

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

2004-05

Departmental Performance Report

David L. Emerson
Minister of Industry

Table of Contents

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	ii
SECTION I: OVERVIEW	1
1.1 Minister’s Message.....	1
1.2 Management Representation Statement	3
1.3 Summary Information.....	4
1.4 Overall Departmental Performance.....	5
SECTION II: ANALYSIS OF PERFORMANCE BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME	11
2.1 People – A First Class Research Capacity	11
2.2 Research – New Knowledge Based on Excellent Research	17
2.3 Knowledge Mobilization – The Transfer, Dissemination, and Use of Human Sciences Knowledge	27
2.4 Institutional Support – A Strong Canadian Research Environment...	32
SECTION III: SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	36
3.1 Organizational Information	36
3.2 Reporting on Resource Expenditures	41
SECTION IV: CORPORATE GOVERNANCE	47
4.1 Policy Leadership	47
4.2 Modern Comptrollership	49
4.3 Citizen-centred Service Delivery	54
SECTION V: OTHER INFORMATION	56
5.1 SSHRC Contacts for Further Information	56
Appendix 1: Evaluations and Performance Measurement Activities Completed in 2004-05	57
Appendix 2: Joint Initiatives, Table of Cumulative Expenditures	60
References	63

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACFAS	Association francophone pour le savoir
AMIS	Awards Management Information System
ASPP	Aid to Scholarly Publications Program
AUCC	Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada
CAGS	Canadian Association of Graduate Studies
CASD	Common Administrative Services Directorate
CAURA	Canadian Association of University Research Administrators
CCCV	Canadian Common Curriculum Vitae
CFHSS	Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences
CFI	Canada Foundation for Innovation
CFS	Canadian Forest Service
CGS	Canada Graduate Scholarships (program)
CIHR	Canadian Institutes of Health Research
CPEA	Corporate Performance, Evaluation and Audit
CURA	Community-University Research Alliances (program)
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
DPR	Departmental Performance Report
FDSR	Financial Data Submission and Reconciliation
FQRNT	Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la nature et les technologies
FQRSC	Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la société et la culture
FRR	Final Research Report
FRSQ	Fonds de la recherche en santé du Québec
G&S	Grants and Scholarships
GOL	Government Online
HR	Human Resources (Division)
HRSDC	Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
IMP	Integrated Management Practices
INE	Initiative on the New Economy
INE-CRI	Initiative on the New Economy Collaborative Research Initiatives
INE-RA	Initiative on the New Economy Research Alliances
ITST	Image, Text, Sound and Technology (program)
KPM	Knowledge Products and Mobilization (Division)
MCRI	Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (program)
NCE	Networks of Centres of Excellence
NGO	non-governmental organization
NSERC	Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
PAA	Program Activity Architecture
PRE	Interagency Advisory Panel on Research Ethics
RBAF	Risk-based Audit Framework
RDI	Research Development Initiatives (program)
RMAF	Results-based Management and Accountability Framework
RPP	Report on Plans and Priorities
RUFHQ	Regroupement des universités de la francophonie hors Québec
SRG	Standard Research Grants (program)
SS&H	social sciences and humanities
SSHRC	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
TCPS	Tri-Council Policy Statement

SECTION I: OVERVIEW

1.1 Minister's Message

A key priority of the Government of Canada is building an economy that will meet the challenges of the 21st century; an economy that is knowledge-based, technology-driven, and globally oriented. In support of this goal, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and the 14 members of the Industry Portfolio encourage innovative basic and advanced research, promote the commercialization and the adoption of new technologies and support the diffusion of transformative ideas throughout our economy. We also work to forge new and improved relationships with international partners, including emerging markets, in science and specialized technical areas. Essential to this work is a framework of marketplace regulations and laws that encourages innovation and stable growth. Through our efforts, the Industry Portfolio is helping to build a world-leading economy driven by talent, ideas and initiative.

The organizational members of the Industry Portfolio are:

- Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency [2]
- Business Development Bank of Canada [1]
- Economic Development Agency of Canada for Quebec Regions [2]
- Canadian Space Agency
- Canadian Tourism Commission [1]
- Competition Tribunal
- Copyright Board Canada
- Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation [1] [2]
- Industry Canada
- National Research Council Canada
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- Standards Council of Canada [1]
- Statistics Canada
- Western Economic Diversification Canada [2]

[1] Not required to submit a Departmental Performance Report.

[2] Not a Portfolio member for the purposes of the Main Estimates.

The Industry Portfolio is composed of SSHRC and 14 other federal departments, agencies, Crown corporations, and quasi-judicial bodies. These organizations collectively play a key role in advancing Canada's industrial and economic development as well as fostering progress in science and technology. Advancing these priorities improves the overall health of the Canadian economy, provides opportunities for all Canadians to participate in our economic development and prosperity, and contributes to the quality of life of all Canadians.

Many Industry Portfolio initiatives build upon our strategic investments in research and development and help to move publicly-funded scientific and technological advances into the marketplace. Other key activities and programs encourage business growth and help industrial sectors be more innovative. Collectively, Industry Portfolio initiatives — and more importantly the results of those initiatives — stimulate the necessary adaptive and transformative changes demanded by the global economy.

SSHRC is one of the key national agencies helping to build the knowledge, expertise, and understanding required to support innovation and the knowledge-based economy. In 2004-05, SSHRC sustained a strong base of Canadian researchers engaged in both fundamental and targeted research, and provided support to the next generation of scholars currently engaged in post-graduate studies. Through its research support and fellowship programs, SSHRC facilitates the addition of new, innovative and relevant knowledge to Canada's social sciences and

Departmental Performance Report

humanities knowledge base. SSHRC's *Departmental Performance Report* for the period ending March 31, 2005 describes the achievements and results of the agency.

As a member of the Industry Portfolio, SSHRC has contributed to the industrial and economic development of our nation. The work and contributions of the department are part of the overall government effort to develop and foster opportunities that reflect Canada's economic and social character. Through these efforts, we are investing in our people, our enterprises, and our future — the result will be a stronger and more prosperous economy for all Canadians.

I am pleased to present the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's *Departmental Performance Report* for 2004-2005.

David L. Emerson
Minister of Industry

1.2 Management Representation Statement

I submit, for tabling in Parliament, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada's (SSHRC) Departmental Performance Report (DPR) for the period ending March 31, 2005.

This document has been prepared based on the reporting principles contained in the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat's *Guide for the Preparation of 2004-05 Departmental Performance Reports*. Accordingly, this report:

- adheres to the specific reporting requirements;
- uses an approved Program Activity Architecture;
- presents consistent, comprehensive, balanced, and accurate information;
- provides a basis of accountability for the results pursued or achieved with the resources and authorities entrusted to it; and
- reports finances based on approved numbers from the Estimates and the Public Accounts of Canada.

Dr. Marc Renaud, President, SSHRC

1.3 Summary Information

1.3.1 SSHRC's Raison D'être

The knowledge gained from social sciences and humanities (SS&H) research is important to Canadians. It informs all aspects of our lives and enables us to understand and manage complex social, cultural, intellectual, and economic issues. It contributes to wealth creation, provides foundations for public policies, enriches professional practice, develops civic engagement, and fuels democratic debate. It is fundamental to creativity, innovation, and the development of the next generation of Canadians workers, citizens, and leaders. It also helps us understand ourselves, our history, our successes and failures, and it poses and answers questions about the meaning of life itself.

The **Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)**¹ was created in Part 1 of the *Government Organization (Scientific Activities) Act*, 1976. The *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Act* (1976-77, ch. 24, sec. 2), mandates SSHRC to:

- promote and assist research and scholarship in the social sciences and humanities; and
- advise the Minister of Industry regarding such matters related to such research as the Minister may refer to the Council for its consideration.

As a key national agency helping Canada to build the knowledge, expertise, and understanding it needs to thrive in an age of rapid social, technological, and global change, SSHRC:

- supports excellence in research and research training; and
- encourages and assists researchers, research partners, policy makers, and other stakeholders to mobilize knowledge that will put research to work for the benefit of Canadians.

In addition to supporting and promoting research, SSHRC plays a leadership role in the development of research and science policy. The Council monitors emerging research trends in the social sciences and humanities and helps, through its strategies and programs, to structure the national research effort. SSHRC also advises the Minister of Industry and the Government of Canada on future directions in the SS&H and how to best capitalize on the outcome of investments in SS&H research.

Total Financial Resources for SSHRC² (\$ millions)

Planned Spending	Total Authorities	Actual Spending
\$538.3	\$526.9	\$519.4

Total Human Resources for SSHRC³ (FTEs)

Planned	Actual	Difference
172	177	+5

¹ See <http://www.sshrc.ca> for more information on SSHRC.

² See section 3.2.2, p. 42 for details regarding variances between planned spending, total authorities, and actual spending.

³ As of March 31, 2005

1.4 Overall Departmental Performance

1.4.1 Context and Operational Environment

Social sciences and humanities research informs all aspects of our lives by providing analysis of, and insight into, issues of concern to Canadians, both in their everyday lives and in their connection to the broader world. Through its peer-reviewed grant and fellowship programs, SSHRC supports the advancement of knowledge and the building of research capacity in a variety of areas, including the changing nature of families, aging, poverty, local and regional development, the integration of immigrants, international competitiveness, and world peace and security. It builds greater understanding of ourselves, our histories, our cultures, our past and our future.

The results of federally funded research are key to the Government of Canada's goal of improving Canadians' quality of life. They help us understand the conditions and drivers of innovation and economic growth, how to improve our educational and health systems, what makes our communities strong, healthy and safe, and how we can contribute to environmental sustainability. Through targeted federal support, SSHRC also addresses key government priorities that are linked to the challenges and opportunities of the technologically driven globalized economy and to the roles played by key actors in the social economy at the community and regional levels.

As SSHRC enters the twenty-first century, it faces complex challenges. University faculty, and in particular the new generation that is replacing the current cohort hired in the 60s and 70s, are expected to pursue highly productive research careers. This puts pressure on SSHRC to fund the research of close to 20,000 researchers in the SS&H. In addition, this large group of researchers enriches the knowledge base through a diversity of approaches ranging from highly specialized disciplinary research undertaken by individual scholars, to issues-based research carried out by small teams, to multidisciplinary, collaborative, inter-institutional and international programs of research carried by large teams consisting of scores of researchers, assistants and support staff.

Over the past 25 years, SSHRC has established programs that respond to the evolving research and societal context. While the Council has done a lot to structure research and promote communication and transfer of research results, it still needs to do more to create additional systematic interactions and ongoing linkages—among researchers and between researchers and users of research—in order to make the most of research and its benefits for society. As SSHRC implements the new vision articulated in its Strategic Plan for 2006-11, it is focusing on new ways to deliver the knowledge Canadians need and to extend research results beyond academe to the diverse dimensions of the broader community.

1.4.2 Basis for Reporting in 2004-05

While SSHRC's 2004-05 Report on Plans and Priorities (RPP) follows the Council's old business line structure, SSHRC's Departmental Performance Report (DPR) for 2004-05 categorizes the various RPP commitments and reports on their achievement according to the new Program Activity Architecture (PAA). SSHRC is in the process of completing its transition to full implementation of the PAA, and will achieve compliance with the PAA-based reporting requirements in 2005-06. Thus, information on planned and actual expenditures associated with each activity level of the PAA is limited. In addition, figures on planned and actual human resources for each strategic outcome are unavailable.

In order to report on its performance, SSHRC draws information from the various mechanisms in place to ensure that grantees are accountable for the public funds they are awarded. Output information and data is extracted from SSHRC's Awards Management Information System (AMIS), the main database SSHRC uses to manage peer-reviewed competitions and awards. Information on outcomes is taken from annual financial reports, progress reports, mid-term reviews (including site visits in some cases), performance reports, final research reports, evaluations, and other studies conducted by SSHRC throughout the year. SSHRC is aware that adequate time must be allowed for the outputs and outcomes of research to be fully realized. The process may in fact require five to ten years from initial project funding. As a result, SSHRC measures the overall outputs and outcomes of funded research (short- and long-term) through special studies and program evaluations.

It must be noted that SSHRC does not make exhaustive use of bibliometric data (data on publications) as indicators of program performance given that such data, although relevant for areas such as health, natural sciences, and engineering, must be used cautiously in the SS&H in light of the very different publishing patterns in these disciplines.⁴ As well, given the inability of simple metrics to fully capture the long-term, intangible nature of research impacts in the SS&H, they must be supplemented by qualitative information such as examples and success stories.

1.4.3 Summary of Departmental Performance

The following table outlines SSHRC's achievements with regard to the commitments set out in its 2004-05 RPP. Given that the summary table follows the new PAA structure, commitments made in the area of corporate services are not included. They are, however, discussed in Section IV, beginning on page 47.

⁴Archambault É. and Vignola-Gagné É. 2004. *The Use of Bibliometrics in the Social Sciences and Humanities*. Prepared for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), by Science-Metrix, 84 pages. (http://www.science-metrix.com/pdf/Science-Metrix_Use_Bibliometrics_SSH.pdf)

Table 1: Summary of Performance in Relationship to Departmental Strategic Outcomes, Key Priorities, and Commitments

PAA Structure ⁵					2004-05 RPP Commitments		
Strategic Outcome	People: A First-Class Research Capacity in the Human Sciences	Planned Spending ⁶	\$113.4M	Actual Spending	\$108.2M ⁷	Key Priorities/Commitments	Related Accomplishments
Program Activity	Programs	Expected Outputs/Results					
Fellowships, Scholarships, and Prizes	Canada Graduate Scholarship (CGS) program	<i>Best graduate students receive scholarships/ fellowships</i> Highly qualified personnel, expert in research, available to pursue various knowledge-intensive careers in universities, industry, government, and other sectors of society and economy			SSHRC will: award 1,000 CGS Master's Scholarships.	SSHRC has: provided 1,000 CGS Master's Awards of which 18 were declined. (p. 12)	
	Doctoral Fellowships Program				award the first 400 CGS Doctoral Awards.	awarded 415 CGS Doctoral Awards accepted by recipients. (p. 12)	
	Postdoctoral Fellowships Program	<i>Best Ph.D. graduates receive postdoctoral fellowships</i> Promising new scholars establish a research base at an important time in their career (e.g., faculty renewal)			award 575 SSHRC Doctoral Fellowships.	awarded 554 SSHRC Doctoral Fellowships accepted by recipients. (p. 12)	
	Prizes and Special Fellowships	<i>Outstanding graduate students, postdoctoral researchers and researchers receive prizes and special fellowships</i> Dedication, creativity, and outstanding contribution of best Canadian graduate students and researchers are recognized			study the feasibility of increasing SSHRC postdoctoral fellowships to \$40,000.	studied the option of increasing SSHRC postdoctoral fellowships but was unable to do so given previous financial commitments. (p. 13)	
	Overarching Commitments					award SSHRC Gold Medal for Achievement in Research and SSHRC Aurora Prize every year.	awarded the Gold Medal for Achievement in Research to Dr. Alex Michalos and the Aurora Prize to Dr. Michael Atkinson. (p. 14)
						allocate 25% of its grants and scholarship budget to doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships.	allocated 25.2% of its budget to its doctoral and postdoctoral programs, a portion of which was not spent due to award refusals and yearly budget redistribution. (p. 13)
Canada Research Chairs		<i>Chairs are established in Canadian universities and awarded to researchers who are or have the potential to be world leaders in their field</i> Canadian universities, affiliated research institutes, and hospitals are recognized centres of research excellence through the attraction and retention of excellent researchers			explore new opportunities for training students.	provided research training opportunities to students through its SRG (p. 17) and MCRI (p. 20) programs.	
					continue attracting and retaining the best researchers in Canada through the Canada Research Chairs program.	awarded a total of 271 new Chairs, 45% of which were to researchers from outside Canada. (p. 15)	

⁵ Not all SSHRC programs are outlined in this table. Instead, programs mentioned are those committed upon in the RPP or those evaluated over the past fiscal year.

⁶ As reporting occurred along business lines for the fiscal year 2004-05, figures for planned and actual spending by priority and commitment are not available for this year. Planned and actual spending are reported according to strategic outcome and do not include operational expenditures.

⁷ Actual spending reflects SS&H portion of Canada Research Chairs spending only.

