

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

Main Contact Information

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Statement of Account

Total Indirect Costs Funds available in 2012-2013	A	\$8,749,472
Expenditures incurred in 2012-2013		
Facilities		\$1,070,727
Resources		\$906,572
Management and Administration		\$4,915,664
Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation		\$1,292,804
Intellectual Property		\$563,705
Total Indirect Costs expenditures incurred in 2012-2013	B	\$8,749,472
Outstanding Commitments <small>(The expenditure was incurred but the invoice was not paid in the period ending March 31, but was paid before June 30. Be sure to include the commitments in the appropriate area(s) above.)</small>		\$0

Health Research Affiliates

For organizations with health research affiliates only: for each area of priority, indicate the actual amount of your 2012-2013 grant that was spent by your health research affiliates.

Facilities	\$0
Resources	\$0
Management and Administration	\$0
Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation	\$0
Intellectual Property	\$0

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Section I - Facilities

Expenditures

Was your grant invested, completely or partially, in any of the following ways?

Note that A and B are not exclusive (i.e. for any given category, if you have covered both existing and new Expenditures, you would check both A or B).

Expenditure category	A) The grant covered existing expenditures	B) The grant covered new expenditures (not previously covered by grant)	C) The grant did not cover this category	In which category was the largest proportion of your 2012-2013 grant invested?
1. Renovation and maintenance of research facilities (excluding expenditures incurred to meet regulatory requirements - see Section IV)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Upgrade, operations and maintenance of equipment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Operating costs (custodial, security, maintenance, utilities, leasing, capital planning, insurance on research space)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. Technical support for laboratories, offices and other facilities (excluding technical support for animal care - see section IV)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Section I - Facilities (continued)

Impact Statement

Please explain how the expenditures made in this priority area have allowed your institution (and its health research affiliates, where applicable) to maintain and/or enhance the capacity of its research enterprise. The following questions can help guide your answer:

- what difference have your grant investments made?
- are there significant changes from the previous year?
- why are these investments vital for researchers?
- why are these expenditures vital to the university research administration?
- what would have happened if expenditures hadn't been possible?
- what are the major cost drivers in this category?
- what percentage of your O&M expenditure supports CFI-funded equipment?

Federal Indirect Cost (IC) funds covered a variety of renovation, upgrade, maintenance, and technical support costs across campus, including:

- The College of Arts and Science covered a portion of the cost of upgrading existing research labs resulting in contemporary research spaces that encourage collaborative research;
- The College of Agriculture and Bioresources allocated a portion of their IC funding to reconfigure lab benches in one of their spaces in order to accommodate a need for wet chemistry;
- The Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) allocated a portion of their IC funds to support a maintenance agreement and scheduled maintenance for a Transmission Electron Microscope (TEM). The TEM is a critical research tool for researchers across several disciplines in more than one college;
- The College of Engineering allocated a portion of their IC funds for maintenance, calibration and repair of existing instruments; and
- Several research facilities, such as the Saskatchewan Structural Sciences Centre, covered salaries and benefits for Technicians who provide maintenance of instrumentation and technical expertise to facility users;

The IC funds were also allocated toward various operating costs for research-related spaces, including: utility costs for research spaces, insurance premiums for research facilities, and custodial costs for the Canadian Light Source (CLS). The lease of space for groups within the Office of the Vice-President Research, including Research Services, Research Ethics and Research Communications, was also covered by IC funds.

The major cost drivers in this category include the rates for utilities covered, insurance premiums, internal rates for renovations, third party rates for equipment maintenance and repairs, and salary and benefit costs for personnel.

This investment ensures that existing research facilities are research ready, and that facility users have access to the technical expertise required to effectively support their research programs. Ensuring that facilities are equipped with well-functioning equipment and modern research spaces will facilitate faculty retention and will attract new faculty to the University.

Without continual upgrading and maintenance of research equipment and facilities, the infrastructure will begin to show its age and it will be more difficult to maintain a research ready state to support faculty's research programs. This, in turn, may affect retention and recruitment efforts.

