



2024
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Land Acknowledgement

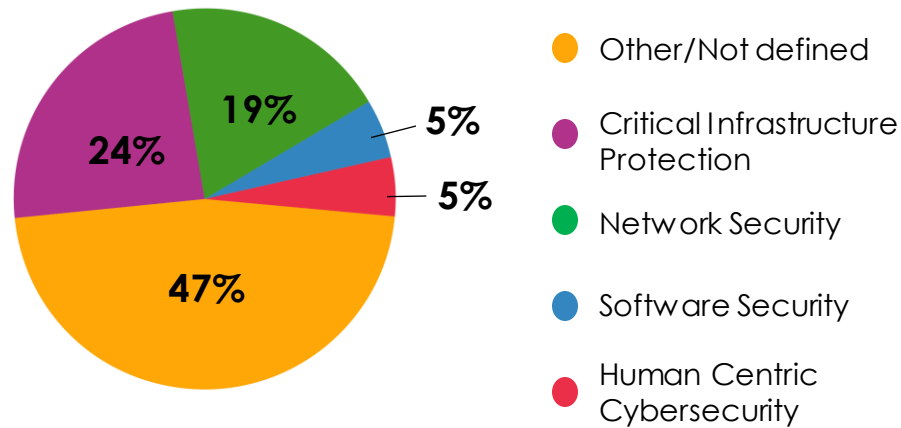
I would like to begin by acknowledging the Indigenous Peoples of all the lands that we are on today. While we meet today on a virtual platform, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the importance of the lands, which we each call home. We do this to reaffirm our commitment and responsibility in improving relationships between nations and to improving our own understanding of local Indigenous peoples and their cultures. From coast to coast to coast, we acknowledge the ancestral and unceded territory of all the Inuit, Métis, and First Nations people that call this land home.



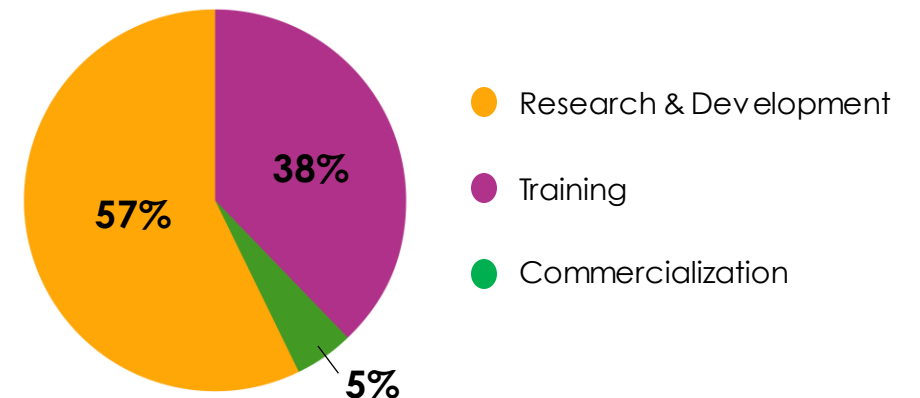
Summary of Call 1 - 2023

The National Cybersecurity Consortium (NCC) provided grants from CSIN to **20 eligible projects** for a total of **\$11.2 million**.

Awardees by NCC Focus



Awardees by Stream



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The NCC is seeking to fund projects under three major streams:

1 Research and Development Projects

TRL 1-6

Design and implementation of innovative cybersecurity technologies, working to advance the state-of-the-art, or looking to conduct studies relating to:

- Critical Infrastructure Protection
- Network Security
- Software Security
- Human-Centric Cybersecurity
- Privacy Protection

2 Commercialization Projects

TRL 7-9

Products and services that address key cybersecurity challenges with a defined pathway into the marketplace.

3 Training: Skills & Talent Development Projects

Development of robust and varied opportunities for students and/or professionals to upskill and reskill across various disciplines focused on:

- Training HQP – Research Based
- Training Capacity Training leading to certification
- Cybersecurity Awareness
- Targeted training to enhance equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) engagement and expertise in cybersecurity and privacy.