Departmental Performance Report

Strategic Outcome	Research: New Knowledge Based on Excellent Research in the Human Sciences	Planned Spending	\$127.0M	Actual Spending	\$125.4M	Key Priorities/Commitments	Related Accomplishments
Program Activity	Programs	Expected Outputs/Results					
Investigator-framed Research	Standard Research Grants	<p><i>Researchers and research activities are supported in SS&H disciplines</i></p> <p>A research environment that is conducive to graduate training, to advances in knowledge, and to the communication of research results in all disciplines and research areas of the SS&H</p>			SSHRC will:	SSHRC has:	
	Major Collaborative Research Initiatives	<p><i>Large teams, composed of Canada's leading-edge researchers, are established to address complex research issues</i></p> <p>A strengthened research capacity on complex issues addressed from an integrated perspective</p>			maintain or improve the current success in the Standard Research Grants (SRG) program and is working towards a 50% success rate.	funded 43% of applications to the SRG program in 2004-05, given a 42.5% increase in applications since 1999-2000. (p. 17)	
Targeted Research and Training Initiatives	Strategic Research Grants	<p><i>Researchers and research activities are supported in areas of importance to Canadians (as defined by SSHRC, in consultation with the research community)</i></p> <p>New knowledge on pressing social, economic, and cultural issues of particular importance to Canadians is made available for decision making in various sectors</p>			support research with true potential for intellectual breakthrough through the the Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (MCRI) program, which will build, maintain, and enhance national partnerships and networks of world-class researchers. ⁸	funded, through the MCRI program, four new, large-scale, issue-driven, collaborative projects involving a total of 145 Canadian and international scholars. (p. 20)	
		<p>explore opportunities for training students in multidisciplinary research.</p>	studied the performance of the MCRI program through 11 case studies which involved close to 400 graduate and undergraduate students. (p. 20)				
	Strategic Joint Initiatives	<p><i>Researchers and research activities are supported through partnerships with government, and private and not-for-profit partners</i></p> <p>New knowledge about issues of relevance to SSHRC's partners is generated and made available for decision making</p>			launch a new strategic program on Aboriginal research in 2004.	launched its new Aboriginal Research Pilot program in 2004-05. The number and quality of the applications exceeded expectations. (p. 22)	
					launch two more components in the Image, Text, Sound and Technology (ITST) program in the next two fiscal years.	not launched additional ITST components due to financial constraints. (p. 22)	
					launch a joint initiative with the Privy Council Office and Canadian Heritage to support research and knowledge transfer and dissemination.	launched the Official Languages Research and Dissemination program with Canadian Heritage. (p. 23)	

⁸ Appeared as the RDI program in the 2004-05 RPP, but should have read MCRI program.

			explore opportunities for new joint initiatives with partners in government and the not-for-profit and private sectors on the economic, social, ecological, and political challenges and opportunities facing Canada's North.	held ongoing discussions regarding joint programming addressing Canada's North. No new programs have been launched. (p. 23)
	Initiative on the New Economy	<p><i>Canada's best researchers and research activities are supported in areas related to the new economy (general new economy issues, education, lifelong learning, management, and entrepreneurship)</i></p> <p>Advances in knowledge, expertise, and knowledge mobilization in areas of the new economy</p>	review the first cohort of the Initiative on the New Economy (INE)'s Collaborative Research Initiative (INE-CRI) and Research Alliance (INE-RA) grant recipients.	reviewed the first cohort of INE-CRI and RA grants with positive feedback on student opportunities and funds leveraged. (p. 24)
			launch a public outreach grants program to fund innovative dissemination activities.	awarded 8 public outreach grants. (p. 24)
			hold consultations to develop a knowledge management strategy to help disseminate the results of INE research.	carried out consultations in the INE Web-based knowledge networks and planned the next stage of network development. (p. 24)
Strategic Research Development	Community-University Research Alliances	<p><i>Research alliances developed between Canada's academic and community researchers and practitioners</i></p> <p>Reinforced community decision-making capacity; better understanding, appreciation and use of SS&H knowledge by communities</p>	launch a new Community-University Research Alliances (CURA) program on the social economy in early 2005.	launched the CURA Social Economy Suite, which will begin receiving applications over the Summer 2005. (p. 25)
			explore research training opportunities for students through the CURA Program.	contributed to providing 750 students with research training opportunities through funded CURAs. (p. 25)

Departmental Performance Report

Strategic Outcome	Knowledge Mobilization: The Transfer, Dissemination and Use of Human Sciences Knowledge	Planned Spending	\$15.8M	Actual Spending	\$18.9M	Priorities/ Commitments	Related Accomplishments
Program Activity	Programs	Expected Outputs/Results					
Research Communication and Interaction	Aid to Research Workshops and Conferences in Canada	<i>Research workshops and conferences are held in Canada</i> Research results are shared within and between disciplines and among Canadian and international researchers				SSHRC will: support the dissemination of research results and the mobilization of knowledge through its communications programs for conferences, congresses.	SSHRC has: supported 132 new workshops and conferences. (p. 28)
	Aid to Research and Transfer Journals program	<i>High quality peer-reviewed research and transfer journals are published</i> Original research findings in the SS&H are disseminated				support the dissemination of research results and the mobilization of knowledge through its communications programs for journals.	supported 156 research and transfer journals, which will reach over 100,000 Canadian and foreign subscribers. (p. 28)
	Strategic Research Cluster Design Grants	<i>Teams of researchers supported to propose potential designs and areas for new programs (i.e., clusters) and/or program improvements aimed at encouraging increased connections between researchers, users of research, and the general public</i> New programs (i.e., clusters) are created and existing programs are improved				fund special initiatives to support the structuring, mobilization, and integration of knowledge. seek new ways to broker knowledge among researchers and between producers and consumers of human sciences research.	supported 31 teams of researchers in exploring ways of brokering SS&H knowledge. (p. 29)
Strategic Outcome	Institutional Support: A Strong Canadian Research Environment	Planned Spending	\$244.5M	Actual Spending	\$244.5M	Priorities/ Commitments	Related Accomplishments
Program Activity	Programs	Expected Outputs/Results					
Indirect Costs of Research		<i>Contributions to an enhanced research environment in Canadian universities investments in/to:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ equipment for research facilities; ➔ research resources; ➔ enhanced ability to meet regulatory requirements; ➔ management and administration of the research enterprise; ➔ transfer of knowledge; and ➔ commercialization and management of intellectual propriety 				A mid-term review of the Indirect Costs Program will begin in 2004-05.	The third year review is currently ongoing and is expected to be completed in November 2005. (p. 32)

SECTION II: ANALYSIS OF PERFORMANCE BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME

In 2004-05, SSHRC finalized its new Program Activity Architecture (PAA), a reporting and planning framework for all SSHRC programs structured according to strategic outcome and program activity, which outlines results expectations at all levels. SSHRC's performance over the last fiscal year is presented below in accordance with the new structure and the commitments made in SSHRC's 2004-05 RPP.

Please note that variances between planned and actual spending by strategic outcome are due to factors pertinent to grant and scholarship programs such as deferments or postponements of awards. SSHRC never plans to spend beyond the total allotment for the year. Variances due to other factors are explained as required.

2.1 People – A First Class Research Capacity

Expected Results:

A first-class research capacity is integral to the creation and maintenance of an innovative and knowledge-based society and economy. The programs under this strategic outcome help build a first-class research capacity in the SS&H. In doing so, SSHRC funding fosters the growth and development of a new generation of expert researchers and skilled professionals who are equipped to meet the needs of Canadian universities and the public and private sectors.

In support of the strategic outcome, there are two program activities (*Fellowships, Scholarships, and Prizes* and the *Canada Research Chairs program*) that aid the best and brightest SS&H researchers at all levels of their careers. These programs ensure that supported SS&H researchers reach their full potential and contribute to an innovative, knowledge-based economy. It is important to acknowledge the significant collaboration of Canadian universities, who ensure the success of these programs through pre-selection and contributions to the peer-review process. They ensure that the best graduate students and researchers benefit from the programs under this strategic outcome.

2.1.1 Program Activities

2.1.1.1 Fellowships, Scholarships, and Prizes

Financial Resources:

Planned Spending ⁹	Actual Spending
\$68,171,374	\$67,058,761

⁹ Planned and actual spending refer to grants expenditures and do not include operational expenditures.

Key Programs or Services:

This program activity consists of four programs: the *Canada Graduate Scholarships* program, the *Doctoral Fellowships* program, the *Postdoctoral Fellowships* program, and *Prizes and Special Fellowships*.

Established in 2003, the **Canada Graduate Scholarship (CGS)**¹⁰ program enabled SSHRC to expand its funding to postgraduate students in the SS&H. This program contributes to the development of highly qualified individuals with expertise in research who pursue knowledge-intensive careers at universities and in industry, government, and other sectors of society and of the economy.

The program provides scholarships to outstanding students pursuing master's and doctoral studies at Canadian institutions. In accordance with a commitment made in SSHRC's 2004-05 RPP, the master's portion of the CGS program provided 1,000 scholarships worth \$17,500 each to Canadian students. Eighteen of these awards were declined by students who wished to pursue their studies outside of Canada, hence the final award count of 982.

This past reporting cycle saw the first CGS doctoral competition to be integrated into SSHRC's **Doctoral Fellowships**¹¹ competition. The implementation of the doctoral portion of the CGS program had been delayed to deal with the pressing need to support promising scholars at the master's level, who, until the CGS program was initiated, had no access to federal scholarship support. In 2004-05, the combined doctoral program enabled doctoral students to compete for both awards, with those ranked the highest receiving CGS Doctoral Scholarships and the remaining students being offered SSHRC Doctoral Fellowships. In 2004-05, **Canada Graduate Scholarships Doctoral Awards**¹¹ were granted to 415 doctoral students. These prestigious awards were given in addition to the 554 SSHRC Doctoral Fellowships awarded for the 2004-05 FY, boosting the overall rates for successful doctoral fellowship and scholarship applicants from 18.2 per cent in 2003-04 to 25.7 per cent in 2004-05.

SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship and CGS Scholarship Recipient Profiles

Doris Baltruschat

Simon Fraser University

Film and TV Co-productions: Stories for Global Markets

Canadian-made television programs grab headlines, ratings, and the imagination of the Canadian public. Trapped between local Canadian experience and that of global cultural production, these television programs and films create an interesting space for cultural negotiation of Canadian cultural products. But what are the costs and/or benefits of these cultural co-productions? This is a question that drives the research of SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship-recipient **Doris Baltruschat**, whose work is providing us with a better understanding of the impact made by cultural co-productions and by globalization on Canada's cultural industries. Baltruschat offers valuable insights into the divisions between local and global cultural policies that may in turn provide guidance to policy makers entrusted with our cultural future.

¹⁰ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/fellowships/cgs_masters_e.asp for more information on the CGS program's master's scholarships.

¹¹ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/fellowships/doctoral_e.asp for more information on the CGS and SSHRC doctoral awards.

Brenda Beckman-Long

University of Alberta

Female Self-representation and Fictive Autobiography in Carol Shields

The late Governor-General's Award-winning novelist Carol Shields produced literary works that continue to have enormous influence on Canadian literature. To better understand her contributions, Canada Graduate Scholarship Doctoral Award recipient **Brenda Beckman-Long** is basing her doctoral dissertation on Shields' novels. Her research examines the self-representation of the female protagonists in Shields' fictive autobiographies. Through her analysis of these six novels, Beckman-Long is adding to the existing knowledge of this celebrated Canadian author, whose writing has renegotiated the place of women in both literary and cultural history.

Andrew Curran

Dalhousie University

Reining in the Growth Machine: Stopping Sprawl through Participatory Planning

The urbanization of Canada's landscape continues to rewrite the history of a nation that depends on its natural and agricultural resources for wealth and prosperity. Moving towards a knowledge-based economy has brought with it a new set of issues for our cities to accommodate, including increased population and sprawl into former farmlands and woodlands. Urban sprawl, something all cities and urban societies are currently facing, is the main focus of Canada Graduate Scholar **Andrew Curran's** master's research. As he examines the political and economic foundation of urban sprawl, Curran is assessing the potential of participatory planning to stem its tide. His findings may help us learn how to strike a better balance between the need for urban expansion and the need to safeguard the environment on which we all depend.

In 2004-05, SSHRC continued to fund postdoctoral researchers through its **Postdoctoral Fellowships**¹² program. The program aids and supports promising new scholars in establishing a research base early in their careers. In the 2004-05 competition, SSHRC awarded 139 new postdoctoral fellowships. Each year the number of applications to this program increases. This trend reflects the continuing need for new Ph.D.s to further their research training in an academic environment. In keeping with its 2004-05 RPP commitment, SSHRC studied the option of increasing postdoctoral fellowships to \$40,000. Due to its financial commitments to other programs, however, the Council decided not to do so. As a result, postdoctoral awards remain valued at \$35,028. In addition, these researchers also benefit from a \$5,000 research stipend in the first year of their fellowship to aid with research expenses.

In total, SSHRC allocated 25.2 per cent of its budget to its doctoral and postdoctoral programs. Due to award refusals and budget reallocations, only 22 per cent of the budget provided direct support to postgraduate students in the past fiscal year.

SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowship Profile

Alina Gildiner

McMaster University

Disability Policies

Following a SSHRC-funded Ph.D. in Health Policy at the University of Toronto, Dr. **Alina Gildiner** was awarded a Canadian Policy Research Awards Graduate Student Prize for her doctoral dissertation. On the basis of her achievements, Gildiner was selected as the 2001-03 Mustard Fellow at the Institute for Work and Health of Toronto. She has contributed to the development of a research program on disability policy and has served as an assistant professor and lecturer at both McMaster University and the University of Toronto. As a recipient of a SSHRC Postdoctoral Award (2002-04), Gildiner transferred to McMaster University in order to pursue research on disability policies. Since completing her postdoctoral fellowship a year ago, Gildiner has held a tenure-track position, a joint appointment in the Department of Political Science and the Interdisciplinary Health Studies Program.

¹² See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/fellowships/postdoctoral_e.asp for more information on SSHRC's Postdoctoral Fellowships.

Departmental Performance Report

In addition to Canada Graduate Scholarships and fellowships at the doctoral and postdoctoral levels, SSHRC also awards [special fellowships and prizes](#)¹³ to recognize the dedication, creativity and contribution of Canada's best graduate students and researchers. Among the special fellowships awarded annually are the *Bora Laskin National Fellowship in Human Rights Research*, and the *SSHRC William E. Taylor Fellowship* awarded to the top doctoral award holder. Other programs and services that contribute to this program activity are the *Queen's Fellowship* and the *Jules and Gabrielle Léger Fellowship*.

In keeping with its 2004-05 RPP commitment, SSHRC's Council approved the continuation of two prestigious prizes to be awarded annually to researchers in the SS&H. The [SSHRC Gold Medal for Achievement in Research](#)¹⁴ and the [SSHRC Aurora Prize](#)¹⁴ are awarded to outstanding SS&H researchers. This past year, Alex Michalos and Michael Atkinson received these prizes for their fascinating work highlighted in the following profiles.

Alex Michalos – SSHRC Gold Medal Winner

University of Northern British Columbia

Our social reality is constantly in flux and worldwide events have a serious and palpable effect on our existence and happiness. But how do these fluctuating social realities affect our quality of life? And how does one even measure their effects and changes? Throughout his more than 30-year research career, Dr. **Alex Michalos** has been a research pioneer, helping academics and non-academics around the world to understand the importance of measuring quality of life through indicators that incorporate subject perspectives and opinions. As the author of 22 books and over 85 refereed articles, and the founder of three seminal periodicals, Michalos has revolutionized our understanding of how people enjoy their lives and understand their happiness. His scholarship, leadership, and ability to translate his research into practice has given him an outstanding reputation as "citizen-scholar."

Michael Atkinson – SSHRC Aurora Prize Winner

McMaster University

Why are so many Canadian men undergoing cosmetic procedures to attain an image of masculinity strongly promoted in modern media? This is one of the questions that Dr. **Michael Atkinson's** award-winning research on Canadian male cosmetic surgery attempts to answer. As the 2005 recipient of the Aurora Prize, Atkinson is not only recognized for the value of his current research, but also for his stellar research achievements in the past, which include explorations into the sociology of body art and of masculinity and violence in hockey, as well as of body modification. An exceptional researcher with an impressive list of publications, this associate professor of sociology at McMaster University has a research record that speaks to his promise as a new scholar.