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Section II - Research Resources

Expenditures

Was your grant invested, completely or partially, in any of the following ways?

Note that A and B are not exclusive (i.e. for any given category, if you have covered both existing and new expenditures, you would check both A or B).

Expenditure category	A) The grant covered existing expenditures	B) The grant covered new expenditures (not previously covered by grant)	C) The grant did not cover this category	In which category was the largest proportion of your 2012-2013 grant invested?
1. Acquisition of library holdings (journals, books, collections, periodicals, Canada National Site Licensing project, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Improvements to electronic information resources (access to databases, telecommunications systems, information technology systems, and research tools) (excluding technology to track grants and to provide financial services - see Section III)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Library operating costs and administration (custodial, security, maintenance, utilities, leasing, capital planning, staff salaries)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Insurance on research equipment and vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Section II - Research Resources (continued)

Impact Statement

Please explain how the expenditures made in this priority area have allowed your institution (and its health research affiliates, where applicable) to maintain and/or enhance the capacity of its research enterprise. The following questions can help guide your answer:

- what difference have your grant investments made?
- are there significant changes from the previous year?
- why are these investments vital for researchers?
- why are these expenditures vital to the university research administration?
- what would have happened if expenditures hadn't been possible?
- what are the major cost drivers in this category?
- what proportion of the acquisitions and operating budget of the library is covered by the Indirect Costs Program?
- do you participate in inter-institutional consortia or partnerships to assist in cost reduction in this expenditure category?

Support of the University's Library through IC funding has allowed participation in the national consortium, Canadian Research Knowledge Network's purchase of Science Direct, as well as other online journal packages such as Wiley-Blackwell Online Journals, Web of Science, Web of Knowledge and SpringerLink Online Journals. The purchase of these e-resources ensures that the University's collection is on par with other medical/doctoral universities in Canada in the areas of science, medicine and the social sciences.

Deans, Faculty, Graduate Students and Staff across a variety of disciplines have indicated that these e-resources are both invaluable to their overall programs and to supporting their endeavors in federally-funded research competitions.

Ensuring the Library resources contain the most prestigious publications ensures that the University maintains their competitive advantage in recruitment and retention of high-quality faculty by making high-quality e-resources readily available. Prospective faculty and researchers are often interested in the suite of information resources that would be available to them when they are considering employment at the University of Saskatchewan.

Without the IC funding for these e-resources, there would be a reduction of 5.8% in the Library's overall acquisitions budget. While it is unlikely that packages such as ScienceDirect would be discontinued, the effect of having to purchase such a package without IC funding would be that cuts of an equal amount would need to be made to other e-resources. The Library would no longer be able to maintain the current level of subscriptions due to the impact on the overall Library budget. A study administered by the Library in 2011 revealed that users felt the Library provided resources above their minimum acceptable level, but well below their desired level. Therefore, it is evident that a reduction in available IC funding for the Library would have a significant impact on faculty, staff and students of the institution.

An allocation of IC funding also supported a portion of salary and benefits the Platform Services group within the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Department for their role in supporting and maintaining the University's network. This includes support for network analysts, programmers and technicians who support and maintain the 17,000 connections and 2,000 wireless access points in locations across campus. The network is critical to researchers' ability to communicate effectively with stakeholders internal and external to the University by ensuring that the University's network is operating efficiently. The IC funding ensures that the ICT Department has sufficient funding for the required staff complement to support and maintain this vital network.

Further funding was allocated to procuring a membership in SRnet which provides the University access to national data research networks, such as CA*net4, and international research networks. The IC funding also contributed to providing lightpaths between the University's research centres and centres at other universities, and to providing commercial speed internet accessible to researchers and graduate students. This access to high-speed Canadian and International networks allows researchers to participate in multi-university, national, and international research

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Section II - Research Resources (continued)

Impact Statement

collaborations. It also provides the University's research community with access to infrastructure to support real-time experimental collaborations, access to and sharing of large research datasets, and use of feature and content-rich collaboration tools.

