CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION

2023 Innovation Fund

Analysis of strengths and weaknesses

January 2024



Strengths and Weaknesses Analysis (Expert Committee)

Weaknesses

- Lack of details on methodology
- Approach not feasible
- Not integrative/lack of focus
- Missing details on activity
- Missing expertise
- Plan for equity, diversity and inclusion missing or lack of detail
- Equipment wrong or not justified
- Missing user base or business development

Strengths

- Impressive breadth and depth of expertise
- Innovative research program
- Outstanding research track record
- Breakthrough potential
- Concrete actions/tangible activities
- Outstanding justification
- Strong governance/oversight plans
- Strong operation and maintenance plan

Strengths and Weaknesses Analysis (Multidisciplinary assessment committees)

Weaknesses

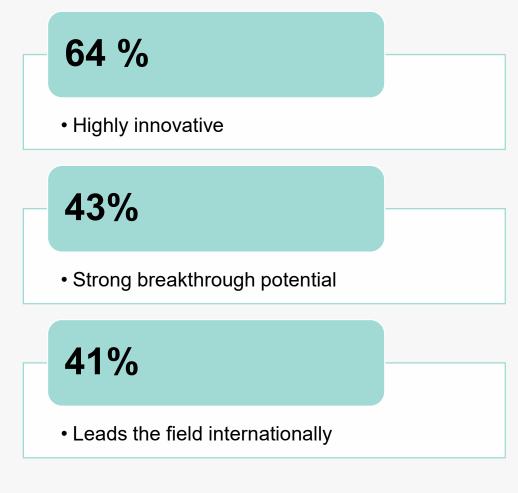
- Lack of detail for research or technology development
- Weak evidence of action on equity, diversity and inclusion
- Suffers from comparison within the competition
- Approach is not feasible
- Weak justification for infrastructure
- Poor sustainability planning
- Underdeveloped
 management/governance/access plan
- Weak plan for technology transfer/clinical transfer/knowledge mobilization
- Overstated/weak benefits

Strengths

- Leading researchers
- Leading-edge and innovative research in area of global leadership
- Unique infrastructure
- Exceptional synergies
- Pathways clearly defined
- Importance of benefit to Canada

Expert Committee strengths

Research or technology development



Team expertise

72%

• Impressive breadth and depth of expertise

63%

Outstanding research track record

31%

Strong leadership

31%

Strong track record of collaboration

28%

• Team includes established and emerging leaders

Expert Committee strengths (continued)

Team composition

67%

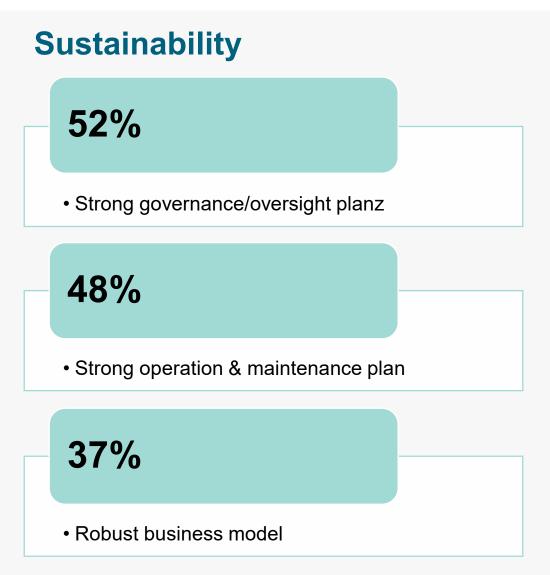
• Concrete actions and tangible activities

41%

• Commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion

Infrastructure 53% Outstanding justification 29% • Unique or innovative infrastructure 16% Rare facility in Canada 16% • Optimal use

Expert Committee strengths (continued)



Benefits

66%

• Credible and proven pathways to benefits

48%

• Strong partnership with end users

41%

Potential for societal impact

Expert Committee weaknesses

Research or technology development

34%

Lack of details on methodology

22%

Approach is not feasible

22%

• Research program is not integrated or lacks focus

14%

Lack of overall details on research program

14%

• Research program is not innovative

Team expertise

22%

Missing expertise or critical mass of experts

7%

Missing expertise on data management

6%

• Weak evidence of working as a team, track record or funding history

Expert Committee weaknesses (continued)

Team composition

16%

• Missing or lacking detail on equity , diversity and strategy or action plan

9%

• Statements on equity, diversity and inclusion and related barriers were generic

5%

Relevant marginalized groups excluded from discussion

Infrastructure

33%

 Not well justified / not connected to research/wrong equipment

10%

Missing infrastructure development/implementation
 plan

8%

• Missing detail on similar/existing infrastructure

Expert Committee weaknesses (continued)

Sustainability

14%

 Potential user base or business development plan missing

13%

· Costs/revenues not detailed

10%

Weak operation & maintenance plan

8%

Weak governance or management structure

7%

Insufficient personnel

6%

Weak infrastructure or data management plan

Benefits to Canadians

14%

• Missing details of benefits

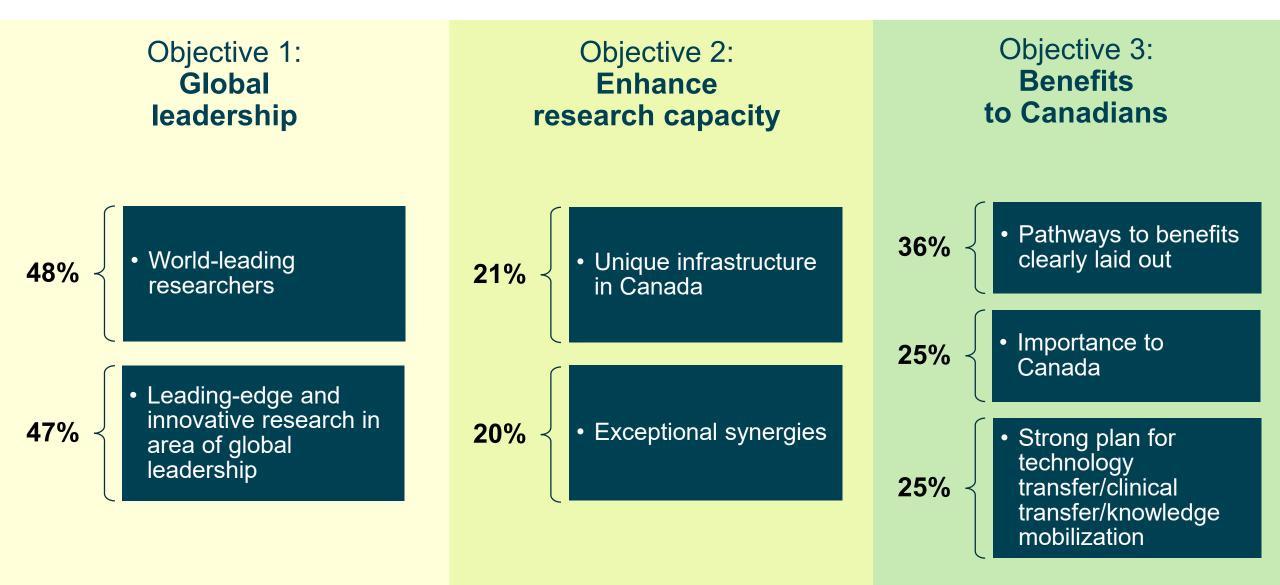
16%

Weak plan for technology transfer/clinical transfer/knowledge mobilization

5%

• Overstated impact

Multidisciplinary assessment committees strengths



Multidisciplinary assessment committees weaknesses