¹³ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_index_e.asp#8 for more information on SSHRC's special fellowships.

¹⁴ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/whatsnew/press_releases/2004/gold_aurora_winners_e.asp for more information on the SSHRC Gold Medal in Research for Achievement in Research and the SSHRC Aurora Prize Winner.

2.1.1.2 Canada Research Chairs Program

Financial Resources:

Planned Spending	Actual Spending
\$45,205,000	\$41,152,000

The **Canada Research Chairs**¹⁵ program, which SSHRC administers on behalf of the three granting agencies (SSHRC, NSERC, and CIHR) is a key means for Canadian universities to attract and retain world-class researchers and improve the training of students and researchers.

In 2004-05, the program awarded a total of 271 new Canada Research Chairs: 120 (44 per cent) to researchers in natural sciences and engineering, 85 (31 per cent) to researchers in health sciences, and 66 (24 per cent) to researchers in SS&H. Approximately 45 per cent of the new Chairs (123) were recruited from outside Canada. Over 60 per cent (76) of externally recruited Chairs are foreign nationals; the remaining 40 per cent (47) are Canadians returning to Canada.

As of March 31, 2005, the program had reached 67 per cent of its target of 2000 Chairs, with 1,340 active appointments. Approximately 46 per cent of these Chairs (612) are in the natural sciences and engineering, 32 per cent (432) in the health sciences, and 22 per cent (296) in the SS&H.

A summative evaluation of the program was completed in November 2004.¹⁶

Overall, the evaluation results confirmed that the program was on the right track. The Canada Research Chairs program has helped create a research environment that is conducive to the long-term attraction and retention of top researchers. Chairholders reported significant increases in books published (60.1 per cent), peer-reviewed publications (24.9 per cent), technical and presentation papers (30.6 per cent), national conferences (31.3 per cent), and international conferences (37.9 per cent) during the period following their Chair award (2002-03) compared to the period prior to their Chair award (1999-2000).

Compared to others, Chairholders in SSHRC disciplines reported the largest increase in peer-reviewed publications (31.3 per cent), technical and presentation papers (49.1 per cent), national conferences (43.3 per cent), and international conferences (42.1 per cent). This is striking, given the smaller number of Chairs and the lower amount of CFI funding awarded to researchers in SS&H.

Chairholders recruited from abroad produced 59 books, 714 peer-reviewed publications, and 451 technical and presentation papers following their Chair awards. In addition, Chairholders reported that they supervised 779 more doctoral students and 490 more postdoctoral students in 2002-03 compared to 1999-2000. Chairholders also reported impacts and benefits in industry

¹⁵ See <http://www.chairs.gc.ca> for more information on the Canada Research Chairs program.

¹⁶ A copy of the final report is available at http://www.chairs.gc.ca/web/about/publications_e.asp.

Departmental Performance Report

(112 patents, 224 patent applications, and 83 inventions), healthcare (108 treatments or potential new treatments for diseases, injuries, or illnesses), and policy and environmental domains.

Based on the evaluation results, research centres associated with Chairholders grew by 2,816 researchers after the appointments of the Chairholders—a 59.9 per cent increase. Furthermore, the program leveraged a substantial amount of research funding: universities and Chairholders have reported between \$218 million and \$343 million in additional research funding. Multiple factors can influence the generation of research funding; therefore, this amount can only be partly attributable to the Chairs' program.

The evaluation also concluded that the CFI component of the program is crucial to its success in attracting top researchers (especially in CIHR and NSERC disciplines) from outside Canada.

Canada Research Chairholder Profiles

Marrie Mumford

Trent University
Canada Research Chair in Aboriginal Arts and Literatures

Professor **Marrie Mumford** ensures that Aboriginal arts and performance traditions are not forgotten. Professor Mumford's work at Trent University investigates the performance traditions of Aboriginal peoples and aids in the transfer of those traditions and skills to the next generation. Her research process explores multiple strategies to define methodologies that will enhance and perpetuate Aboriginal languages and cultures. Her framework involves transposing discoveries into original work through collaborations involving Aboriginal Artists and elders. This enhancement of Canadian cultural and social life occurs in the First Peoples Performance Space at Trent University, a living laboratory for the exploration of Aboriginal stories and traditions. A place of sharing, the Performance Space allows Mumford to bring together artists and learners in a common goal of cultural and artistic rediscovery, which results in the exposure of the creative process and the respectful nurturing of Aboriginal imaginations.

Hugh Chipman

Acadia University
Canada Research Chair in Mathematical Modelling

The ability to predict and provide insight into complex phenomena has turned mathematical models into powerful tools for a wide range of scientific research areas. Dr. **Hugh Chipman** works at solving problems involving apparently random data and large numbers of inter-related variables by developing computationally intensive algorithms for the construction of models from these large and complex data sets. He uses "tree models," which are predictive models whose decision-tree structure helps make them interpretable. He also works on "model selection," which seeks to identify the important variables in a model and at the same time filter out irrelevant information. Dr. Chipman's collaborative research program applies these mathematical modelling techniques, as well as data mining, to various fields of study, including drug discovery, genetics, environmental science, marketing, security, and manufacturing.

David R. Colman

McGill University
Canada Research Chair in Neuroscience

Dr. **David Colman** is a widely published and recognized scholar in the study of myelination and nerve cell development and regeneration. His research is expected to have long-term benefits for Canadians. As the Wilder Penfield Professor and Director of the Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI) at McGill University, Colman has contributed critical insights into myelin sheath formation and how connection points between nerves (synapses) are assembled in the brain. He and his collaborators in Montreal, New York, Europe, and Japan are currently building on this research, using the tools of nanotechnology to generate nerve cell connections and artificial myelin. Their highly innovative and exciting research efforts may lead to novel treatments for neurological diseases such as multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease. The Canada Research Chair supports McGill University's strategic research goal, i.e., the pursuit of new directions in the field of neuroscience.

2.2 Research – New Knowledge Based on Excellent Research

Expected Results:

Through this strategic outcome, SSHRC supports the creation of new SS&H knowledge that will contribute to our understanding of—and our ability to deal with—social, cultural, intellectual, and economic issues. SSHRC contributes to the creation of this new knowledge by funding peer-reviewed research that can be investigator-driven, targeted or thematic (i.e., investigator-framed research, targeted research and training initiatives, and strategic research development programs) or developmental in nature.

SSHRC also expects the program activities supported under this strategic outcome to contribute to the training of future researchers by providing undergraduate and graduate students, as well as postdoctoral researchers, with opportunities to participate actively and significantly in SSHRC-funded research projects.

2.2.1 Program Activities

2.2.1.1 Investigator-framed Research

Financial Resources:

Planned Spending	Actual Spending
\$76,885,368	\$76,348,495

Key Programs or Services:

Investigator-framed research—research in which the theme area, subject and methodology are defined by the researcher—is supported through two of SSHRC’s largest programs: the *Standard Research Grants (SRG)* and *Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (MCRI)* programs. Together, these programs contribute both to the creation of new disciplinary and inter-/multi-disciplinary knowledge in the SS&H, and to the training of the next generation of SS&H researchers.

SSHRC’s largest program, **Standard Research Grants (SRG)**¹⁷ contributes, through the support of researchers and research activities in the SS&H disciplines, to the creation of research environments that are conducive to graduate training, to advances in knowledge, and to the communication of research results in all disciplines and research areas of the SS&H.

In 2004-05, the SRG program received 2,206 applications from 39 disciplines, involving 4,047 researchers¹⁸ affiliated with 92 educational institutions across Canada.

¹⁷ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/standard_e.asp for more information on the SRG program.

¹⁸ Note that the number of researchers identified throughout this report refers to the total number of applicants, co-applicants, and collaborators identified at the time of application.

A total of 948 three-year grants involving 1,766 researchers were awarded for programs of fundamental, applied, discipline-based and/or inter-disciplinary research judged by their peers to be of importance and of the highest quality. This represents a success rate of 43 per cent.

In 2004-05, the SRG program experienced a 17.1 per cent increase in applications. Since 1999-2000, the program has experienced a 42.5 per cent overall increase in applications. In order to continue to pursue its long-term goal of a 50 per cent success rate (as expressed in its 2004-05 RPP) and to address the growing demand for the SRG program, SSHRC will invest \$6.1 million of its March 2005 Budget increase in the program.

In addition to an overall increase in applications and awards over the last five competition years, the number of awardees identified as new scholars¹⁹ has gone from 182 to 320; a 44.0 per cent increase since 2000-2001. These increases reflect the hiring of new faculty and confirm the trend, identified in previous performance reports, towards renewing faculty in Canadian universities. In this context, SSHRC grants help new scholars demonstrate the quality and importance of their research, assisting them in securing tenure track positions.

Since 2002-03, researchers have been providing SSHRC with data on the results of their research projects through SSHRC's Web-based Final Research

Research in Areas of Importance to Canadians funded through the SRG program (2004-05)

Role of Pride and Influence in the World

Le rôle internationale du Canada : Une étude comparative de la prise de décision
Academy and Society: Canadian Professors as Public Intellectuals in the Knowledge Society

Health of Canadians

Professionalism revisited: The tensions between biomedicine and complementary or alternative medicines
Alternative Health Approaches to Women's Body Conformation
Concerns: The Case of Naturopathy

Children, Caregivers, and Seniors

Children, Responsibility, and Care
A Longitudinal Study of Parenting, Attachment, and Adjustment in Adolescence

Aboriginal Canadians

The Iqaluktuuq Project: Community-Band Archaeological Research into Dorset-Thule Interaction on Victoria Island, Nunavut
Great Plains Women of Canada and the United States, 1862-1930: Comparisons, Connections, and Discontinuities

Our Environment

The Evolution of Wetland Environments in Eastern Canada: The case of human impact on the St. Lawrence Salt Marshes
Climate Change and Adaptive Strategies for Conservation Area Planning in Grasslands Environments

Canadian Cities and Communities

Life courses of Canadians: The Impact of Globalization, Culture, and Class
L'effet de l'intervention de l'état sur le développement des communautés minoritaires de langue officielle au Canada

A Strong Economy

Barriers to Structural Transformation and Aggregate Performance
Indigenous Economic Development in the New Economy

Canadian Culture

Transformation in Contemporary Art Music
À la rencontre du régionalisme littéraire et artistique : l'illustration au Québec

¹⁹ A "New Scholar" is defined as a scholar who has not yet had the opportunity to establish an extensive record of research achievement but is in the process of building a research record. This category, to which applicants self-identify, primarily applies to the SRG program. See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/background/definitions_e.asp#18 for further details on the "New Scholar" category.

Report (FRR) form. Of the 663 SRGs awarded in 1999, 67 per cent (444) have provided final research reports, 79.1 per cent (351) of which were submitted using the FRR. This sample of 351 reports—representative of the regions, disciplines, scholar types, and genders of all 1999 grant holders—identified the following results of interest:

- **Research articles, books and book chapters:** A total of 742 peer-reviewed research articles, 134 books, and 388 book chapters were published; with another 187 articles, 46 books, and 121 book chapters accepted for publication. Of the 1264 published peer-reviewed research outputs, approximately 65 per cent involved more than one author.
- **Other research outputs:** In addition to producing a larger number of research articles, books and book chapters, 1999 grantees have produced 2946 other research outputs such as websites, video productions, artistic performances, databases, and newsletters. Peer-reviewed and non-peer-reviewed conference papers and proceedings represent 59 per cent of the total of other research outputs.
- **Areas of potential impact:** When asked about the areas in which their research would likely have an impact, 43 per cent reported a definite impact on understanding culture; 46 per cent on understanding of social issues and social development; 28 per cent on understanding of economic development, policies, or practices; 26 per cent on public policy debate; 56 per cent on teaching or professional practice; 38 per cent on the development of new research methods; 41 per cent on other disciplines; and 41 per cent on international collaboration.²⁰
- **Knowledge mobilization audiences:** When asked to whom they had disseminated their research results, 93 per cent reported having disseminated their research results to academic audiences; 48 per cent to decision makers; and 44 per cent to the public.²¹
- **Students and postdoctoral researchers employed:** All but one of the 1999 grantees who have submitted reports to date have hired students and/or postdoctoral researchers. The 441 researchers who provided final research reports for that year reported hiring 2,092 students and 42 postdoctoral researchers. Table 2 provides a breakdown of students hired by level of study.

Table 2: Students Hired by Nationality and Level of Study, SRG Program

	Canadian	Foreign	Total
Undergraduate	708	36	744
Master's	680	51	731
Doctoral	521	96	617
Total	1909	183	2092

SSHRC will continue to analyze these data and report on research results (for this and other programs) in future DPRs.

²⁰ Note that researchers may choose more than one potential impact of their research.

²¹ Note that researchers may choose more than one audience to which their research is disseminated.

SRG Research Profiles

Charles Castonguay

University of Ottawa

Taking Stock of Language Shifts

In a world dominated by English, Dr. **Charles Castonguay's** research on language shift levels and trends in Canada's French-speaking populations provides essential information on the changes occurring within Canadian French-speaking society. His work investigated language shift trends from 1971 through 1996 and has led to serious reconsideration of previously held views on the subject. His findings—disseminated in eleven refereed journal articles, three book chapters, and one co-edited volume—show that rates of anglicization have not fluctuated erratically, but instead have continued to increase steadily among francophones outside Québec. The francization of allophones in Québec has also shown regularly increasing trends. Castonguay's research provides strong empirical evidence that is especially relevant to policy-makers, interest groups, and Canadians who are concerned with the preservation of French-speaking communities throughout Canada.

Peter Stoett

Concordia University

The Foreign Policy of Wildlife Conservation

Dr. **Peter Stoett** received his first Standard Research Grant as a new scholar in 1999. This grant enabled the assessment of the effectiveness of Canada's foreign policy on trade in endangered species. Through his focus on multilateral forum, such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, Stoett concluded that Canada's participation in multilateral forum has had an impact on the implementation of Canada's wildlife policy's enforcement mechanisms. However, the development of the Species at Risk Act had little immediate impact, and both domestic and international regulatory efforts remain remarkably underfunded. He also concluded that the effective protection of endangered wildlife must go far beyond efforts to control poaching and illegal trade, and incorporate other multilateral instruments designed to encourage habitat preservation. Nevertheless, his research findings, published in three books and five book chapters or research articles, demonstrate that Canada is doing its part to protect endangered species and stem their illegal trade.

Through its support of large, Canadian-led research teams, SSHRC's **Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (MCRI)**²² program contributes to developing capacity to address complex research issues from an integrated perspective. In 2004-05, under the MCRI program, SSHRC met its 2004-05 RPP commitments of maintaining national partnerships and networks of world-class researchers and of supporting research with true potential for intellectual breakthrough by supporting four new, large-scale, collaborative projects with grants of up to \$2.5 million over a five-year period. These projects, which involve a total of 145 Canadian and international scholars, are examining such issues as:

- the differences in French spoken across the country and how each group's individual history has influenced the language they speak;
- developments in the artistic, intellectual, religious, social, and political culture of Britain and Western Europe between 1500 and 1700 and their bearing on cultural issues that confront modern society;
- whether Canadian social programs and the working-age population can support a rapidly growing population of seniors; and
- the local and global implications of Southeast Asia's phenomenal economic growth.

In 2004-05, SSHRC studied the performance of the MCRI program as a whole through 11 in-depth case studies of projects funded between 1995-2000²³, through secondary analyses of SSHRC awards data, and through interviews with key SSHRC staff. This study provided

²² See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/mcri_e.asp for more information on the MCRI program.

²³ Kishchuk, N. 2005. Performance Report: SSHRC Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (MCRI) Program. http://www.sshrc.ca/web/about/publications/publications_e.asp

evidence that the MCRI program is realizing the goals set by SSHRC, and that many of the issues that are being addressed through the funded projects would not otherwise be addressed in Canada or elsewhere. The study highlighted the MCRI program's direct responsibility for helping several groups of Canadian researchers advance to the centre of activity in their research domains worldwide. The study also shed light on the extent to which MCRI projects involved collaboration with international peers. Sixty-seven per cent (39) of the MCRI projects funded between 1993 and 2003 had international co-investigators or collaborators. In total, these projects involved 372 international researchers from a total of 37 countries in all continents. The international researchers involved in the 11 projects selected for case study were involved as co-authors in over 30 per cent of the projects research outputs.