Cost drivers for expenditures in the Information Technology sector include personnel costs as per negotiated agreements, pricing on commercial internet services and cyclical renewals of network equipment.

With high technological demands, a loss or reduction in funding for these ICT related expenses would impact the University's research community significantly. A reduction in funding may result in less technical support for the network or in cancellation of memberships to national/international research networks. This could result in significant disruptions for faculty, staff and students in all areas of their day-to-day workflows and considerable disruption in their ability to connect remotely to research stakeholders and potential collaborators.

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Section III - Management and Administration

Expenditures

Was your grant invested, completely or partially, in any of the following ways?

Note that A and B are not exclusive (i.e. for any given category, if you have covered both existing and new expenditures, you would check both A and B).

Expenditure category	A) The grant covered existing expenditures	B) The grant covered new expenditures (not previously covered by grant)	C) The grant did not cover this category	In which category was the largest proportion of your 2012-2013 grant invested?
1. Institutional support for the completion of grant applications / research proposals.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Acquisition, maintenance and/or upgrade of information systems to track grant applications, certifications, and awards.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Eligible training of faculty and research personnel (excluding training to meet regulatory requirements - see Section IV)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Human resources and payroll	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Financial and audit costs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Research planning and promotion, public relations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Section III - Management and Administration (continued)

Impact Statement

Please explain how the expenditures made in this priority area have allowed your institution (and its health research affiliates, where applicable) to maintain and/or enhance the capacity of its research enterprise. The following questions can help guide your answer:

- what difference have your grant investments made?
- are there significant changes from the previous year?
- why are these investments vital for researchers?
- why are these expenditures vital to the university research administration?
- what would have happened if expenditures hadn't been possible?
- what are the major cost drivers in this category?
- do you participate in inter-institutional consortia or partnerships that assist in cost reduction in this expenditure category?

A significant portion of the University's IC funding is channeled to support eligible costs in the areas of Research Administration, Human Resources, Payroll, Finance, Audit, and training. A sampling of these investments includes:

- The CLS synchrotron research facility actively recruits scientific staff from around the world with a global user-list of 1729+ users from a variety of academic and government institutions. CLS has its own finance, administration and human resource departments and allocates IC funding toward these positions. This ensures researchers have their finance, administration and logistical tasks taken care of and can focus efforts on their research programs, publications, and securing future research funding.
- Financial Reporting supports a position responsible for financial accounting and administrative duties relating to grant post award administration. This ensures external funding agency requirements are met for financial administration of the awards. This support is valuable to the researchers since they do not have to take care of financial reporting details and can concentrate on their research programs.
- Audit Services uses IC funding to support the position of Associate University Auditor who was responsible for improving internal controls associated with research administration. A 2012-13 focus was to document research administration business procedures, identify deficiencies, and provide solutions to address deficiencies.
- IC funding supported staff training and development at national and regional Research Administration conferences. Workshops and seminars for faculty and the wider research community have been provided, and resource materials have been created for the research community.

Researchers benefit from timely assistance and expertise of financial staff in administration of their research funding. Without support in these areas, the University would not have been able to address deficiencies in selected areas of research administration and could risk non-compliance with funding agency guidelines and recommendations.

The University's support of grant development activities is evidenced by the variety of positions that support this area. Although the accountabilities may differ, the intent is to ensure that high quality grant applications are put forward to funding agencies, and that all possible partnerships and collaborations are fostered. Positions covered by IC funding include Research Facilitators and Coordinators, Partnership Coordinators in Colleges and Schools, as well as Grants Specialists, Agreement Specialists and Grants Support Staff in the Research Services Office. A sampling of responsibilities include:

- Providing knowledge of funding opportunities and the University's strategic priorities and ensuring the two are aligned,
- Developing industry, national and international collaborations, and coordinating research agreements with these partners,
- Providing grant writing assistance so researchers can focus on the science of proposals,
- Completing budget and administrative reviews, coordinating signatures, deadlines and submissions,
- Assisting faculty in responding to comments raised by review committees, and
- Developing research teams and identifying opportunities for multidisciplinary collaborations.