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Approximately \$18M of available NCC funds to support \$60M+ worth of activities

Funding streams	Maximum Request of NCC Funding (CDN \$)	Recommended* Matching Contribution
R&D Standard	\$2 Million	50%
R&D Spearhead	\$500 000	Matching not required
Commercialization	\$1 Million	70%
Training Standard	\$1 Million	50%

Project Duration

The maximum permitted project duration is 48 months (~4 years), subject to the availability of funding.

Eligibility

Refer to the NCC's Funding Program Guide to review eligible organizations, sources for matching contributions and project expenses.

*Applicants are strongly encouraged to meet the recommended level of matching contribution for their proposals. This is a part of the Evaluation Review Criteria as described in the Call 2024 Guide. Projects with high merit in other Evaluation Review Criteria may be funded with lower matching contribution ratios at the discretion of the NCC.



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Research & Development Projects High-level Objectives

Support research and development projects (TRL 1-6) to design and implement innovative cybersecurity technologies, advance the state-of-the-art, and conduct studies.

These can be technical in nature but non-technical research to better understand cybersecurity/privacy issues are appropriate in all areas of interest:

- Critical infrastructure protection
- Human-centric cybersecurity
- Network security
- Software security
- Privacy protection



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

NCC's Research & Development Mandate

- Explore opportunities to identify, recruit and support innovative R&D projects.
- Monitor funded R&D projects to evaluate progress and ensure that deliverables are on track and funding obligations are adhered to throughout.
- Monitor and assess funded projects to ensure milestones are met and any challenges addressed through regular reporting.
- Provide final reporting on deliverables, performance indicators and targets.



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Research & Development Spearhead Projects

- Spearhead projects should be novel in nature and explore riskier early-stage ideas
- Spearhead projects should have defined goals, and milestones that are sufficiently flexible to adapt to new insights
- Changes to goals and milestones need to be reported in advance of such alterations as specified in the Program Guide



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

R&D Spearhead Projects Matching Contributions

- Spearhead projects are R&D projects that originate from post-secondaries (PSE) and not-for-profit (NFP) organizations but may not have matching contributions.
- Matching funds, if available, even at modest levels, should be identified in the application as this will be seen as positive in its evaluation.
- However, the primary evaluation criteria is the merit of the proposal itself and how the idea might be moved forward through its various milestones.



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

R&D Spearhead Projects Matching Plans

- Matching funds are not required but a plan must be provided to describe how a broader set of collaborators will be engaged within and beyond the lifespan of the project
- These must be measurable:
 - e.g. 1, a private sector partner will be onboarded at a specific point in the timeline of the project
 - e.g. 2, three NFPs will be approached to facilitate testing the idea in a community engagement study
- The idea is to show how a nascent idea might be moved beyond the lab in a tangible way
- Think of this as: “at the end of the spearhead project, could an application to the standard stream be produced?”



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Research & Development Spearhead Projects

“Are NOT”

- NSERC DG applications
 - DG are programs of research intended to support careers
 - Spearhead projects are projects with defined goals and outcomes
- Curiosity-based research
 - Spearhead projects cannot pivot to something “more interesting”
 - Spearhead projects must move toward their goals ... however, the methodology may change as insights are acquired
 - when milestones change – these must be reported in advance and indicate how this new direction aligns with the goals



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Available Support for Your Application

- Across our growing membership we have identified places where you can get support in generating your application
- The first stop: projects@ncc-cnc.ca
 - We can support you with your questions about process and will attempt to provide you with connections that could enhance your application through partnerships
- We also can provide you with information about potential individual support specific to your application at a modest fee – a commitment from some of our members



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Membership

- Organization of Project Lead must be a member (base membership fee paid) to move from Stage 1 to Stage 2.
- Incremental membership fee is applied to awarded projects – 3.5% of total NCC contribution

BENEFITS

OUR MEMBERS ARE VALUED

Inform future strategies and identify needs and trends for Canadian investment into the cybersecurity ecosystem.

COMMITMENT to INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY

We offer a place where diversity, equity, and inclusion are embraced and where integrity, honesty, and respect are core values. A dedication to "inventor-owned" IP and scientific rigor.