The MCRI Performance Report identified a number of program strengths, the foremost of which is in line with SSHRC's 2004-05 RPP commitment regarding opportunities for training students in multidisciplinary research. Although data are not available on the total number of students involved in all funded MCRI projects to date, the 11 projects studied involved provided close to 400 undergraduate and graduate students with rich and stimulating multidisciplinary research training.

The report also identified a number of best practices drawn from successful MCRI projects. These include (but are not limited to):

- allowing time for the research team to discuss and explore interdisciplinary differences;
- communicating productivity expectations clearly and formalizing expectations when necessary;
- ensuring a balance between interdisciplinary and disciplinary research publications, the latter of which are very important for junior researchers at the start of their careers;
- providing students with opportunities to develop and share their work in a climate of constructive criticism;
- producing at least one major integrative research output (such as a special journal issue or peer-reviewed book), which synthesizes research findings and discusses implications for further research; and
- using a wide variety of dissemination vehicles in order to reach policy-makers, decision makers, and the public.

MCRI Research Profile

Byron G. Spencer

McMaster University

Socio-economic Dimensions of an Aging Population: A Program of Research

Social and economic infrastructures face daunting pressure as the population ages. A multidisciplinary research group, led by Dr. **Byron Spencer**, has set out to provide a comprehensive scholarly investigation of what exactly happens to society as we age. Phase One of this MCRI concentrated on economic, health, family life, retirement, and financial security issues associated with aging. Then, with over 100 research publications, the project received a second grant to pursue Phase Two, which includes extensive analysis of international survey data from Statistics Canada Research Data Centres. The data allow for an international comparison of the Canadian case and they help address new topics of importance for understanding policy as well as the experience of Canadians as they age.

2.2.1.2 Targeted Research and Training Initiatives

Financial Resources:

Planned Spending	Actual Spending
\$36,666,902	\$31,923,815

Key Programs or Services:

Targeted research—research in which the theme area and subject are defined by SSHRC in consultation with the research community and decision makers from the various sectors, its partners, and/or the federal government—is supported through three sets of programs: *Strategic Research Grants*, *Strategic Joint Initiatives*, and the *Initiative on the New Economy (INE)*. Together, these programs contribute to the creation of new knowledge in targeted or strategic areas of research that are of importance to Canadians.

SSHRC's **Strategic Research Grants programs**²⁴ support creation of new knowledge on pressing social, economic, and cultural issues of particular importance to Canadians—knowledge that can then be made available for decision making in various sectors. As such, these programs encourage team-based interdisciplinary research and student training involving partnerships between university-based researchers, other researchers, and users of research beyond the university community.

In 2004-05, three strategic grants programs were active at SSHRC:

- The **Image, Text, Sound and Technology (ITST) program** aims to increase our knowledge of scholarly applications for new digital technologies, and about how they are transforming both individuals and cultures as well as our understanding of them. The program's second competition since its inception in 2003-04 resulted in 19 applications and 12 awards. As per a commitment made in its 2004-05 RPP, SSHRC planned to launch new ITST program components in 2004-05. However, due to resource constraints, this has not yet taken place. Nonetheless, SSHRC plans to investigate the feasibility of adjusting the ITST program in order to build upon capacity developed over the last two years and allow for a more strategic use of funds in meeting the program's objectives.
- The **Aboriginal Research Pilot program** seeks to expand Canada's capacity to address research issues that are of concern to Aboriginal peoples in ways that capitalize on Aboriginal knowledge, experience, and tradition. The program received 105 applications, 28 of which received funding. Both the number and quality of applications to this program far exceeded expectations. A second competition for this program is slated to take place in the winter of 2006.
- The **Northern Research Development program** responds to Budget 2004's request to increase support for Northern research by encouraging working partnerships between university-based researchers and Northern community organizations, by improving training opportunities for future researchers, and by better integrating northern research institutions, local community groups, and government departments. In its second competition since the program's inception in 2003-04, the program received 50 applications and provided 22 awards of up to \$40,000 each over two years.

²⁴ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_index_e.asp - 2 for more information on the Strategic Research Grants programs.

Established in 1989, SSHRC's **Strategic Joint Initiatives**²⁵ program mechanism allows the Council to enter into strategic partnerships with organizations within and outside of government in order to support the development of new knowledge to inform policy-making. By supporting researchers and research activities through these partnerships, joint initiatives contribute to the creation of new knowledge about issues of relevance to SSHRC's partners—new knowledge that can then be made available for use by decision makers.

In 2004-05, SSHRC launched one new joint initiative program:

- **Official Languages Research and Dissemination Program:** In partnership with the Department of Canadian Heritage, this strategic joint initiative, through its suite of research-support mechanisms, seeks to contribute to a better understanding of issues related to the implementation of the 1988 Official Languages Act and, in particular, to help achieve the goals of Canadian Heritage's Official Languages Support Programs (OLSP). In 2004-05, this program received a total of 50 applications and provided funding for two research conferences, nineteen research projects, and one virtual scholar in residence²⁶.

In addition, SSHRC, together with several other national research funding agencies, has entered into a partnership with the European Science Foundation in order to fund multinational, multidisciplinary teams to broaden and deepen the scope of research in and on the circumpolar North. Through the **BOREAS: Histories from the North—Environments, Movements, Narratives** program, which is managed by the European Science Foundation, participating national research funding agencies fund their own researchers, while the European Science Foundation funds networking, dissemination of research results, and related activities. SSHRC will be providing funding for successful Canadian applicants to this program in 2005-06.

As per its 2004-05 RPP commitment, SSHRC has had ongoing discussions with the CIHR and NSERC regarding joint programming that addresses the economic, social, ecological, and political challenges and opportunities facing Canada's North. However, because new funds would have to be available to support such activities, the three Councils have yet to finalize their plans. Discussions for new programming continue at the same time as several activities deriving from the *Dialogue on the North*²⁷ are coming to fruition.

Since 1989, SSHRC's Joint Initiatives program mechanism has resulted in 43 joint initiatives with more than 40 distinct partners, and it has generated over \$42 million in additional funding for SS&H research on top of a total SSHRC investment of close to \$40 million. **Appendix 2**, on page 60, presents a cumulative list of all new, ongoing, and completed joint initiatives to date. The program mechanism as a whole is slated for evaluation in the next fiscal year.

²⁵ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_index_e.asp#3 for more information on Strategic Joint Initiatives.

²⁶ Virtual Scholar in Residence grants fund a maximum of two researchers to work with the Official Languages Support Programs Branch (OLSPB) of Canadian Heritage to advance research on minority community issues, second-language learning, and the promotion of linguistic duality to all Canadians.

²⁷ The *Dialogue on the North*, a consultation led by SSHRC and involving CIHR and NSERC, engaged various stakeholders in the north (researchers, postsecondary institutions, community groups, etc.) in a discussion on research needs in the social, economic, cultural, environmental, health and science/resource sectors. A report on the *Dialogue* is in the final stages of preparation.

Joint Initiative Research Profile: The Non-Profit Sector in Canada

Yves Vaillancourt

Université du Québec à Montréal

L'économie sociale au Québec dans le domaine de la santé et du bien-être : définitions et survol historique

The role played by the social economy in Canadian society continues to evolve, as does our understanding of it. This is especially true in the context of health and welfare, which was the focus of Dr. **Yves Vaillancourt's** research. Funded under the Non-Profit Sector in Canada joint initiative, Vaillancourt's project sought to clarify the definition and role of the social economy in Québec. Having reviewed the literature and completed key stakeholder interviews, Vaillancourt concluded that there was no hegemonic definition of what the social economy is or does. In fact, definitions, organizational relationships, and responsibilities are broad and varied. Vaillancourt's findings have had a ripple effect, as subsequent working papers and presentations arising from his project continue to contribute to the conceptualization and development of this increasingly important sector in Québec and Canada.

The **Initiative on the New Economy (INE)**²⁸, a five-year, \$100 million initiative launched by the Government of Canada in June 2001, is intended to help Canadians better understand and take advantage of the nature of the new economy and its impact on business, education, and society. By supporting Canada's best researchers and research activities in areas related to the new economy, the INE is making vital contributions to advances in knowledge, expertise, and knowledge mobilization.

The INE's focus in the last fiscal year was on administering and monitoring grants awarded through the program to date, and on holding a competition for INE Public Outreach grants. This program received 11 applications, with 8 new projects involving 23 researchers receiving funding. A second competition for funding under this program will take place in the fall of 2005.

As per its 2004-05 RPP commitment, SSHRC conducted mid-term reviews of the first cohort of INE Collaborative Research Initiatives (INE-CRI) and INE Research Alliances (INE-RA) grants in 2004. These reviews are intended to evaluate the progress achieved by the research teams, the overall quality of the research at this stage, and the schedule of activities set for the completion of the grant in order to determine the continuation of funding for the final two years.

The reviews were conducted by committees of peers who reported being impressed by the progress being made by each research team. In particular, the high quality of student training made possible through these grants, and the added value brought by the partnerships that were forged, were pointed out. In no cases did the committees recommend that funding be withdrawn. In a few cases, the committees made suggestions as to how the research could still be improved, and imposed some conditions on the release of further funding. In all cases, the conditions were met and funding released.

The mid-term review of the second cohort of INE-CRIs and INE-RAs will take place in the fall and winter of 2005-06.

INE staff members continue to collaborate with SSHRC's Knowledge Products and Mobilization (KPM) Division to help in mobilizing the knowledge generated by the INE. See section 2.3, page 30, for more information on the work being conducted by SSHRC's KPM Division.

²⁸ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_index_e.asp#4 for more information on the INE.

INE Research Profile**Ernie Lightman**

University of Toronto

Social Assistance in the New Economy

Canada's new economy conjures up images of technological advancement in an increasingly fast-paced, wired world. The social changes brought on by this new economic reality are seldom considered. Recognizing the shift in social assistance from "passive" to "active" recipient programs in countries around the world, Dr. **Ernie Lightman** and his team explored the effects of the new economy on recipients of social assistance within Canadian society. The three-year research program, Social Assistance in the New Economy (SANE), focused their attention on the welfare-to-work transition, as viewed from different perspectives. The creation of a longitudinal panel of welfare recipients in Toronto, interviewed three times over a two-year period, and quantitative explorations of post-welfare trajectories among social assistance recipients provided multiple lines of evidence for documenting the impact of Canada's new economy on this group. The extensive research conducted by the team has established its reputation as a source of research and policy expertise for government policy-makers and analysts at all levels, for research institutes across Canada, and for social welfare agencies working directly with clients.

2.2.1.3 Strategic Research Development**Financial Resources:**

Planned Spending	Actual Spending
\$17,457,500	\$17,108,079

Key Programs or Services:

Strategic research development—the development of new methods for conducting research, the definition of new research perspectives and challenges, as well as the fostering of new research alliances between researchers and users of research—is supported through five SSHRC programs or program clusters: the *Research Development Initiatives (RDI)* program, the *Community-University Research Alliances (CURA)* program, the *SSHRC Institutional Grants (SIG)* program, the *Aid to Small Universities (ASU)* program, and *general support programs*. Together, these programs contribute to the development of new ways of conducting research, as well as increases in research capacity (both university-based and community-based).

The **Research Development Initiatives (RDI)**²⁹ program supports research that both assesses and elicits the changing directions of research and the evolution of SS&H disciplines. The program offers funding opportunities to researchers based in universities and other post-secondary institutions, community and non-profit organizations, and scholarly associations to carry out activities such as intellectual exchanges, critical analyses, the development of new modes of research collaboration, and the establishment of new ways of producing, structuring, and mobilizing knowledge. In 2004-05, the program awarded grants to 31 projects involving 101 researchers. The success rate was 25 per cent.

SSHRC continued investing in the **Community-University Research Alliances (CURA)**³⁰ program, which provides support to universities and community organizations working together

²⁹ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/rdi_e.asp for more information on the RDI program.

³⁰ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/cura_e.asp for more information on the CURA program.

Departmental Performance Report

as equal partners to develop new understanding in key areas, sharpen research priorities, provide research training opportunities, and enhance the ability of SS&H research to meet the needs of Canadian communities. The CURA program also provides unique research training opportunities to a large number of undergraduate and graduate students in the SS&H. For instance, a recent examination of the CURAs funded in 2003 revealed that over 750 students (both paid and unpaid) were to be involved in a variety of research related roles; an average of 50 per CURA.³¹

In 2004-05, the CURA program provided support to 15 new programs of research involving 333 researchers and over 180 community and university partners. These new CURAs are examining a wide variety of issues such as:

- the impact of global trends in immigration, business, and housing on older Toronto neighbourhoods and on the people who live there;
- the unique challenges facing Canadian rural women and how to ensure that their voices are heard and their needs are met; and
- how to help people with intellectual disabilities protect themselves from abuse and violations of their human rights.

As per its 2004-05 RPP commitment, SSHRC launched a new program based on the CURA model that addresses the social economy (sometimes called community economic development). Following the Government of Canada's 2004 announcement of a \$15 million investment over five years for research on the social economy, SSHRC established a committee made up of representatives from the research and policy communities and various social economy actors to design the new "Social Economy Suite," which was launched in January 2005. Applications for this program will be received over the summer of 2005, and awards will be announced in the fall of 2005.

CURA Research Profile

Sally Rice

University of Alberta

The Daghida Project: Language Research and Revitalization in a First Nations Community

Community University Research Alliances aim to build ongoing relationships between community organizations and their local postsecondary institutions. By funding these projects, SSHRC enables the pursuit of knowledge that directly impacts the community. This is clearly evident in the Daghida Project. The main objective of this CURA was the revival, renewal and cultural preservation of the Dene language. The results were incorporated into teaching at several levels, including a new degree in native studies/elementary education, a new off-campus Aboriginal teacher education program, and the establishment of the Canadian Indigenous Languages and Literacy Development Institute (CILLDI), an Aboriginal language and second language teacher training summer school at the University of Alberta. In addition, Dr. **Sally Rice** and the rest of the CURA team oversaw the inauguration of an interdisciplinary (linguistics, archaeology/anthropology, and computer science) online project to develop a pan-Athapaskan comparative lexicon. This database will eventually be made accessible for data entry and editing by native speakers and linguists interested in relationships among the over three dozen daughter languages of this major North American language family.

³¹ *Community-University Research Alliances (CURA) Program: Milestone Year 1 Report Summary Analysis. Final Report.* Barrington Research Group, Inc., 2005

2.3 Knowledge Mobilization – The Transfer, Dissemination, and Use of Human Sciences Knowledge

Expected Results:

SSHRC expects the results of SS&H research to be disseminated to, and shared among, various audiences: among researchers themselves to advance knowledge; between researchers and users of research (i.e. policy-makers, decision makers, professionals, practitioners from various sectors); and with the public. The program activities supported under this strategic outcome enhance the linkages between these various groups to ensure that the research that is produced is put to good use by the academic, public, private, and not-for-profit sectors for the benefit of all Canadians. Investments in this area also enhance Canadians' awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the SS&H and their contributions to our society.

2.3.1 Program Activities

2.3.1.1 Research Communication and Interaction

Financial Resources:

Planned Spending ³²	Actual Spending ³³
\$15,835,210	\$18,915,938

Key Programs or Services:

Programs for research communication and interaction among researchers, research users, and students constitutes SSHRC's main activity under this strategic outcome. Programs in this area include: *Aid to Research Workshops and Conferences*, *Aid to Research and Transfer Journals*, *Strategic Research Cluster Design Grants*, *Aid to Scholarly Publications Program*, *Attendance Grants to Scholarly Associations*, and *Networks of Centres of Excellence*. SSHRC's Knowledge Products and Mobilization Division is also mandated to promote the development of knowledge mobilization capacity and pilot ways to help society gain the most benefit from publicly funded research in the SS&H.

³² The Aid to Research and Transfer Journals grants were due to be paid in March 2005. In planning its spending for 2004-05, Council had to postpone the payments for this program to April 1, 2005 due to a forecasted lack of funds. However, in light of its financial situation in March 2005, Council was in fact able to follow its normal schedule of payments for this program and pay in March 2005 after all—hence the difference between the planned and actual spending.