For example, College of Medicine Research Facilitators provide intensive support with timely feedback, and this

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Section III - Management and Administration (continued)

Impact Statement

increases the quality of applications going forward for review. Researchers benefit from support for grant development through increased success rates in national and international funding competitions, and this fuels the overall development of their research programs. Retention of faculty is more likely given these successes, and along with these well-developed research programs comes the ability to attract other top quality researchers to the University. Feedback from faculty indicates that this support is valuable, with junior researchers finding it particularly useful because the expertise of the Facilitators assists them in solidifying their research programs.

Without IC funding in this area, less resources would be available to researchers and success rates would likely be affected. If funding from other University sources was diverted to cover these positions, other initiatives within departments would have been affected, reduced or not been feasible.

Investment in research planning, promotion and public relations included support of a dedicated Research Communications office. IC funding enabled the Research Communications office to further their goal of telling the University's story of 'discovery with impact' to the world, by supporting salary and benefit costs for communications staff, and costs for publications, media announcements, and initiatives which highlighted the University's research intensiveness in certain areas. Researchers received valuable support from the expertise of the communications office through media training, creation of communications plans for research projects, news releases about research findings and benefits, and video profiles of researchers and their work.

Other departments at the University have also allocated their IC funding to research planning, promotion and public relations activities.

- College of Engineering allocated IC funding to hold events highlighting collaborations with industry partners and international delegations interested in collaborative opportunities, produced promotional videos to highlight faculty-industry collaborations, and published a Media Planet article promoting the College's research in The National Post.
- College of Nursing held a publication workshop with attendance of a respected scholarly writing expert. The College anticipates that this type of workshop will increase publication success and foster future successes in the research programs of the faculty.
- College of Agriculture and Bioresources allocated IC funding to publish and distribute an edition of AgKnowledge highlighting their research to various stakeholders.
- College of Arts and Science supports a portion of the salary of a College Research Analyst who provides data and analysis to ensure that the strategic direction of the College aligns with the University's research objectives.
- Travel costs for Vice-Presidents, Associate Vice-Presidents and strategic delegates was supported to promote the University's research landscape and create and maintain synergetic relationships with stakeholders, including attending conferences, events and holding meetings with various internal and external institutions and organizations.
- The Strategic Projects Team used IC funding for salary and benefits costs to support their operations and further their goal of fostering strategic actions on emerging research opportunities related to institutional research goals. This included international research proposal development and increasing research intensiveness in the area of synchrotron science.

By highlighting research successes and building the profile of the University's research in the media, the University enhances its national and international reputation in specific fields and attracts high quality researchers. These researchers, in turn, attract high quality students and novel methods are being employed to attract these high quality future researchers to the University. It is evident that various dissemination methods can be not only valuable attracting faculty and students to the University, but also in creating public awareness and debate around science and policy issues regarding the research work.

Without IC funding for these endeavors, stakeholders would be far less informed of the findings, benefits and impact of the University's research and the University would experience more difficulty in recruiting for positions in strategic research areas.

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Section IV - Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation

Expenditures

Was your grant invested, completely or partially, in any of the following ways?

Note that A and B are not exclusive (i.e. for any given category, if you have covered both existing and new expenditures, you would check both A and B).

Expenditure category	A) The grant covered existing expenditures	B) The grant covered new expenditures (not previously covered by grant)	C) The grant did not cover this category	In which category was the largest proportion of your 2012-2013 grant invested?
1. Creation and support of regulatory bodies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Training of faculty and other research personnel in health and safety, animal care, ethics review, handling radiation and biohazards, and environmental assessments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. International accreditation costs related to research capacity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Upgrades to, and maintenance of facilities and equipment to meet requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Technical support for animal care, handling of dangerous substances and biohazards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Section IV - Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation (continued)

Impact Statement

Please explain how the expenditures made in this priority area have allowed your institution (and its health research affiliates, where applicable) to maintain and/or enhance the capacity of its research enterprise. The following questions can help guide your answer:

- what difference have your grant investments made?
- are there significant changes from the previous year?
- why are these investments vital for researchers?
- why are these expenditures vital to the university research administration?
- what would have happened if expenditures hadn't been possible?
- what are the major cost drivers in this category?
- to what extent is compliance with Canadian and international regulations required to access research funds from international sources?

