

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

Main Contact Information

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Statement of Account

Total Indirect Costs Funds available in 2013-2014	A	\$8,845,419
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Expenditures incurred in 2013-2014

Facilities	\$974,439
Resources	\$970,326
Management and Administration	\$4,858,022
Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation	\$1,542,632
Intellectual Property	\$500,000
Total Indirect Costs expenditures incurred in 2013-2014	B \$8,845,419

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>	\$12,966
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Health Research Affiliates

For organizations with health research affiliates only: for each area of priority, indicate the actual amount of your 2013-2014 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

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

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 2013-2014 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"/>

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number

P0056

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?

The University of Saskatchewan continues, as in prior years, to allocate funding to support utility costs for operation of research spaces on campus. For 2013-14, the University allocated \$475,440 toward these costs; this is a decrease from the amount allocated in previous years because higher salary and benefit costs in other budget categories have demanded more resources.

The Indirect Costs funding supports a portion of the salary and benefit costs of technical support personnel in the Saskatchewan Structural Sciences Centre (SSSC). The SSSC is a multidisciplinary research centre which focuses on structure-determination research activities. Approximately 80% of the SSSC users receive research funding through Tri-Agency grants and require the instrumentation at the SSSC to support their research activities. The technical support personnel ensures that the SSSC's specialized equipment is well-maintained and readily available for researcher use. These personnel also ensure that the laboratory is running efficiently and that all users are following proper procedures to effectively use the specialized equipment for their research needs. Without this funding for technical support personnel, the SSSC would not be able to provide the current level of orientation/training for users and equipment may not be as effectively maintained. Essentially, this would result in a decrease in research productivity at the facility.

The Canadian Light Source (CLS) receives a portion of the University's Indirect Costs funding, and allocated a portion of the funding to supporting custodial costs at the facility. Support in this area ensures that CLS facility is well-maintained, is research ready, and upholds its image as a premiere national research facility. These types of costs may not be eligible under other funding sources that the CLS receives, and resources would have to be redirected from other priority areas if this funding was not available.

The College of Arts and Science allocated Indirect Costs funding to partially support the salary and benefit costs for a Director of Facilities. This individual plays a key role in the College operations, which includes managing research space and facilities and coordinating laboratory renovation projects within the College. This individual is involved in the majority of research-related renovations undertaken by the college, and the Director's expertise makes sure that both existing and emerging researcher's needs are accommodated within spaces which meet their research needs.

The Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) and the College of Engineering utilized Indirect Costs funding to repair existing equipment. As equipment pieces age, repairs are more frequent and are often unexpected in nature. The University allows Colleges to internally direct their Indirect Costs resources to eligible priorities areas. Colleges appreciate having the flexibility to utilize Indirect Costs funding to offset these unexpected expenses that may not be budgeted for elsewhere. Researchers rely on access to well-functioning labs to support their research programs, and without the access to Indirect Costs funding (and the flexibility) to direct toward maintaining equipment, Colleges may have to redirect resources from other priorities to cover these costs.

The University of Saskatchewan continues to direct Indirect Costs funding toward the cost of facility rental for space occupied by the offices of Research Services, Research Communications and Research Ethics. Personnel in these three offices are key contacts, in their area of specialty, for Tri-Agency grant administration at the University of

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

Section I - Facilities (continued)

Impact Statement

Saskatchewan, and there are benefits to having them located in close proximity to one another. Space constraints on the University of Saskatchewan campus are considerable, and determining a suitable space to locate these personnel is difficult. The current arrangement is rental of office space in a non-university owned building, located on the University of Saskatchewan campus. This space is of sufficient size to allow these three units to reside in close proximity to one another. The primary cost driver for this expense is a combination of the rental market rates when the license for the space was negotiated, plus Consumer Price Index adjustments applied to the rental rate over the period of the occupancy.

The University of Saskatchewan continues to allocate a fixed amount toward the property insurance premium expenses for research-related facilities. Without support from the Indirect Costs allocation, there would be a greater burden on limited resources in the central operating budget to support these costs and measures may be required to reduce existing coverage. The alternative would be to continue to insure the infrastructure at the current level and reduce activities in other central budget categories if the influx of funding from the Indirect Costs allocation was not available. The major cost drivers are the increased cost of insurance premiums and changes in policies due to renovation or new construction. Given the increased costs of insurance, this fixed allocation for insurance expense does not cover as large of a percentage of actual costs in the current year, as it has in prior years.

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

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 2013-2014 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number

P0056

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?