EXPANSIVE CYBERSECURITY NETWORK

Part of a unique network that gathers cybersecurity experts from across the country and worldwide providing a variety of opportunities for partnership, collaboration and creativity



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Evaluation Criteria

ELIGIBILITY

- Organization
- Project
- Matching contributions – depending on category of application
- Membership status

MERIT

- Significance or value
- Known gaps
- Outcomes for the Canadian cybersecurity ecosystem and economy
- Demographics – pan-Canadian, variety of organizational types

FEASIBILITY

- Project team expertise
- Budget appropriateness
- Matching contributions
- Project duration and evaluation

ECONOMIC IMPACT

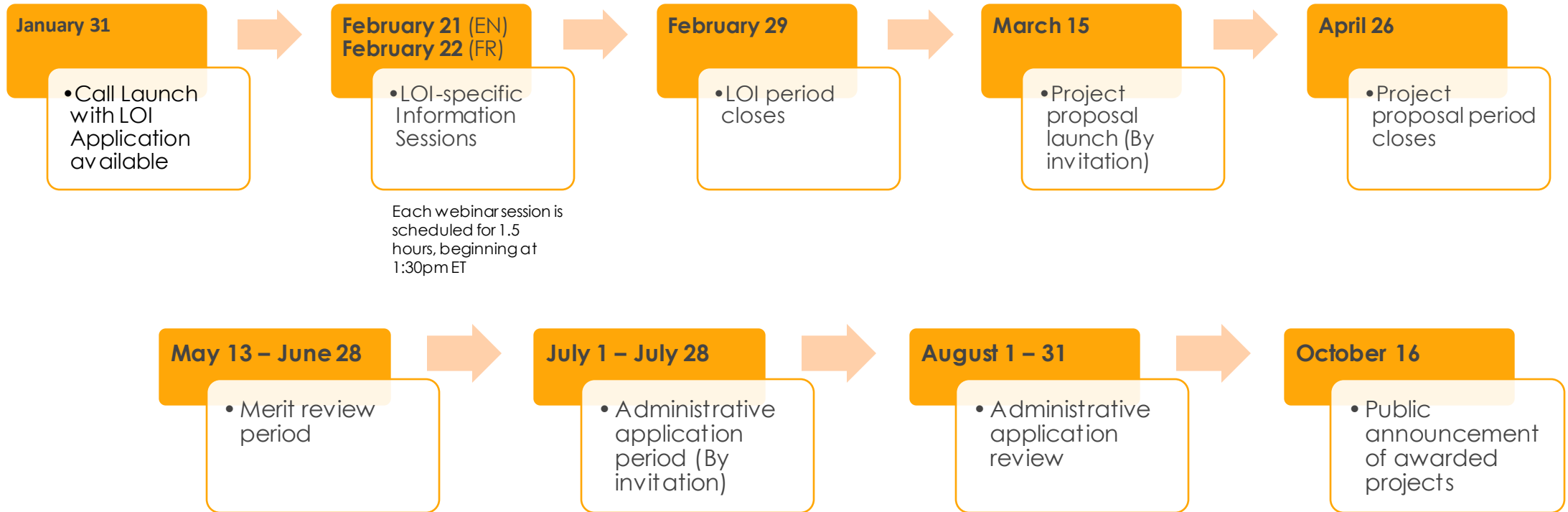
- Project sustainability
- Overall impact



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Key Dates



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Questions?

The NCC Grant Administration Team is here to answer any questions you might have about the application process.

Reach out with your inquiries:

projects@ncc-cnc.ca



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Summary of the Application Process

	R&D
Stage 1: LOI	Project Overview, including high level budgets, project dates, team members and key objectives
Stage 2: Project Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project team - CVs required • Project costs and matching contributions - Letters of Commitment strongly encouraged • Project Plan -including Activities to be Conducted, timelines and Major milestones • Intellectual property Plan - Ownership arrangements for the project (including names of the IP partners, how the IP will be shared/distributed, IP Partner Organization location, etc.) and any restrictions (if applicable) that are realized.
	Evaluation Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • projected number of IP filings • projected number of commercial partners • how the Project Team will measure the success



2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Summary of the Application Process (cont.)

	R&D
Stage 3: Due Diligence Details Submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comments from review committee• Organization's current cybersecurity structure• Confirmation of Project costs – Letters of Commitment needed• Key performance indicators and evaluation strategies• Intellectual property agreements• Project plans supporting EDIA principles if applicable• Supplier quotes• Copies of relevant permits and licenses• HST rebate information (i.e., rebate rate)• Other documentation, as required





Thank you!