



April 16, 2024

Federal Budget 2024

Briefing note for members of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

The Federation welcomes Budget 2024's significant investment in research and researchers in Canada. We are pleased to see the federal government recognize the vital importance of research, including in the humanities and social sciences, in confronting Canada's most pressing challenges. This Budget is a decisive response to calls for action from the Federation and across the research community, with increases to the base budgets of the federal granting councils, and urgently needed support for Canada's graduate students and the next generation of researchers.

In its commitment to investing \$825 million over five years and \$199.8 million per year ongoing in federally funded graduate scholarships and post-doctoral fellowships, Budget 2024 will help ensure Canada's graduate and post-doctoral funding provides adequate support and remains internationally competitive. The Budget commits to increasing the annual value of scholarships and fellowships to \$27,000 (Master's), \$40,000 (Doctoral), \$70,000 (Post-doctoral), along with increasing the number of scholarships and fellowships, building to an additional 1,720 provided each year. Coupled with new investment in the federal granting councils, this dedicated support will reduce barriers to graduate education and research careers across all disciplines.

It is encouraging to see the federal government making research a priority and addressing recommendations of the [Advisory Panel on the Federal Research Support System](#). This Budget provides an additional \$1.8 billion over five years, with \$748.3 million per year ongoing, to the federal granting councils: the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). This sustained, multi-year investment in core research grant funding is a significant step forward to support our researchers, drive innovation, and to strengthen our research system and its global standing.

Other crucial measures include \$30 million over three years to support Indigenous participation in research (\$10 million each for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit partners).

As part of the government's response to the Advisory Panel's recommendations, this Budget announces the creation of a new organization and structure for the federal research support system: a new "capstone research funding organization" that will house the federal granting councils and support cross-system coordination. The Budget also announces the government will create an advisory Council on Science and Innovation to guide research priorities. An additional \$26.9 million over five years has been committed for the granting councils to develop a harmonized grant management system. We will be seeking more information about these announcements in the days ahead and look forward to participating in future consultations on the design and implementation of these proposed governance changes.



With research and access to post-secondary education at the forefront of the government's plan to grow the economy and support every generation, this is a vital opportunity to continue to sustain our advocacy for the critical role of humanities and social sciences disciplines. We will continue to work with all our members and our community to foster partnerships with government and across the post-secondary sector to advance a stronger and more inclusive research system in Canada.

We thank our members for their contributions to this collective call for fair and sustainable funding for our researchers and disciplines. We will be sharing advocacy updates and opportunities for members to get involved over the coming weeks.

Useful links

Federal Government

- [Budget 2024](#)
- [Media release](#) and [highlights](#)

Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

- [2024 Pre-Budget Submission](#)
- [Federation, Coalition for Canadian Research call for federal investment in Canada's research system](#)
- [Federation, Coalition for Canadian Research launch Federal Budget 2024 campaign](#)
- [Federation Policy Development Framework](#)
- [CSPC 2023 - Nouvelle loi, nouveau plan d'action pour les langues officielles : quelles avancées pour la recherche en français?](#)
- [Coalition for Canadian Research](#)
- [Report of the Advisory Panel on the Federal Research Support System](#)