The University of Saskatchewan allocated Indirect Costs funding in the Research Resources category in a similar manner to prior years. Typically, the University allocates a fixed amount of Indirect Costs funding to various units on campus who provide the services or resources in this category. Thus, the Indirect Costs funding does not cover the full cost of these activities, but rather provides an important portion of the funding required to support these integral resources which contribute to the success of the research community on campus.

The University Library receives the highest percentage of funding within the Research Resources area. This fixed annual funding amount ensures that the array of electronic resources offered to the research community is consistent from year to year and meets the need in areas of demand. The annual allocation allows the University Library to participate in the national consortium Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN) access to ScienceDirect as well as other online journal packages such as Wiley-Blackwell Online Journals, Web of Science, Web of Knowledge, and SpringLink Online Journals. These online resources are used extensively by researchers in all phases of funded research. A reduction in funding from the Indirect Costs program would mean that already scarce central resources would have to be redirected to cover the highest priority online resources, limiting the resource and research capacity. Without access to these electronic resources, the University research community would be disadvantaged as compared to their peers at institutions where these resources might be available.

Similarly, the Edwards School of Business covers a portion of the cost of access to the Wharton Research Data Services (WRDS) platform. This web based access provides access to a wide array of financial, economic and marketing data and continues to contribute to the research intensiveness in the School. Researchers benefit from the easy access to data and it ensures that the School is on par with other peer Schools nationally and internationally. WRDS is site-licensed and this has allowed Researchers across disciplines to access the information; researchers have noted that access to WRDS has enabled them to automate tasks that would have otherwise taken considerable time and effort to achieve similar results.

The Information and Communications Technology (ICT) group receives an allocation of Indirect Costs funding that supports the salary and benefit costs of Programmers, Network Analysts, and Network Technicians in the Platform Services area. ICT Platform Services supports and maintains the campus network including a multitude of wired connections and wireless access points located in research spaces on campus. Support for the ICT group ensures that the University's network is effectively and efficiently operating at all times, and provides researchers with the high performance network and high-speed network connections which facilitate collaborations with partners at other universities and research organizations. Without this high speed connectivity, the University would not be able to participate in national networks such as Westgrid/Compute Canada.

The ICT department also directs a portion of their fixed allocation to both membership in Westgrid, a national high performance computing (HPC) platform, and SRnet, a provincial network. Memberships such as these provide the

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

Section II - Research Resources (continued)

Impact Statement

University with high-quality online capabilities and access to networks such as CANARIE and other international research networks, and to the many universities and research labs around the world that are connected to those networks. The ICT network services support and the access to these international research networks provides researchers with access to information and collaboration opportunities on a global scale, without having to coordinate the logistics using their own resources. Losing access to these networks would significantly impact the number of collaborations and the quality of research produced by the research community.

The Systems Support and Development team allocates Indirect Costs funding to support salary and benefit costs of a Reporting Analyst who develops new reports and queries for research costs and activities in the University's enterprise systems. A portion of the Reporting Analyst's time focuses on improving and simplifying the information available to researchers on their Tri-agency funding. Continuing to fine-tune the information researchers receive regarding their existing research funding allows them to focus more time on their research instead of on the background administrative details.

The University of Saskatchewan also covers a portion of insurance expenses for research equipment housed within its facilities. As with the insurance on research facilities in Section I, the University has allocation a fixed amount of its Indirect Cost funding for these costs and it only covers a small portion of insuring the research equipment. The major cost drivers are changes in policy premium costs and changes in value of equipment (through acquisitions/disposals) that require insurance coverage.

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

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 2013-2014 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"/>

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number

P0056

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?

The University of Saskatchewan allocates the highest percentage of Indirect Costs funding to the Management and Administration category. Allocations are made to various Units and Colleges on Campus which work together to provide a backbone for the research enterprise at the University. Given the competitive research funding arenas, the complexity of funding opportunities, and the level of required reporting, it is essential that the University provide researchers with optimal support to facilitate the success of their research programs.

This research administration support begins at the College level where Indirect Costs funding is utilized to support the salary and benefit costs of Research Facilitators, Analysts and Officers. These specialized positions are a primary point of contact in the research development and application processes. These individuals assist researchers in identifying grant opportunities, provide guidance on best practices for success in applications, provide assistance with identifying collaborative opportunities, assist with the development of research proposals, and assist with administrative details such as monitoring funding deadlines. These College-based resources allow researchers to have an 'in-house' point of contact who has specialized program and process knowledge. The Facilitators are also the primary link between the research activity of the College and the central Research Services Office. Having this dedicated point of contact in the Colleges reduces duplication of activities between the College Research Facilitators and the Research Services Office, and makes it straightforward for Researchers to determine who they should contact for information.