The Canadian Light Source (CLS) facility allocated a portion of its IC funding to compliance with regulatory requirements. The CLS facility is regulated by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), and therefore has stringent compliance standards that it must maintain. Additionally, the CLS has a diverse user base which means that a significant investment into meeting regulatory requirements is required in order to provide adequate training to a large number of users, and ensure overall safe operation of the facility. Therefore, the Health Safety and Environment department plays a critical role at the facility and IC funding offsets a portion of the cost for health and safety training, ensuring maintenance and upgrading of facilities and equipment to meet standards, technical support for handling of dangerous substances and biohazards, and for mission critical activities related to CNSC regulation.

The main cost drivers in for CLS regulatory expenses include the number of users at the facility, the number of staff and requirements of the CNSC regulations.

Without the funding from the IC, there would be more pressure on already limited resources to provide these mandatory services. The impact of reducing or eliminating the IC funding could have serious consequences since the CNSC license could be compromised without these Health Safety and Environment activities. The CLS has limited other funding sources available, with much of the funding being restricted use funds which may not allow these costs. Without this funding, these regulatory compliance costs would have to be incurred within the institution's already limited budget in order to maintain operations of the facility.

The Research Ethics Office was allocated significant IC funding toward salaries and benefits to support all areas of Regulatory Requirement and Accreditation. The positions covered by IC funding include Director of Research Ethics, University Veterinarian, Manager of Behavioural Research Ethics Board, administrative staff, and animal care technician. These personnel provide a wide variety of support to faculty and their research groups, including:

- Providing advice to the Associate Vice Presidents and Vice Presidents on matters of research ethics and research integrity,
- Ensuring the University meets its obligations under the Tri-Agency agreement with respect to ethics matters,
- Ensuring the University remains compliant with provincial, national and international guidelines and regulations for both human and animal research subjects,
- Supporting two biomedical research ethics boards, one behavioural research ethics board, and one animal ethics research board,
- Providing education and training in research ethics and research integrity,
- Providing assistance to researchers applying for ethics approval for their research projects,
- Providing assistance with ordering animals required for research protocols,
- Providing advice on matters pertaining to animal care and use, and
- Providing advice on matter pertaining to research, training and testing with animals.

The major cost driver in this category is the cost of salaries and benefits, as defined by the collective agreements across multiple employee groups.

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Section IV - Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation (continued)

Impact Statement

Without IC funding for the Research Ethics office, 80% of the capacity of the Research Ethics office would be removed, resulting in a reduction of services in education and training, in services to researchers and a potential reduction in standards of animal care and oversight activities. The IC funding is imperative in maintaining an appropriate level of staffing to allow adherence to regulations by bodies such as the Canadian Council on Animal Care, and also with any regulations imposed by the variety of funding agencies the University interacts with. The research ethics approval process is required to be completed by Universities in order to receive research funding from many sources and having an efficient and effective Research Ethics office assures continued good relations with Tri-Agency funding partners.

The College of Engineering has also allocated a portion of their IC funding to upgrading facilities and equipment to ensure regulatory requirements were met. There were safety deficiencies in research laboratories identified in several College spaces and the IC funding was used to address these deficiencies. Without the availability of the IC funding, these spaces risked being shut-down if the deficiencies were not corrected. The use of IC funding for these upgrades ensures safety of all users and ensures that the facilities can continue to be used for collaborations with industry and international partners, as intended.

The Office of the Associate Vice-President Health has purchased a membership to the Network of Networks (N2). This Canadian research network is intended to enhance national clinical research capability and capacity. N2 provides the University access to Clinical Research Education and Good Clinical Practices (GCP) training program including standard operating procedures required for clinical trials. The membership to N2 also provides the required GCP training through online delivery, which is a significant cost savings as compared to sending participants out-of-province for the training. The N2 membership is a valuable tool to ensure the University is up-to-date on best practices in clinical trial issues.