³³ The programs administered by SSHRC under the Knowledge Mobilization strategic outcome totalled \$7,615,938 or 40 per cent of the total planned spending. The NCE program, at \$11,300,000, completes the activities under this outcome.

Departmental Performance Report

Researchers funded by SSHRC to conduct research projects and programs related to other strategic outcomes also contribute indirectly to achieving this outcome by using their funds to disseminate their own research results through various media and interactions. SSHRC designed the CURA program to facilitate interactions between researchers and community organizations.

In 2004-05, SSHRC reviewed its former Aid to Occasional Conferences and International Congresses Program in light of an evaluation study conducted in the previous fiscal year. It restructured the program to address the needs of gatherings of various sizes, from workshops and small conferences to international congresses. Since the evaluation had revealed the importance of workshops for the SS&H research community, SSHRC revamped this component and renamed the program the **Aid to Research Workshops and Conferences Program**.³⁴

SSHRC held two competitions under the revised program in 2004-05, supporting a total of 132 new national and international workshops and conferences. In total, SSHRC invested \$1,760,863 to bring together researchers and other interested groups to discuss a wide range of topics.

Examples of Supported Workshops and Conferences Held in 2004-05

- *The Midwifery Way: A National Forum Reflecting on the State of Midwifery Regulation in Canada*, Halifax, July 7, 2004
- *The Prairies Lost and Found: A Multidisciplinary Conference*, Winnipeg, September 23-25, 2004
- *Interdisciplinary Workshop on Physical Culture, Power, and the Body*, Vancouver, October 14-16, 2004
- *Usages et pratiques de la généalogie dans les sciences humaines, sociales et biologiques*, Montréal, October 7-8, 2004
- *Le développement social et l'économie sociale à l'heure de la reconfiguration de l'État: enjeux et perspectives pour les acteurs sociaux*, Chicoutimi, October 28-29, 2004
- *Canadian English in the Global Context*, Toronto, January 28-30, 2005
- *Climate Change Adaptation and Canadian Agriculture: Managing Risk and Building Capacity*, Edmonton, February 17-18, 2005

In 2004-05, 169 journals applied for three-year grants through SSHRC's **Aid to Research and Transfer Journals**³⁵ program. The program supported 156 journals: five had their grants terminated based on recommendations made by peer-review committees. In total, the program spent \$2,714,982 in 2004-05 to support journals that were funded under the last three-year funding period. The new cohort of journals that were funded reported over 100,000 Canadian and foreign subscriptions.³⁶

³⁴ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/conferences_e.asp for more information on the Aid to Research Workshops and Conferences program.

³⁵ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/journals_e.asp for more information on the Aid to Research and Transfer Journals program.

³⁶ Based on 2002 figures provided by journals in their applications.

In 2004-05, SSHRC also continued to build partnership programs and research alliances to improve mobilization of knowledge. This was done through the support of the [Community-University Research Alliances program](#), mentioned in section 2.2.1.3 above, which contributes greatly to the mobilization of knowledge through close collaborations between university researchers and community practitioners, thus ensuring that knowledge is shared throughout the research process.

An Example of Knowledge Mobilization from the CURA Program

Enhancing the Participation of Children with Special Needs: King et al, Thames Valley Children's Centre. Knowledge mobilization mechanisms produced by this CURA include tools for parents and providers, a Web site generating 39,800 hits in 18 months from 32 countries; three newsletters, with 5,800 copies distributed; and eight easy-to-read research summaries, with 11,000 copies distributed to 391 individuals in 183 organizations.

The [CURA Program Performance Report](#)³⁷, completed in 2003-04, highlights important outcomes of, and lessons learned from, knowledge mobilization efforts by the projects funded under the pilot phase of this program (1999-2000). According to the report, the CURAs created a wide variety of mechanisms, tools, and vehicles for knowledge mobilization, and their outcomes included the development and use of new tools at the municipal government level, the improvement of existing professional training programs, and the implementation of new ones.

The report also highlights two key lessons learned through the experience of the CURAs:

- knowledge mobilization potential has been greater in local or downstream practice and policies, rather than in upstream, macro-level policy arenas.
- closer collaboration makes for greater knowledge mobilization.

One of the priorities that emerged early on in SSHRC's consultation process on transformation related to the need for SSHRC to seek new ways to broker knowledge among researchers and between producers and consumers of human sciences research. In order to explore ways of achieving this, SSHRC developed the [Strategic Research Clusters Design Grants](#)³⁸ program, which was designed to support teams of researchers interested in preparing and submitting concept papers to propose ideas for "strategic research clusters." These clusters are expected to act as national research networks, each one focused on a particular theme, issue, or content area. They enable researchers to interact on an ongoing basis with each other, with research users and other stakeholders, and with the public. The program awarded grants to 31 teams of researchers in the fall of 2004. The Strategic Research Clusters fall within nine themes: Innovation and Business; Regions, Cities, and Communities; Governance and Public Policy Infrastructure; Multiculturalism and Citizenship; Environment and Resources; Education and Learning; Human Development and Well-Being; Frontiers of Scholarship; and Canada and the World.

³⁷ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/about/publications/cura_e.pdf to access the CURA Performance Report.

³⁸ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/cluster_e.asp for more information on the Strategic Research Clusters Design Grants program.

Strategic Research Cluster Design Grants

The History Education Network

Ruth Sandwell
University of Toronto

With 45 stakeholders, the History Education Network's Research Cluster will study and promote history education in Canada. The cluster addresses the concern among Canadians regarding our lack of history literacy. In conjunction with partners at all levels of education, and the public and private sectors, researchers and educators will produce and disseminate knowledge to bridge the gap between historians and history educators to rectify the lack of historical education and knowledge within our schools and communities.

Population Change and Public Policy

Roderic Beaujot
University of Western Ontario

This cluster proposes to investigate the challenges created by demographic changes in advanced industrial societies. Cluster researchers will concentrate on evolving Canadian "demographics" and the economic and social policy implications of population change. The Population Change and Public Policy research cluster will focus on the evolution of population size, distribution and composition, and fertility, mortality and migration to create research useful for all levels of government.

Other Knowledge Mobilization and Interaction Activities:

While not directly linked to a specific program, the following activities also contribute to knowledge mobilization and interaction.

A) The Knowledge Project

SSHRC invited the 31 teams of researchers funded under the above-mentioned Strategic Research Clusters Design Grants program, along with other researchers managing large collaborative programs, to participate in a national forum in Ottawa to discuss the most promising models for clusters. The forum, called **The Knowledge Project: Building Canadian Research Leadership**, was held in Ottawa in February 2005. It brought together over 150 top Canadian SS&H researchers and more than 600 stakeholders for a highly successful research "trade show," which featured 84 separate exhibits as well as interactive panel discussions on selected issues that cut across both disciplinary and methodological boundaries. The results of the discussions at this forum, and those of the Strategic Clusters Design Grants program, are summarized in a report entitled: "*Very Well Connected: Frameworks for Strategic Research Clusters: A Report on the Clusters Design Grants Process.*"³⁹ The report proposes possible cluster models and identifies key approaches to and phases in developing clusters. Based on the forum and this report, SSHRC is considering launching, as part of its new Strategic Plan, a revised program that would provide continued support for cluster creation and development.

B) INE Web-based Knowledge Network

As per its 2004-05 RPP commitment, SSHRC continues to actively participate in the mobilization of knowledge created through the INE program. During the year, SSHRC's

³⁹ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/background/clusters_report_e.pdf to access the report.

Knowledge Products and Mobilization Division carried out informal consultations on the functioning of the Web-based knowledge network that was created the year before to help connect and promote knowledge-sharing among the 26 large-scale research teams funded under the INE. Based on feedback from a majority of the teams, the division developed a plan for the next stage of network development, which includes improving navigation functions, linking more research teams and individuals, and streamlining the system.

2.4 Institutional Support – A Strong Canadian Research Environment

Since 1997, the Government of Canada has made significant investments in academic research through the three federal granting agencies. Although the research community has welcomed these investments, it has raised concerns about the rising *indirect* costs of supporting federally funded research.

In response to these concerns, in Budget 2003, the Government of Canada announced \$225 million per annum in funding for a new permanent program to help support the indirect costs of federally funded academic research.

Budget 2004 increased the annual program budget by \$20 million to \$245 million per annum beginning in 2004-05.

The term “indirect costs” refers to the central and departmental administrative costs that institutions incur to support research, but which are not attributable to specific research projects. Five categories of indirect costs are eligible for support including: costs to provide research facilities and resources; costs to manage and administer services that support research activities; costs to meet regulatory and accreditation requirements; and costs to manage intellectual property generated by research activities.

Expected Results:

The Indirect Costs program helps universities, colleges, and their affiliated research hospitals and institutes provide a strong and competitive research environment that will enable them to make the best use of the total federal investment in academic research. The program also helps increase research capacity in smaller Canadian postsecondary institutions, which do not benefit from the economies of scale realized by large institutions.

The Indirect Costs program is part of a national strategy to make Canada a leader in research and development. It contributes, along with other federal funding for academic research, to:

- (in the short term) the provision of research facilities and resources, the support of research management and administration, the meeting of regulatory and accreditation requirements, and the commercialization and the transfer of knowledge.
- (in the medium-term) the attractiveness of the Canadian research environment, its compliance with regulatory requirements, the transfer of knowledge and the commercialization of research results.

Ultimately, SSHRC expects the program to contribute to an enriched university environment that will lead to a stronger economy and a better quality of life for Canadians.

Financial Resources:

Planned Spending	Actual Spending
\$244,522,000	\$244,518,000

Reporting on Results:

The Indirect Costs program is managed⁴⁰ in a manner sensitive to risks, accountability, and efficient use of funds. The program has implemented various tools to monitor performance and assess results. For example, institutions must submit a request form outlining how the grant will be spent and an annual outcomes report that outlines both how the grant was in fact spent and what results these investments achieved.

In addition, in its Treasury Board submission the program has committed itself to the following evaluation activities:

- a third-year review that will examine the design and the operations of the program, identify any potential adjustments, and assess whether the program is progressing toward meeting its objectives and the extent to which it has produced immediate outcomes. The review will be completed by November 2005.
- a summative evaluation in order to assess whether the program has achieved its objectives.

Given the short time interval (two years) since the inception of the program, reporting on program results focuses on **short-term results**.

Table 3 summarizes the planned and actual investments by priority area for 2003-04 as well as the planned investments by priority area for 2004-05. Please note that there is a time lag between the submission of the outcomes reports and the writing of DPR. Therefore, the results presented below are based on data from the 2003-04 outcomes reports.

Table 3: Planned and Actual Investments by Priority Area

Priority Area	2003-04 Planned (Request Forms)	2003-04 Actual (Outcomes Reports)	2004-05 Planned (Request Forms)
Facilities	96,352,175 43%	87,441,719 39%	99,519,984 41%
Resources	45,008,883 20%	49,493,437 22%	46,808,127 19%
Management and Administration	60,654,897 27%	63,360,301 28%	72,219,026 30%
Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation	10,132,848 5%	10,556,811 5%	11,299,493 5%
Intellectual Property	12,071,948 5%	12,402,884 6%	12,962,045 5%
Total	\$224,220,751 100%	\$223,255,152 100%	\$242,808,675 100%

Overall Investments

In the early years of the program, SSHRC expected recipient institutions to invest a significant proportion of their Indirect Costs grants in the more pressing needs such as deferred maintenance, and library resources. This is in fact what has happened so far, as is reflected in the

⁴⁰ SSHRC administers the Indirect Costs program through the Canada Research Chairs Secretariat. The program has been integrated into SSHRC's PAA under a specific strategic outcome.

table above with facilities, management, and administration accounting for the largest proportion of the funds.

Provision of Research Facilities

This category accounts for the largest portion of the Indirect Costs Program funds—an expected result in the early years of the program since the priority for many institutions is to carry out maintenance and upgrades that were deferred in the past because of lack of funding.

Based on the 2003-04 outcomes reports, institutions mainly reported investments in renovations to research space (e.g., upgrades to laboratory space and to animal care facilities), technical support for laboratories, and utilities costs. These investments led to improvements in the availability of research space across the research system, addressed recommendations made by the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) with respect to the animal care facilities, and enabled more institutions to meet the standards of the CCAC.

Provision of Research Resources

A significant portion of program funds was invested in this category. In the 2003-04 outcomes reports, institutions identified support of research libraries and upgrade of technology infrastructure as the most common investments. Many institutions reported that the program has enabled them to address critical needs in library resources that had been steadily growing due to lack of funding in the past. The program has helped institutions address the rising demand from researchers for electronic resources and the rising charges for electronic journal and database subscriptions.

Management and Administration of the Research Enterprise

Management and Administration is the second largest spending category. Based on the 2003-04 outcomes reports, institutions indicated that they invested grant funds in all eligible areas. Salary support for personnel in research administration was the most common investment reported by institutions. The hiring of grant facilitators was also an important investment reported mainly by large universities. Institutions reported that the deployment of grant facilitators has led to various benefits for the research enterprise including, for example, an increase in the number of applications.

Meeting Regulatory and Accreditation Requirements

Only a small proportion (5 per cent) of the program funds was invested in this category. In the 2003-04 outcomes reports, institutions indicated that regulatory boards in institutions typically function on a voluntary basis, which helps keep administrative costs for Research Ethics Boards down. Institutions mainly cited the training of those involved in animal-based research as the main investment of the Indirect Costs grant (a requirement of the CCAC).

Transfer of Knowledge (public dissemination, commercialization, management of intellectual property)

Only 5 per cent of the Indirect Costs funds were invested in this category. As stated above, institutions are expected to focus on the most urgent needs in the first few years of the program, which may explain the low proportion of funds attributed to this category. Institutions reported that they used program funds mainly to develop, expand, or sustain a technology transfer office. Program funds were also used for patent applications, licensing, and the creation of spin-off companies.

SECTION III: SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

3.1 Organizational Information

3.1.1 Governance Structure

SSHRC obtains its funding through an annual parliamentary vote and reports to Parliament through the Minister of Industry (**Figure 1**). Under the terms of its mandate, SSHRC functions as an agency and reports to Parliament annually on how it spends its budget. The agency, however, has full authority to set its priorities, policies, and programs, and to provide funding through a rigorous peer review process.

3.1.2 Governing Council and Accountability for Program Activities

SSHRC's president, as chief executive officer of the Council, is responsible for directing all ongoing operations, and is accountable for the administration of public funds and for delivering on the Council's mandate. Three vice-presidents and one director-general report to the president and are responsible for Programs, Corporate Affairs, Knowledge Products and Mobilization, and Administrative Services.

The organization is governed by a [22-member Board](#)⁴¹ (**Figure 2**), chaired by the president, and appointed by the Governor-in-Council to represent the interests of the academic, public, and private sectors in all regions of Canada. SSHRC's Board meets three times each year, determines program and policy priorities, initiatives, and budget allocations, and monitors their implementation.

