content you provided through all necessary approvals and will return it to you through your ITA.



## General guidance: third party news releases

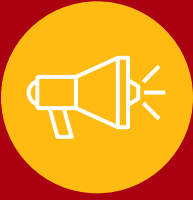
### Writing guidelines

Please take into account the following guidelines when drafting your release:

1. "NRC IRAP" and the Contribution Agreement funding amount cannot appear in the title.
2. Avoid using the words "grant", "granted" or "awarded" (e.g. Do not use "Firm was granted/awarded \$XX for this project").
3. NRC representatives cannot be quoted in third party news releases.
4. At first mention, NRC IRAP should be written in full as: the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP). The NRC IRAP acronym may be used afterwards.

5. Third party news releases cannot contain "About NRC IRAP" sections or boilerplate text.
6. NRC and NRC IRAP logos cannot appear in third party news releases or social media posts.
7. When acknowledging NRC IRAP support for R&D projects, "advisory services" should be mentioned first, followed by "funding" (see example under 'recommended wording').
8. Within the text, NRC IRAP funding should be referred to as "funding of up to \$X" when announcing a Contribution Agreement amount.
9. Firms should note that NRC IRAP supports "research and development." It is not accurate to say NRC IRAP supports "commercialization" or purely "development" projects.
10. When NRC IRAP "Youth funding" is being announced, advisory services do not apply.
11. Do not include statements that might imply NRC IRAP or Government of Canada endorsement of a particular product, technology or service.
12. Do not include forward looking statements regarding NRC IRAP funding (e.g. statements that imply future NRC IRAP funding is likely).





## Samples of recommended wording

### Announcing new NRC IRAP funding

[Firm] is pleased to announce that it is receiving advisory services and up to \$[X] in funding from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP) to support a research and development project [to/that will] [description].

### General mentions of NRC IRAP support

#### Ongoing funding

[Firm] is also receiving advisory services and funding of up to \$X from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP) supporting this research and development project/supporting a research and development project [to/that will] [description].

#### Past funding

[Firm] also received advisory services and funding of \$X from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP) between [year] and [year] supporting this research and development project/supporting a research and development project [to/that will] [description]

### Announcing additional NRC IRAP funding (CA amendment)

[Firm] is pleased to announce that it is receiving additional advisory services and funding from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP) supporting its research and development project entitled, [project name], which started in [month, year]. The amendment expands existing support [Firm] is receiving from NRC IRAP and will provide a total financial contribution of up to \$XX for the project.





## **General guidance: social media**

Your firm may use social media to announce new project funding or provide project updates. NRC IRAP does not have its own dedicated social media channels. If you wish to post on social media, please tag the NRC's official corporate accounts:

- English Twitter: [twitter.com/NRC\\_CNRC](https://twitter.com/NRC_CNRC)
- French Twitter: [twitter.com/CNRC\\_NRC](https://twitter.com/CNRC_NRC)
- LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/company/national-research-council](https://linkedin.com/company/national-research-council)
- Instagram: [instagram.com/nrc\\_cnrc](https://instagram.com/nrc_cnrc)

Any content mentioning NRC IRAP support should first be submitted to your ITA for review and approval from NRC IRAP. To respect the privacy of NRC IRAP employees in social media posts, they should only be mentioned with their prior consent and NRC IRAP approval

### **Twitter**

If you are planning on Tweeting to link to a news release or announcement, the tweet should be submitted to NRC IRAP for approval in tandem with the draft release. Where appropriate you may use #IRAP to further specify NRC IRAP support.

### **Sample tweets:**

[Firm] is pleased to announce it is receiving advisory services and funding from @NRC\_CNRC #IRAP for a R&D project to [description] <link to news release>

[Firm] is pleased to announce it will be advancing its innovative [description] thanks to advisory services and R&D funding support from @NRC\_CNRC #IRAP <link to news release>

### **LinkedIn**

Please use wording that adheres to the writing guidelines for third party news releases and tag NRC's official LinkedIn account. If you are planning to repurpose a news release for LinkedIn content, please let us know and ensure that the content has been approved by NRC IRAP.

### **Instagram**

Usage of NRC logos is not authorized





## General guidance: website content and use of NRC's visual identifier (logo)

Please advise your Industrial Technology Advisor (ITA) if you plan to mention NRC IRAP support on your website. All requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and should adhere to the following guidelines:

- Your firm has an active Contribution Agreement (CA) with NRC IRAP or a project that has ended within the past 5 years.
- Address NRC IRAP support specifically. Refrain from referring to NRC IRAP as a “partner” or “collaborator”.
- Do not use NRC IRAP's name or any NRC visual on marketing products such as brochures, product inserts and advertisements, or in any manner that may be interpreted as product or technology endorsement.
- Where possible (e.g. websites), add a small text acknowledging the nature of NRC IRAP's support, followed by the NRC signature (image file to be provided by NRC IRAP Communications team).

## Sample web acknowledgements

### Ongoing funding

Supported in part by advisory services and research and development funding from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP).

### Past funding (project ended within past 5 years)

Supported in part by (ongoing) advisory services and research and development funding received between [year] and [year] from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP).

Note: Firms using any NRC visual identifier without prior consent will be asked to remove the image from their website.



## **Sample news release template**

[Firm] receives funding to [project description]

Month XX, 20XX – City, Province/Territory Today, [firm] is pleased to announce that it is receiving advisory services and up to \$[X] in funding from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP) to support a research and development project [to/that will] [description].

### **Optional quote from the Firm**

“We are pleased to receive this support from NRC IRAP which will allow us to....” (Note: No quotes from NRC IRAP representatives)

### **About the Firm**

Firm boilerplate text here. (Note: No “about NRC IRAP” text)

### **Contact Information**

Firm’s contact information here (Note: No contact information for the NRC)



## Political announcements

If your firm is approached by a federal representative (e.g. MP or Minister's office) to make an announcement at your facility, please inform your ITA as soon as possible. Your ITA will inform the NRC IRAP Communications team to take action as needed or necessary.

If NRC IRAP project funding is being announced at the event, the NRC IRAP Communications team will work with you and your ITA to ensure that the project is reflected accurately in any subsequent communications products.

## Media interviews

If your firm participates in interviews with media, you are welcome to mention NRC IRAP within the factual context of R&D project support. However, NRC IRAP's name should not be used in any manner that implies endorsement of your firm, its technology or products.

### Good examples:

- "We are receiving advisory services and funding from NRC IRAP supporting our research and development project to [description]."
- "With this support from NRC IRAP, we have been able to / will be able to..."

### Things to avoid:

- "Our technology is backed by NRC IRAP."
- "We are partnering with NRC IRAP to deliver our tech, product, etc."
- "This investment from NRC IRAP is a testament to the quality of our technology."

Note: If you participate in an interview or news article where NRC IRAP support is mentioned, please notify your ITA (providing a link to the story, if available).

## **Who to contact for assistance**

Your Industrial Technology Advisor is your primary contact for all things NRC IRAP related. If you have questions about mentioning NRC IRAP support that are not answered above, please contact your ITA and they will liaise with the NRC IRAP Communications team as necessary.

[canada.ca/nrc-irap](https://canada.ca/nrc-irap)

[nrc.canada.ca](https://nrc.canada.ca)

[info@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca](mailto:info@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca)

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