The Facilities Management Division receives an allocation of IC funding to ensure that the biohazard and chemical wastes from research activities of the University is properly disposed of according to in compliance with regulations. The main cost driver in this area is the cost demanded for these specialized services by externally contracted providers of the service. Without the IC funding, it is anticipated that these mandatory costs would have to be by the University through other operating sources.

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Section V - Intellectual Property

Expenditures

Was your grant invested, completely or partially, in any of the following ways?

Note that A and B are not exclusive (i.e. for any given category, if you have covered both existing and new expenditures, you would check both A and B).

Expenditure category	A) The grant covered existing expenditures	B) The grant covered new expenditures (not previously covered by grant)	C) The grant did not cover this category	In which category was the largest proportion of your 2012-2013 grant invested?
1. Creation, expansion, or sustenance of a technology transfer office or similar function	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Administration of invention patent applications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Support for technology licensing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Administration of agreements and partnerships with industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Administration of agreements and partnerships with the public sector (federal, provincial, municipal governments; including health, education, and social services)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Section V - Intellectual Property (continued)

Impact Statement

Please explain how the expenditures made in this priority area have allowed your institution (and its health research affiliates, where applicable) to maintain and/or enhance the capacity of its research enterprise. The following questions can help guide your answer:

- what difference have your grant investments made?
- are there significant changes from the previous year?
- why are these investments vital for researchers?
- why are these expenditures vital to the university research administration?
- what would have happened if expenditures hadn't been possible?
- what are the major cost drivers in this category?

The University allocated a portion of its IC funding to support of the University's Industry Liaison Office (ILO). The funding is used to offset the cost of salaries and benefits for various individuals within the ILO including the Managing Director, Legal Manager, Technology Transfer Manager and Start-up Company Specialist. These individuals provide services to a wide group of stakeholders, both internal and external to the institution.

The expertise of the staff within the ILO are a key factor in the success of the ILO and coverage of the salaries and benefits for a range of individuals ensures that the key services of the ILO can be carried out effectively. A sampling of the key services include:

- Evaluating outcomes from University research, recognizing opportunities and commercializing technologies,
- Educating researchers through seminars provided on campus relating to commercialization procedures, licensing, negotiations, intellectual property and patent development,
- Developing relationships and engaging with industry,
- Supporting national grant applications that have a commercialization element,
- Negotiation of and creation of intellectual property conveyances (licenses and assignments), material transfers and confidentiality agreement, and
- Ensuring protection and management of University intellectual property rights.

The support of IC funding for salaries and benefits of ILO staff ensures that the ILO can provide support and expertise to researchers to ensure that intellectual property is protected and effectively managed. The sustenance of the ILO at the University assists the University in reaching its goal of increasing licenses and options annually. By providing effective support to researchers, it can be expected that there will be increases in 'Reports of Inventions', number of patents filed and technologies commercialized. Increased success in these areas increases the licensing income potential for the University.

Faculty researchers benefit from the expertise of the ILO because they have a higher chance of successfully patenting and commercializing their research with the support of the ILO. Another function of the ILO is to assist researchers with identifying research opportunities with industry partners and also encouraging government engagement. Researchers can also benefit from the revenue associated with successful technologies, since 50% of the University's net revenue from licensing goes to the researcher. These advantages help to retain and recruit researchers because they can see the benefits in accessing the technical expertise of the ILO.

Since the ILO allocation is solely used to support personnel costs, the main cost driver in this area is the cost of salaries and benefits, as defined by the collective agreements across two employee groups represented in this office.

Without the IC funding, it is unlikely that the ILO would be able to maintain all of its current staff and as a result, fewer 'Reports of Invention' would be submitted to the office. This would decrease the number of patents filed, fewer license agreements would be executed and licensing income to the University would be reduced.

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Section VI - Overall Impacts

We strongly recommend that the Vice-President of research (or equivalent) answer the following questions pertaining to the overall impacts of the Indirect Costs grant.