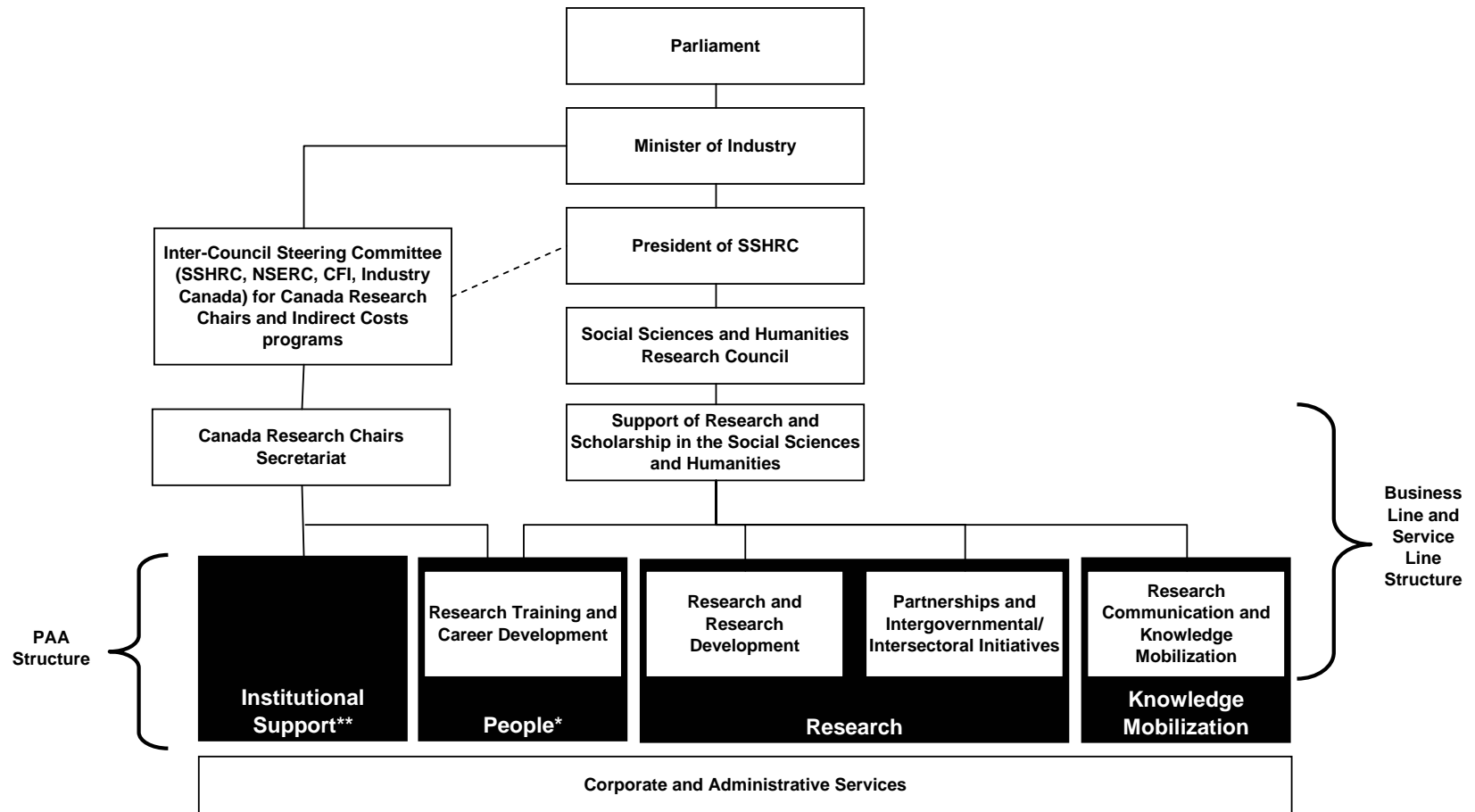
SSHRC is mandated to administer the Canada Research Chairs and Indirect Costs programs on behalf of the other two granting councils (NSERC and CIHR), the CFI, and Industry Canada. Governance of these programs are under the authority of an Inter-Council Steering Committee made up of the presidents of the three federal granting councils (SSHRC, NSERC, and CIHR), the President of CFI, as well as the deputy minister of Industry Canada. The president of SSHRC chairs the Steering Committee and the Canada Research Chairs Secretariat is housed within SSHRC.

Six standing [Council committees](#)⁴² (**Figure 2**) help chart SSHRC's direction and ensure that its grants and fellowships programs reflect the requirements of the research community and meet the needs of Canadians.

⁴¹ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/about/committees/council_e.asp for more information on SSHRC's Board.

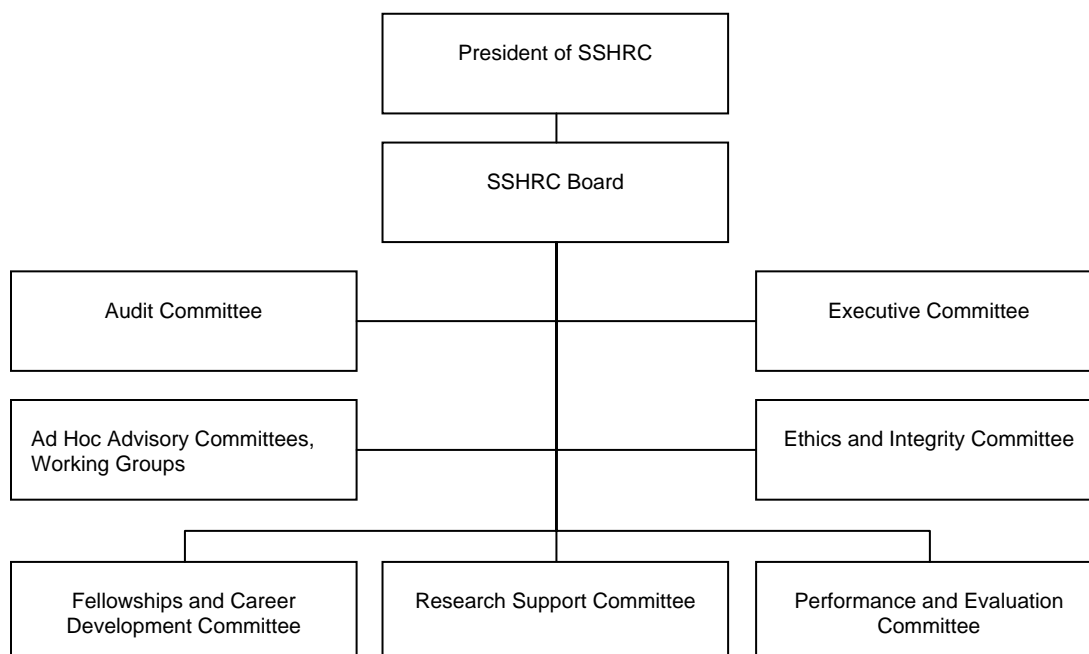
⁴² See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/about/governance_e.asp#committee for more information on SSHRC standing committees.

Figure 1: SSHRC – Accountability, Mandate, and Corporate Functions



* Includes the Canada Research Chairs Program, which was reported under "Research and Research Development" in past DPRs
 ** Includes the Indirect Costs Program, which was reported under "Research and Research Development" in past DPRs

Figure 2: SSHRC – Governance and Committee Structure



- The *Executive Committee* has the authority to act for SSHRC’s Board in policy, procedural, human resources, and administrative matters.
- The *Audit Committee* reviews and approves SSHRC’s audit plan as well as the scope, findings, and recommendations of specific audit engagements. It also reviews and recommends approval of financial statements.
- The *Performance and Evaluation Committee* assists the Council in developing and implementing a performance measurement, management, and reporting strategy. It reviews evaluation plans and a variety of evaluations at the policy, program, and project level. This committee also reviews recommendations arising from these evaluations.
- The *Research Support Committee* provides advice on program priorities, direction, design, development, and implementation, and monitors peer-review processes and competition results for research, strategic, and dissemination programs.
- The *Fellowships and Career Development Committee* advises the Board and guides staff on research training issues.
- The *Ethics and Integrity Committee* provides policy and administrative advice on research ethics and research integrity issues to the Board and staff.

Finally, as required and appropriate, SSHRC also creates ad hoc advisory committees and working groups on specific questions falling within the purview of its mandate.

In addition to these corporate committees, [selection committees](#)⁴³ of university-based researchers and, where appropriate, experts from outside the academic community, adjudicate applications to

⁴³ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/about/governance_e.asp#selection for more information on SSHRC’s selection committees.

SSHRC programs in accordance with the principles of rigorous peer review based on excellence. This independent and highly competitive adjudication process, involving over 400 volunteer adjudication committee members and 4,800 external assessors per year, ensures that SSHRC funds only the best research and the best candidates.

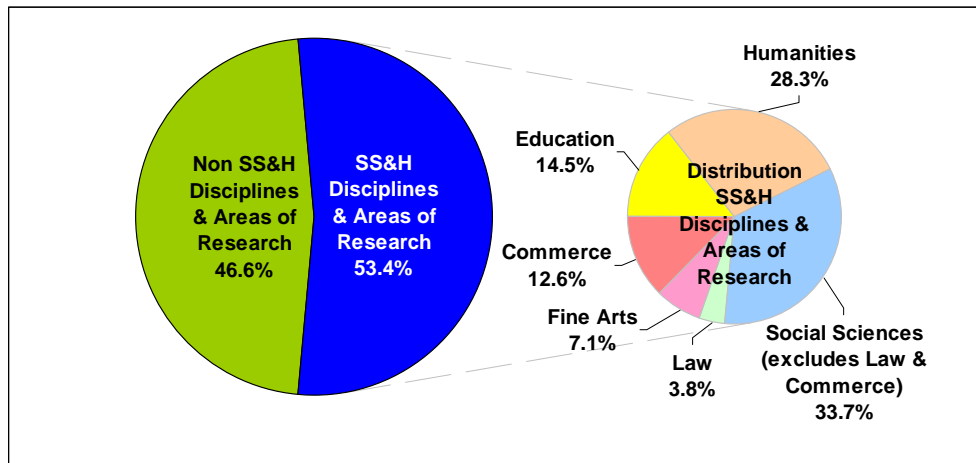
In the past fiscal year, SSHRC made no changes to the structure of its Governing Council or to its administrative structure.

3.1.3 Clients

SSHRC’s chief clients are the approximately 19,000 full-time faculty and 40,000 graduate students in more than 90 universities across Canada who teach, study, and conduct research in the SS&H. Collectively, they represent about 54 per cent of full-time professors and approximately 58 per cent of full-time graduate students in Canadian universities. **Graphs 1 and 2** provide a proportional breakdown of disciplinary representation for both SS&H faculty and students.

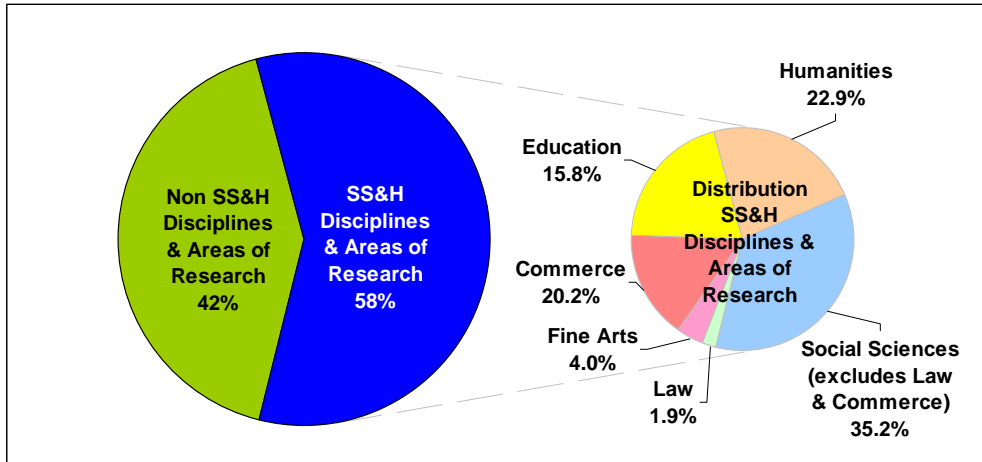
SSHRC clients also include researchers at some 200 community colleges across the country. Not-for-profit organizations that have a mandate to conduct research and that have qualified researchers on staff are also eligible for some SSHRC programs. This constitutes a new and growing segment of SSHRC’s clientele, who are attracted by—and served through—the Council’s various program initiatives.

Graph 1: Distribution of Full-time Faculty in Canadian Universities (n=36,053)



Source: Statistics Canada – Faculty data 2002-03

Graph 2: Distribution of Full-time Graduate Students in Canadian Universities (n=68,628)



Source: Statistics Canada – Graduate Student data 1999-00

3.2 Reporting on Resource Expenditures

3.2.1 Financial Performance Summary

SSHRC develops and administers a diversified set of programs. The complement of programs continues to evolve in response to the changing needs and expectations of SSHRC's clientele and of Canadian society as a whole. SSHRC also administers programs on behalf of the three federal granting agencies (SSHRC, NSERC, and CIHR), the Canada Research Chairs and the Indirect Costs programs, as well as targeted federal initiatives such as the Initiative on the New Economy and the Canada Graduate Scholarships program. Over 70 per cent of SSHRC's overall grants and scholarships budget of \$529 million is earmarked for such designated programs.

In order to administer this large complement of programs, SSHRC spent \$20.2 million in operating expenditures in 2004-05. This represents 3.9 per cent of SSHRC's total expenditures for the same period.

Detailed financial information for SSHRC is provided in the following tables. Please note that financial tables are provided in accordance with SSHRC's business line structure. Financial tables for SSHRC's 2005-06 DPR will follow the new PAA structure.

Please note that SSHRC's Audited Financial Statements are presented in [SSHRC's Annual Report](#)⁴⁴.

⁴⁴ Please see http://www.sshrc.ca/web/about/publications/publications_e.asp for SSHRC's Annual Report for 2004-05.

3.2.2 Financial Tables

Table 4: Comparison of Planned to Actual Spending (incl. FTE)

(\$ millions)	2002-03 Actual	2003-04 Actual	2004-2005			
			Main Estimates	Planned Spending	Total Authorities	Actual Spending
Support of Research and Scholarship in Social Sciences and Humanities						
Social Sciences and Humanities						
Research Council	186.2	457.1	506.4	538.3	526.9	519.4
Total	186.2	457.1	506.4	538.3	526.9	519.4
Total	186.2	457.1	506.4	538.3	526.9	519.4
Less:						
Non-Respendable revenue ¹	(0.6)	(0.7)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(1.0)
Plus:						
Cost of services received without charge ¹	2.0	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.0
Net Cost of Department	187.6	459.0	508.7	540.6	529.2	521.3
Full Time Equivalents	161	172	172	172	172	177

¹ For presentation purposes, the *Main Estimates* and *Total Authorities* figures for non-respendable revenue and for cost of services received without charge have been matched to the 2004-2005 *Planned Spending* numbers.

This table offers a comparison of the Main Estimates, Planned Spending, Total Authorities, and Actual Spending for fiscal year 2004-05, as well as historical figures for Actual Spending. The discrepancy of \$11.4 million between planned spending and total authorities reflects additional adjustments to SSHRC's total authorities that were not anticipated at the time of SSHRC's 2004-05 RPP. These adjustments include: a carry forward from 2003-04 of \$0.8 million; joint initiatives transfers of \$0.9 million; a compensation for collective bargaining of \$0.6 million; access to TB Vote 5 of \$3.0 million; \$0.1 million spent on the creation of an advertising reserve; and \$14 million of the Canada Research Chairs Budget placed in frozen allotment as part of the Government-wide reallocation exercise from Budget 2003. Lapsed funding in 2004-05 was the result of difficulties experienced by universities in filling Canada Research Chairs at the rate that had been planned for (\$4.1 million surplus). Some difficulty was also experienced in filling Canada Graduate Scholarships at the doctoral level, due to the timing of scholarship refusals and its impact on SSHRC's ability to re-assign scholarships to other candidates (\$1 million surplus). Savings were also realized in Operating Expenditures in the amount of \$2.1 million. With an increasing budget comes a commensurate increase in staff: SSHRC's total full-time equivalent count has increased from 161 in 2002-03 to 177 in 2004-05.

Table 5: Use of Resources by Business Lines

2004-2005					
Business Lines-BL	Budgetary (\$ millions)				Total
	Operating ¹	Grants and Contributions	Total: Gross Budgetary Expenditures	Total: Net Budgetary Expenditures	
Support of Research & Scholarship in Social Sciences and Humanities					
Main Estimates	20.2	486.2	506.4	506.4	506.4
<i>Planned Spending</i>	22.2	516.1	538.3	538.3	538.3
Total Authorities	24.8	502.1	526.9	526.9	526.9
<i>Actual Spending</i>	22.4	497.0	519.4	519.4	519.4

¹ Operating includes contributions to Employee Benefit Plans (EBP).

This table provides information on how resources were used during fiscal year 2004-05. SSHRC's total Operating Expenditures (including contributions to Employee Benefits Plans (EBP)) represent approximately 4.3 per cent of its total overall expenditures for 2004-05. This includes targeted funds, such as the Canada Research Chairs, Indirect Costs, Networks of Centres of Excellence, and Canada Graduate Scholarships programs.

Table 6: Voted and Statutory Items

Vote or Statutory Item	Truncated Vote or Statutory Wording	2004-2005			
		Main Estimates	Planned Spending	Total Authorities	Actual
90	Operating expenditures	18.0	20.0	22.3	20.2
95	Grants and Contributions	486.2	516.1	502.1	497.0
(S)	Contributions to employee benefit plans	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.2
	Total	506.4	538.3	526.9	519.4

The main purpose of Table 6 is to compare the total actual spending versus the total authorized spending. Total Authorities are Main Estimates plus Supplementary Estimates plus Other Authorities (access to TB Vote 5), and refer to spending levels approved by the Treasury Board of Canada.

As shown above, SSHRC did not spend all authorized spending in 2004-05, thus incurring a surplus of \$7.5 million. Lapsed funding was the result of difficulties experienced by universities in filling Canada Research Chairs at the rate that had been planned for. Some difficulty was also experienced in filling Canada Graduate Scholarships at the doctoral level, due to the timing of scholarship refusals and its impact on SSHRC's ability to re-assign scholarships to other candidates (\$1.0 million surplus). Please note that a portion of the Total Authorities includes \$14.0 million from the Canada Research Chairs program placed in a frozen allotment as part of the Government-wide reallocation exercise (set out in Budget 2003).

The difference between the Main Estimates and the Total Authorities can be largely attributed to the following items, which were part of the Supplementary Estimates:

- the approval of funding for the Indirect Costs of Research program (\$20 million)
- the 2004 Federal Budget (\$12 million)
- the Canada Research Chairs' frozen allotment (-\$14 million)

Table 7: Net Cost of Department

(\$ millions)	2004-2005
Total Actual Spending	519.4
<i>Plus: Services Received without Charge</i>	
Accommodation provided by Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC)	2.0
Contributions covering employers' share of employees' insurance premiums and expenditures paid by TBS (excluding revolving funds)	0.9
Worker's compensation coverage provided by Social Development Canada	0.0
Salary and associated expenditures of legal services provided by Justice Canada	0.0
<i>Less: Non-respendable Revenue</i>	(1.0)
2004-2005 Net cost of Department	521.3

This table is designed to show the net cost of a department. It begins with the actual spending and adds services received without charge, and then subtracts non-respendable revenue to arrive at the net cost of the department.

Table 8: Non-respendable Revenue

(\$ millions)	Actual 2002-03	Actual 2003-04	2004-2005			
			Main Estimates	Planned Revenue	Total Authorities	Actual
Support of Research & Scholarship in Social Sciences & Humanities						
Refunds of previous years' expenditures	0.6	0.7	n/a	0.4	n/a	1.0
Total Non-Respendable Revenue	0.6	0.7	n/a	0.4	n/a	1.0

Non-respendable Revenues are funds flowing to SSHRC from sources other than its Parliamentary appropriation. Refunds of previous years' expenditures are passed on to the Receiver General for Canada and cannot be spent on programs or operations. SSHRC did not receive any Respendable Revenue in 2004-05.

Table 9: Details on Transfer Payment Programs

(\$ millions)	2002-03	2003-04	2004-2005			
	Actual	Actual	Main Estimates	Planned Spending	Total Authorities	Actual
Grants						
<i>Support of Research and Scholarship</i>						
Grants and Scholarships	167.5	198.0	229.4	239.3	225.3	221.2
Indirect Costs of Research	-	224.2	224.5	244.5	244.5	244.5
Canada Graduate Scholarships	-	14.2	32.3	32.3	32.3	31.3
Total Grants	167.5	436.4	486.2	516.1	502.1	497.0
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Transfer Payments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Grants, Contributions & Other Transfer Payments	167.5	436.4	486.2	516.1	502.1	497.0

Table 9 summarizes SSHRC actual transfer payments to planned spending, authorized levels, and main estimates. The difference between the 2004-05 actuals and the authorized levels is mainly due to a lapse in the Canada Research Chairs Program. The difference between the authorized levels and the planned spending is mainly caused by the creation of a frozen allotment for the Canada Research Chairs Program (\$14 million) as part of the federal government's \$1 billion reallocation exercise. The difference between the planned spending and the main estimates is in large part explained by amounts received as part of the 2004 Federal Budget (\$12 million) and for the Indirect Costs of Research Program (\$20 million).

SECTION IV: CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

4.1 Policy Leadership

4.1.1 Transformation

In January 2004, SSHRC launched a **nation-wide consultation**⁴⁵ with universities, scholarly associations, voluntary sector organizations, and other stakeholders to find out how best to transform the Council so that it can better support researchers and ensure that Canadians benefit from their investment in research and scholarship. The Council was joined in this initiative by the Association francophone pour le savoir, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies, and the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences. SSHRC also benefited from close collaboration with 81 universities, 71 scholarly associations, the Association of Community Colleges of Canada, the Canada Research Chairs Secretariat, the Centre for Voluntary Sector Research and Development, and the Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la société et la culture. Also involved were the Canadian Association of University Teachers and the Canadian Federation of Students. In addition, SSHRC held direct consultations with voluntary and non-profit sector organizations, community-based research organizations, non-governmental organizations, philanthropic foundations, think tanks, and federal government departments. Finally, the Council commissioned several studies to examine specific subjects relevant to the initiative.

Months of intense discussion, hundreds of meetings, and thousands of pages in reports and studies resulted in a genuine consensus among both researchers and research users that SSHRC should add “interactive engagement” and “maximum knowledge impact” to its core values. In addition, stakeholders provided useful suggestions for strengthening the foundations of scholarship and research training, building better connections among researchers and between researchers and users of research, and for making the most of SS&H research for the benefit of all Canadians.

The consultation has generated deep and broad support for an expanded role for SSHRC. The Council is grateful for the leadership and support of its partners and the thoughtful engagement of researchers and research users across the country. The commitment of these individuals and organizations made it possible to bring together scholars, students, and citizens to discuss and debate a host of interrelated issues. This in turn led to the creation of new partnerships beyond academe and to a keener awareness of the social value of all SS&H research. Moreover, it reawakened a sense of pride in the Canadian research enterprise’s ability to address the most complex and critical issues facing society.

These consultations have enabled SSHRC to develop a new five-year strategic plan, which was approved in principle by its governing Council in March 2005. Final approval of the plan is expected during the summer of 2005 and implementation will begin immediately in 2005-06. SSHRC has also taken a first step toward implementing its strategic plan by calling on the

⁴⁵ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/whatsnew/initiatives/transformation/reports/volume3_e.asp for a detailed report on the results of SSHRC’s consultation on transformation.

research community, in the summer of 2004, to start developing “strategic research clusters” (see section 2.3.1.1, page 29, of the present report).

4.1.2. Research Ethics

a) The Interagency Advisory Panel on Research Ethics

The **Interagency Advisory Panel on Research Ethics (PRE)**⁴⁶ is a body of external experts established by SSHRC, CIHR, and NSERC to support the development, evolution, use, and interpretation of the agencies’ joint human research ethics policy statement: the *Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS)*⁴⁷. In 2004-05, its third full year of operations⁴⁸, PRE continued to implement multifaceted projects to develop and implement the TCPS. These projects include:

- release of a report, *Giving Voice to the Spectrum*, based on a consultation with the SS&H research community;
- continued education and engagement of the public, through initiatives such as an online research ethics tutorial and a public bank of interpretive and educational guidelines for applying the TCPS as well as continued enhancement of an interactive [Web site](#);
- development and implementation of a Results-based Management and Accountability Framework (RMAF) for the PRE, and the conduct—in lieu of a mid-term evaluation—of a special study on roles, responsibilities, and relationships in the context of risk management issues identified by the RMAF;
- review of over 80 institutional research ethics policies to ensure that they are consistent with the principles, norms, and procedures outlined in the TCPS; and
- launch, by SSHRC, of a new, one-time initiative⁴⁹ to understand how current regulations, policies, and practices relating to privacy protection and confidentiality impact SS&H research in Canada and to identify the advantages and disadvantages of the different approaches used to ensure confidentiality for participants in SS&H research.

⁴⁶ See <http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca> for more information on the PRE.

⁴⁷ See <http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/english/policystatement/policystatement.cfm> for more information on the TCPS.

⁴⁸ SSHRC and its sister agencies have extended the term of mandate of the Interagency Advisory Panel and Secretariat on Research Ethics until November 2009.

⁴⁹ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/privacy_e.asp for more information the SS&H Research and the Protection of Privacy Program.

4.2 Modern Comptrollership

4.2.1 Action Plan for Integrated Management Practices (IMP Action Plan)

The year 2004-05 was the second year of SSHRC's Integrated Management Practices Action Plan. This plan aims to improve application of the principles of Modern Comptrollership and to integrate management practices. It is based on the findings of the **Modern Comptrollership Capacity Assessment**⁵⁰ carried out in 2003-04. The assessment identified specific actions for improving management practices in the areas of planning, training, performance evaluation, communications, knowledge management, and client service.

The following table enumerates the specific milestones and planned actions for 2004-05 under the plan. It includes references to the appropriate sections of this DPR.

Table 10: Status of Action Planned as a Result of SSHRC's Modern Comptrollership Capacity Assessment

Timetable and Planned Actions	Progress Reported in:
Planning	
Completion of an A-Base Review of the Operational Budget and identification of the changes needed to align resources and allocations with the priorities of the transformed SSHRC.	Section 4.2.2.2 d) i-.
Incorporation of risk management into strategic and operational planning, program evaluation, and internal audit.	Section 4.2.2.2 c)
Carrying out an internal audit of the governance structure.	Postponed to 2005-06.
Training	
Development of a management learning framework related to the concepts of modern management.	Section 4.2.2.3
Annual identification of the learning needs of all employees.	
Development (with staff) of a formal statement of values.	Delayed. Preliminary discussions have taken place.
Development of a framework for ensuring quality of work life.	Section 4.2.2.3
Performance Evaluations	
Full implementation, by each manager, of a performance agreement based on specific objectives that are aligned with strategic and operational priorities.	Key commitments and ongoing performance expectations were assessed by a senior management performance review committee to determine performance pay ratings and financial awards. The aggregate distribution of these performance ratings was shared with SSHRC executives. For 2005-06, specific and common performance objectives will be established and shared among the executives.
Communications and Knowledge Management	
Identification of shared knowledge mobilization goals and the definition of SSHRC's and collaborators' roles, responsibilities, and linkages in achieving them.	Section 4.1.1 above.
Application of knowledge management/mobilization tools to support the sharing of experience, best practices, and lessons learned among staff.	Section 4.2.2.1 g)
Improvement of Service to Clients	
Development of a plan to monitor client satisfaction through information gathered from (1) application forms and final research report forms and (2) inquiries to the online help desk.	Section 4.3.2

⁵⁰ See http://www.sshrc.ca/web/about/publications/publications_e.asp for the Modern Management Practices Assessment.

Departmental Performance Report

Development and communication of service standards for internal services within SSHRC.	Existing service standards for the Information Systems Division were reviewed and updated. The development of service standards for other divisions has been postponed due to other priorities.
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4.2.2 Specific IMP Action Plan Activities

4.2.2.1 Electronic Service Delivery (Government Online)

In 2004-05, SSHRC continued to receive more than 90 per cent of its applications, totalling more than 30 programs, online. Most of this data is automatically transferred directly into **SSHRC's Award Management Information System (AMIS)**. This system, now in its seventh year of operation, supports the core business requirements of SSHRC programs: competition support, application lifecycle, reporting, and auditing. The AMIS system was updated in 2004-05 to meet Treasury Board's "Transfer Payment Policy" requirements.

In 2004-05, SSHRC conducted a review of the relevance and validity of the data on research outcomes supplied in grant holders' **Final Research Report forms**, a reporting mechanism initially launched in 2002. A redesigned form based on this review will be launched in 2005-06 and the resulting data will form SSHRC's new **Corporate Inventory of Research Outcomes (CIRO)** database, which is expected to improve SSHRC's ability to demonstrate greater accountability and communicate the results of supported research.

SSHRC's partnership with CIHR, NSERC, and the Québec granting agencies⁵¹ in the **Canadian Common Curriculum Vitae (CCCV) Project** moved into its third full year; Version 2 of the CCCV was implemented by two of the partners in the summer of 2004. SSHRC is currently in the process of consulting with its diverse communities in order to determine their readiness to participate in a targeted pilot implementation in 2005-06. The "common" curriculum vitae permits a single point of entry for personal information and will reduce the redundancies that the research and student communities currently experience in applying to different funding agencies. Finally, as per its IMP Action Plan, SSHRC has begun the process of overhauling its **intranet site** for internal knowledge-sharing in order to make it more practical and user-friendly. Further planning and development will be based on SSHRC's new Strategic Plan for 2006-11.

4.2.2.2 Improved Accountability

a) Performance and Evaluation

In its second year of operation as a distinct entity within SSHRC, the Corporate Performance, Evaluation and Audit Division has been actively engaged in delivering on SSHRC's Evaluation and Performance Plan, approved by Council in June 2004. It has initiated and completed a wide range of projects in close collaboration with key staff through advisory groups for each study.

⁵¹ The Fonds Québécois de la recherche sur la nature et les technologies (FQRNT), the Fonds Québécois de la recherche sur la société et la culture (FQRSC), and the Fonds de la recherche en santé du Québec (FRSQ)

Appendix 1 lists the performance and evaluation activities conducted⁵² in 2004-05 in accordance with SSHRC's Evaluation Plan. It also contains, for each project, a summary of key findings, conclusions, and recommendations.

b) Other Evaluation Activities

Besides the performance and evaluation projects listed in Appendix 1, SSHRC also developed, in 2004-05, a framework for the evaluation of its Awards Management Information System (AMIS), the key database used by SSHRC to manage its program competitions and awards. Assessments were also conducted for the Strategic Joint Initiatives programs and the Doctoral Fellowships program in order to determine strategies for the upcoming evaluations of these programs. A number of specific projects will be launched in the coming fiscal year in response to the strategies identified through these activities.

c) Internal Audit

In 2004-05, with the appointment of a full-time Senior Internal Auditor in the Corporate Performance, Evaluation and Audit Division, SSHRC consolidated its capacity to provide management with effective and objective assurance services and advice on its management control frameworks and practices. During the year, SSHRC completed audits of information technology, travel expenditures, and grants competition processes. In addition, it concluded a review of lessons learned in relation to the Canadian Common CV.

d) Risk Management

In 2004-05, Council reviewed and updated its Corporate Risk Profile to include the strategies and mechanisms—already in place or to be incorporated—that are needed to mitigate risks. SSHRC's Audit Committee endorsed the new document in February 2005 and SSHRC's Governing Council approved it in March 2005.

SSHRC developed both the Performance and Evaluation Plan and the Audit Plan taking into account the Corporate Risk Profile. In addition, the Evaluation and Performance Plan reflects an analysis of the following program-related risks: materiality or significance of the investment, determined by the importance of the program's budget in proportion to Council's overall budget; innovative character of the program/policy in terms of new approaches or new clientele; need to meet the expectations of external funders or partners; introduction of changes to program design or delivery that may impact results; and the need for up-to-date and useful knowledge to renew a program or policy. The Audit Plan focuses on the areas in need of improvement as identified in the Modern Comptrollership Capacity Assessment, completed in 2003-04.

⁵² Note that SSHRC hires independent external consultants to conduct most of the performance and evaluation projects identified under its Evaluation Plan.

e) Financial Accountability

i- Financial Planning Committee

SSHRC created the Financial Planning Committee in 2004 to oversee the annual cycle of budget planning, to ensure that effective policies and practices are in place, and to monitor its relationship with Treasury Board. The committee meets on a regular basis, and is composed of the executive vice-president, vice-president, Programs, and the director-general, CASD. The committee is supported by the director of Finance and Awards Administration and other senior staff. Its mandate is to:

- direct SSHRC's annual cycle of budget planning for both operating and grant and scholarship (G&S) budgets;
- review and approve the detailed G&S budget following Council approval of the macro program allocations;
- recommend/approve mid-year adjustments to the operating budget following regular fall and mid-winter budget review meetings;
- monitor the efficiency, and direct the enhancement of, business procedures for tracking G&S commitments and expenditures;
- provide a forum for discussing budget and budget management issues, Treasury Board relationships and issues (e.g., renewal of the Terms and Conditions and TB submissions), and compliance with federal regulations that have a financial element (e.g., contracting); and
- report regularly to Management Committee.

ii- Operating Budget Allocation

A principle objective of the operational budget allocation exercise is to align resource allocations with the Council's strategic and business priorities. As of 2004-05, managers must substantiate their budget requests, and prepare business cases for resource needs beyond initial target levels. These business cases must indicate: full costs of the proposals for the current and future years; source of funds; background information; assumptions, if any; alternative solutions under consideration; and recommendations. These business cases are reviewed by senior management and resources are allocated based on needs, strategic and business priorities, and availability of funds. This process is also undertaken in the fall and winter budget review exercises.

iii- Grant & Scholarship Budget Allocation

Procedures for improving planning and management of the Grants & Scholarships (G&S) budget were developed in early 2004. These procedures lay out the roles and responsibilities of those involved in the budgeting process (who, what, when, and how). Expected results include well-defined responsibilities, better sharing of information, and improved communication.