1. Attraction and retention of researchers

Has the Indirect Costs grant contributed to the attraction and retention of high-quality researchers at your institution?

Yes No

If "yes", please provide an explanation.

Much of the investment of IC funding contributes to the attraction and retention of high-quality researchers at the University by providing a research environment that fosters productive research programs. The IC funding has been invested to upgrade and maintain facilities and equipment, and funding has been allocated toward technical staff at larger facilities. Funds also support dedicated research support services provided by units such as Research Services, Research Ethics, Financial Services, and the Industry Liaison Office which provide researchers with support in grant development, regulatory requirements, financial matters, and commercialization. This allows researchers to focus their efforts on research program development and implementation, by not having to navigate these complicated areas of administration on their own. The investment in the Research Facilitator positions provides a valuable resource which aids researchers in maximizing the potential in research programs. The investment in research planning ensures that the University's research environment aligns with its strategic goals, and communications efforts by groups across campus ensure that the University's research environment is effectively promoted to a wide audience of stakeholders. These efforts all work together to create a research atmosphere that fosters attraction and retention of high-quality researchers.

2. Attraction of additional funding

Has the Indirect Costs grant contributed directly to your institution's ability to attract additional funding to support the research environment?

Yes No

If "yes", please provide an explanation.

The IC funding supports a wide variety of expenses across all five IC investment areas, which creates an excellent base for a productive research environment. The quality of the research environment benefits the University's entire research community and fosters success with existing research programs. These successes lead to the attraction of additional researchers and resources in signature areas, which then encourages future successes in national and international funding opportunities. A positive research environment also serves as a catalyst to attract collaborations and funding from industry partners, and other institutions and agencies.

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Section VI - Overall Impacts

3. Redirection of funds

In the case of a number of institutions, the incremental impact of the Indirect Costs Program includes not only the results of investing the grant itself, but also the results of the other investments the institution is able to make by re-directing its own funds away from the areas covered with the grant. These impacts may be in the area of research support or also in the institution's renewed ability to meet the other aspects of its mandate.

Has your institution redirected some of its own operating funds as a result of the Indirect Costs Program?

Yes No

If "yes", please provide an explanation.

The University allocates IC funding to support the incremental costs related to supporting research that would have been otherwise charged to the operating budget. The IC funding at the University is widely distributed to a number of Colleges and Schools, service units, and strategic priority areas. This includes library acquisitions, ethics certification, information technology resources, utility and property insurance costs associated with research spaces, and financial, audit and other administrative support associated with enhanced accountability and stewardship requirements. For example, Colleges and Schools receive an IC funding allocation based on the amount of Tri-Agency revenue that their College or School is successful in obtaining. This allocation method illustrates to researchers and administrators that their IC funding support is based directly on the research funding their activities generate. The Colleges and Schools have invested their IC funding allocations toward research support in a variety of ways, and have been able to redirect their central operating funding to other priorities. As well, without the IC funding, there are some areas that would likely be unfunded if, as some activities are not normally supported by the operating budget.

4. Other overall impacts

If the Indirect Costs Program has had other overall impacts on your institution, which were not listed in the previous questions, please provide details.

[Empty text box for providing details on other overall impacts]

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

Section VII - Public Disclosure Requirement for Institutions

As of June 30, 2012, institutions are required to post a few elements of information on the indirect costs of research and the Program on their website. Please copy and paste below the URL of the webpage where this information is posted.

http://www.usask.ca/research/research_services/federalcosts.php

Section VIII - Your comments

Describe any problem you have experienced with the Indirect Costs Program, suggest improvements to the program, or highlight particular successes of the program at your institution.

The IC funding received by the University is a valuable resource which allows the University to continue to increase its research intensiveness.

One area of improvement, which would simplify management of the IC funding, would be to include more examples in the eligible and non-eligible expense sections of the guidelines. While we appreciate that the eligibility of expenses is rather open-ended within the overarching criteria of indirect costs, when we are approached with potential expenses for IC funding by groups from across campus, determining eligibility can sometimes be difficult.