4.2.2.3 Human Resources

In January 2005, SSHRC implemented a new job evaluation system, compensation plan, and supporting policy framework. These alterations to the Council's human resources management regime were motivated by the desire to introduce a single, integrated job evaluation plan within the Council as well as to modernize and simplify pre-existing means of evaluating the value of Council jobs and determining the relative value of the work carried out by Council employees.

As a result of the intensive time and effort devoted to developing and implementing the job evaluation system, progress on a pilot initiative reported in the Council's 2003-04 RPP (i.e., management assessment and learning) was delayed. Work to date on this project will form an important component of a broader Council-wide learning framework that will be presented to Council management in 2005-06.

As a result of a successful pilot that expanded SSHRC's employee recognition program in 2003, SSHRC took further steps in 2004-05 to build on the positive momentum. In the fall of 2004, a new series of employee service awards, a.k.a., "SSHRC Milestone Achievement Awards," were introduced to recognize 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of employment service with the Council.

SSHRC also expanded its orientation program for new employees by developing and delivering information sessions across the full range of business lines associated with the program delivery and corporate services that guide and directly support the mandate of the Council.

In response to the IMP Action Plan, SSHRC's Health, Safety, and Quality of Worklife Committee has developed a framework that is now under discussion by management and the union. Once approved, SSHRC will develop an implementation strategy and an action plan.

4.3 Citizen-centred Service Delivery

4.3.1 Increased Public Awareness of the SS&H Sector

Over the past fiscal year, newspaper and radio coverage of SSHRC's Gold Medal winner, Alex Michalos, and Aurora prize winner, Michael Atkinson, an audience reach of 12 million⁵³ Canadians. The enormous media interest generated from this one event increased SSHRC's total print and broadcast reach by about 15 per cent over the previous year⁵⁴—making SSHRC's second annual Big Ideas Awards Show the organization's most effective media event ever.

The Canada Research Chairs program held two national announcement events, involving Prime Minister Martin, Minister Emerson and Minister Robillard. These announcements and other Chairs publicity efforts generated hundreds of articles about the program and the researchers it supports.

In 2004-05, twenty research stories appeared on the SSHRC Web site and these alone attracted 70,000 readers. The Web site as a whole received more than half a million unique visits. The Canada Research Chairs Web site published 333 new profiles of researchers and received close to 345,000 unique visits.

Other promotional activities aimed at public understanding, such as annual reports, brochures, program guides, and special events, such as the Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities and SSHRC's Knowledge Project, enabled SSHRC to bring its key message about the value of research and its program information to a committed audience of almost 60,000, including researchers, policy makers, Parliamentarians and other stakeholders.

4.3.2 Service Improvement

As SSHRC is constantly developing improved systems and processes to help researchers, students, and universities submit applications and obtain information electronically, it has decided to focus its service improvement strategy on electronic service delivery. As a result, in 2004-05, SSHRC conducted an extensive benchmarking survey of its key direct clients: Canadian SS&H researchers and graduate students, university research administrators, and student liaison officers. The survey, designed to meet the requirements of the *Policy Framework for Service Improvement in the Government of Canada* and the *How-To Guide for the Service Improvement Initiative*, was intended to collect baseline data on the values, expectations, and levels of satisfaction of these clients with respect to the electronic services that SSHRC provides.

⁵³ Audience reach refers to the sum of total print and broadcast audiences. The print audience is determined by multiplying the audited circulation numbers of newspapers and magazines that carried the story by a factor of 2.5 readers per copy.

⁵⁴ See http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/dpr/03-04/SSHRC-CRSHC/SSHRC-CRSHCd34_e.asp for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's 2003-04 Departmental Performance Report.

SSHRC invited more than 6,200 researchers and students to participate in an e-mail survey in March 2005. More than 3,200 responded by the end of April 2005, for a response rate exceeding 50 per cent. Services offered by SSHRC staff through telephone and e-mail received relatively high satisfaction ratings (77 points out of 100 for services provided by SSHRC's Helpdesk and 79 points for those offered by other SSHRC staff). Electronic services, such as the online application system and SSHRC's Web site, received lower ratings and will have to be improved. SSHRC staff members are presently reviewing the results of the survey and developing a service improvement strategy and plan for implementation starting in 2005-06.

SSHRC continues to keep in contact with university research administrators and with students and researchers through various activities such as active staff participation as members of such organizations as the Canadian Association of University Administrators (CAURA) and the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS), as well as through annual university visits. These activities provide opportunities for staff to obtain feedback on, and suggestions for improvement of, SSHRC's programs and services.

SECTION V: OTHER INFORMATION

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Appendix 1: Evaluations and Performance Measurements Activities Completed in 2004-05

A) Evaluation

Aid to Scholarly Publications Program (ASPP)

In 2004-05, an independent team of evaluation experts completed an evaluation of the ASPP, a \$1.28 million-a-year program in support of book publishing administered by the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences (CFHSS) on SSHRC's behalf. The study team concluded that the ASPP remains an essential vehicle for encouraging Canadian publishers to publish commercially non-viable scholarly books in the SS&H, for ensuring the quality of Canadian scholarship, and for supporting academic career advancement. The program has a beneficial impact on the authors and their scholarly communities by creating opportunities for knowledge creation, academic career development, and knowledge dissemination.

The evaluation also revealed that, with a 15.41 per cent decrease in budget since 1998 (in constant dollars), the program's budget is very small, given its broad objectives. This is also in strong contrast to other Canadian government programs that support publishing. The evaluators considered this to have a negative impact on the program's capacity to meet the demand for its services—a demand that is expected to rise in the near future.

The evaluation also concluded that, in spite of growing interest and capacity in electronic publishing, printed books remain an essential vehicle for knowledge dissemination and continue to play a central role in the careers of Canadian academic researchers.

Overall, the evaluation concluded that, if SSHRC and the CFHSS wish to maintain the program's broad objectives, significant additional resources from SSHRC will be necessary. Otherwise, the program's focus will need to be reduced.

SSHRC and the CFHSS finalized their responses to the evaluation recommendations in late spring 2005 with a view to implementing changes beginning in 2005-06.

B) Performance

RMAF and Performance Report for the Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (MCRI) Program

In 2004-05, SSHRC developed a RMAF and a Performance Report for the Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (MCRI) program. The project focused on providing evidence of best practices and lessons learned for consideration in improving existing and future programs and policies in the context of implementing SSHRC's strategic plan for 2006-11.

The Performance Report was based on secondary analysis of program data and in-depth, systematically selected, case studies of 11 MCRI's funded between 1995 and 2000. The study

involved in-person or telephone interviews with a total of 54 individuals, including project directors, Canadian and foreign investigators, students, project partners, and project staff.

This performance assessment provided evidence that the MCRI program is attaining the goals of supporting research that has true potential for intellectual breakthrough on critical issues of intellectual, social, economic, and cultural significance through broadly based collaborative research.

The assessment also showed that the MCRI program's foremost achievements are in teaching and mentoring, in helping several groups of Canadian researchers propel themselves to the worldwide center of research activity in their research domains; and in contributing to improved programs, services and policies benefiting Canadians. Without the MCRI program, these advances would not likely have occurred.

The study also revealed challenges in terms of maintaining comparable levels of research productivity among the supported teams, as well as, for some projects, ensuring integration of research outcomes. Interestingly, the report noted that "SSHRC's vision has exceeded the capacity of traditional university environments to adapt to changing modes of research," and that "tensions between responsiveness to stakeholders and maintaining high levels of scholarly productivity require the project's researchers and scholars to develop and maintain a complex balance between competing demands."

Community-University Research Alliances (CURA) Program – Analysis of Milestone and Year 1 Reports and Validation of Data Collection Tools

Based on the RMAF developed in 2003-04 for the CURA program, SSHRC implemented a new monitoring strategy under which leaders of newly awarded CURA grants had to provide milestone and Year 1 reports in the first year of their awards. In order to test the validity of the reporting strategy and tools, and to make the necessary adjustments, SSHRC conducted a review of these reports in 2004-05. This review showed that the information contained in the reports was highly relevant and useful but that insufficient resources were available to fully analyze and summarize it on a regular basis. It recommended changes to the monitoring strategy in order to simplify the reporting tools and focus only on a few key performance indicators. SSHRC will be implementing the proposed changes starting in 2005-06.

Aid to Workshops and Conferences in Canada RMAF

In 2003-04, SSHRC conducted an evaluation of its Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses Program. The evaluation guided the restructuring of the program and recommended the development of a performance monitoring strategy.

Following the launch of the revised program in the fall of 2004, SSHRC created a RMAF to track a number of key program elements over time. It produced a revised final activity form for the program, which will be completed by researchers who are funded under the revised program once already-funded events are completed.

C) Special Studies

Training of Students under SSHRC-funded Research Projects

In 2004-05, SSHRC mandated a firm of evaluation experts to conduct an exploratory study designed to obtain background information about SSHRC's policy, in place since the early 1990s, that is designed to encourage researchers to use their SSHRC research funds to hire and train students. The study consisted of two e-mail surveys, one with researchers and the other with students who participated in SSHRC-funded research projects. Both surveys were conducted during the summer and early fall of 2004. A total of 256 researchers and 413 students completed the questionnaires. Student respondents were invited to complete the survey by the researchers themselves, which introduces a positive bias in the student survey; results must therefore be interpreted with caution.

Overall, both students and researchers reported being very satisfied with their experience. Over 85 per cent of the students stated that their expectations of opportunities to develop their research skills were met. Some 93 per cent of researchers stated that the involvement of students was useful, particularly as it contributed to the progress of the research and prompted new and/or innovative ideas.

The study also revealed, on the part of students, high levels of intellectual involvement, participation in a wide range of research-related activities in a variety of research settings, the acquisition of research and communication skills, and wide access to resources and facilities. Both researchers and students indicated high and positive impact such concerns and interests as developing contacts and networks, career advancement, and improved understanding of both academic and research careers.

Appendix 2: Joint Initiatives, Table of Cumulative Expenditures¹
Active² Joint Initiatives up to March 31, 2005

Program Name	Partner (s)	Partner Contribution (\$)	SSHRC Contribution (\$)
INE-CESC-SSHRC Education Research Initiative	Canadian Education Statistics Council	372,045	1,053,362
INE Skills Research Initiative	Industry Canada and Human Resources Development Canada	632,457	705,147
INE Crossing Boundaries	Crossing Boundaries National Council Inc.	See footnote 3	350,000
INE The Canada Project	Conference Board of Canada	See footnote 3	604,724
Essential Skills	Human Resources Partnerships & Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC)	484,263	484,263
Homelessness and Diversity Issues in Canada	National Secretariat on Homelessness, HRSDC	436,823	526,929
Multiculturalism Issues in Canada	Canadian Heritage	900,000	1,316,807
Official Languages	Canadian Heritage	495,208	500,000
Research on Canadian Children and Youth	Human Resources Development Canada	25,000	0 –(Supplements added to Doctoral awards)
National Research Network on the Human Dimensions of Biosphere Greenhouse Gas Management	BIOCAP Canada Foundation	1,440,000 ⁴	834,000
Intellectual Property Management Program	Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council & the Canadian Institutes of Health Research	1,000,000	50,000
Immigration and the Metropolis (first phase of funding completed)	Citizenship and Immigration Canada	5,067,300	3,163,600
Immigration and the Metropolis (Joint Initiative Renewed)	Citizenship and Immigration Canada	2,470,937	2,155,559
Canadian Forest Service (CFS) Graduate Supplements	Canadian Forest Service (CFS)	90,000	0 –(Supplements added to Doctoral awards)
Forest Research Partnerships Program	CFS; NSERC; private sector	see footnote ⁵	396,277
Relationships in Transition	Law Commission of Canada	442,118	449,985 ⁴
Virtual Scholar in Residence	Law Commission of Canada	200,000	200,000 ⁴

Canadian Initiative on Social Statistics	Statistics Canada	141,631	2,043,703
Ocean Management National Research Network Initiative	Department of Fisheries and Oceans	720,250	858,750
Chairs in the Management of Technological Change	Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council	10,062,988	5,041,962
Sub-Total		\$24,981,020⁵	\$22,535,071

Completed Joint Initiatives

Program Name	Partner (s)	Partner Contribution (\$)	SSHRC Contribution (\$)
Valuing Literacy in Canada	National Literacy Secretariat, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC)	1,250,000	1,147,549
Federalism and Federations	Intergovernmental Affairs, Privy Council Office	2,308,200	1,053,961
Canadian Tobacco Research Initiative	National Cancer Institute of Canada, Canadian Cancer Society, Health Canada, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada	966,601	1,368,899
Society, Culture and the Health of Canadians II	Canadian Institutes of Health Research, National Health Research and Development Program	4,322,638	4,248,241
Community-University Research Alliances in Housing	Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation	704,849	1,100,001
Reducing Health Disparities & Promoting Equity for Vulnerable Populations	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	0	190,504 ⁶
Canada in the World Grants	International Development Research Centre	185,000	18,034
The Non-Profit Sector in Canada	The Kahanoff Foundation	663,859	663,861
Project on Trends	Policy Research Secretariat	145,000	431,212
Innovation Systems Research Networks	National Research Council of Canada, NSERC	280,000	180,000
Health Institutes Design Grants	Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (CHSRF)	150,000	666,411
Electronic Publishing Networks	Industry Canada	103,800	103,800

Departmental Performance Report

Health Career Awards	Medical Research Council (MRC) and Health Canada-NHRDP	392,100 ⁷	196,050
CHSRF/SSHRC Doctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowships	Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (CHSRF)	382,334	573,689
Science Culture in Canada	Northern Telecom Limited	200,000	322,490
The Integration of Persons with Disabilities	Status of Disabled Persons Secretariat, HRDC	750,000	754,890
Health Promotion	Health Canada	1,375,000	1,625,000
Family Violence and Violence Against Women	Health Canada	1,250,000	1,760,350
Canadian Global Change	NSERC	1,167,000	228,306
Aboriginal Affairs	Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development	600,000	561,197
Law and Social Issues	Department of Justice, Department of the Solicitor General	40,000	90,000
Canadian Multicultural Society	Multiculturalism and Citizenship Canada	30,000	35,000
Arts Literacy	Canada Council	30,000	33,500
Cultural Development in an Open Economy	Department of Communications	50,000	100,000
Sub-total		\$17,346,381	\$17,452,945
Total – Active and completed joint initiatives		\$42,327,401⁸	\$39,988,016

1. Includes expenditures from the start date of the joint initiative up to 31 March 2005.
2. A joint initiative is considered “active” when payments are made during the fiscal year in question.
3. Partner’s contribution is administered by the partner and does not flow through SSHRC.
4. This figure was adjusted from last year’s DPR, to reflect the partner’s actual contribution to the joint initiative.
5. Estimated contribution from partners totals \$1,300,000. Fifty per cent of the costs of projects are covered by the private sector; 50 per cent are covered jointly by CFS, SSHRC, and NSERC (one-third each). SSHRC’s contribution is for projects in SS&H only.
6. These figures reflect SSHRC’s contribution to this CIHR managed program.
7. SSHRC covered one third of the cost of the first year awards during the transition phase to CIHR; all costs in subsequent years were covered by CIHR.
8. Subtotal or total does not include estimates of partner contributions under the ‘Forest Research Partnerships’ program.

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