In addition to the Research Facilitation model described above, the University also allocates a portion of its Indirect Costs funding to grant development activities which are not provided within the scope of the Research Facilitator positions. This includes providing support for professional grant editing services, for expenses related to collaboration development activities, and for assistance with CV editing. During 2013-14, additional resources in the area of CV editing were offered to the campus research community to ensure that CV formats were in compliance within Tri-Agency formatting guidelines. Researchers were very appreciative of this CV editing support, especially given the transition to the Canadian Common CV and the implementation of the revised NSERC / SSHRC researcher portal. It allowed them to focus on their efforts on the research program aspects of the grant application process, instead of on CV formatting concerns.

The University allocates a significant portion of Indirect Costs funding to support of the Office of Vice-President Research (OVPR) personnel whose expertise in research development and administration provide leadership and expertise to foster success with funding opportunities. Positions in senior leadership, such as the Associate Vice-President Research, contribute to the strategic direction for the research enterprise. These enterprise-wide research development efforts support the priority research areas that have been developed by the institution. Significant funding is also directed to the Research Services Office, within the OVPR, to support the salaries and benefits of Grants Specialists and Administrative Support positions. These positions assist researchers with grant review activities, such as committee and institutional reviews prior to submissions, provide institutional oversight and approval for all tri-agency awards, and also act as a liaison with the funding agencies for submissions and inquiries both pre-award and post-award.

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

Section III - Management and Administration (continued)

Impact Statement

The University also allocates Indirect Costs funding toward the financial and administrative activities which are required of Tri-Agency funding programs. These include support of salary and benefits for positions in Financial Services Division and for College-level Financial Officers. The Financial Reporting department ensures appropriate financial administration of Tri-Agency grants and completes the required financial reporting for Tri-Agency funding. The Indirect Costs funding contributes toward a portion of the cost of these activities. Throughout 2013-14, the Financial Services Division continued to develop new models and processes to ensure compliance with Tri-Agency monitoring visit recommendations. The Financial Compliance Officer, one of the positions supported, was tasked with enhancements in these compliance measures, and extensive communications were deployed across the campus research community regarding adherence to Tri-Agency requirements and guidelines. In support of the enhanced financial compliance measures, changes to processes in the financial reporting system were also initiated to decrease the administrative burden on researchers and staff. A portion of the Reporting Analyst's salary and benefits supported these changes in the financial system. College-level Financial Officers are tasked with assisting researchers with financial and overall administration of their Tri-agency research grants; this support assists researchers in ensuring that their research projects adhere to prescribed timelines and budgets.

The grant administration process is highly specialized and the researchers at the University of Saskatchewan benefit from the assistance they receive from the individuals tasked with supporting research administration across campus. The availability of Indirect Costs funding to support these activities allows the researchers to focus on securing research funding and completing the research activities outlined in awarded grants, instead of spending their time on administrative tasks relating to research awards. Without funding from the Indirect Costs program there would be a much higher burden on University resources and researchers, both centrally and at the College level, to cover these costs and continue to carry out these activities. The current model has led to increased research activity and success in national funding programs, and it would be detrimental to the overall strategic goals of the institution if there was not sufficient funding to continue with these research activities.

The main cost drivers in this category are salary and benefit costs, as prescribed by collective bargaining agreements for the various employee groups across campus.

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

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 2013-2014 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. International accreditation costs related to research capacity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number

P0056

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?

A significant portion of funding in this Indirect Cost category supports the Health and Safety and Environment department at the Canadian Light Source (CLS) facility in the form of salary and benefits for Health and Safety personnel and for technical support in handling dangerous substances and biohazards. The CLS is Canada's national synchrotron research centre which is accessed by researchers from across the country, and which employs over 200 technical and administrative personnel. The CLS is regulated by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and must comply with the rigorous standards set by that body. These compliance standards, in addition to CLS's large user base (1,965 registered users to December 31, 2013), require a significant investment in health and safety resources to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the facility. Investment, through the Indirect Costs funding, provides dedicated personnel to oversee the required regulatory compliance activities. Without this level of due diligence, the facility could put users at risk for exposure to hazards and could compromise its CNSC license. The main cost drivers for the CLS include in the numbers of users at the facility, the regulations from CNSC and the cost of salary and benefits for staff. These activities are mandatory for the safe operations of the facility and could not be discontinued; other funding from already limited sources would need to be redirected to these activities at the cost of other initiatives.

The University of Saskatchewan's Research Ethics Office (REO) continues to receive an allocation of Indirect Costs funding. This funding support ensures the University's research conforms to the highest ethical standards in the use of human subjects, animals and biohazardous materials through review of all ethics applications by the Biomedical Research Ethics Board (BioRED) or Animal Research Ethics Board (AREB). The funding from the Indirect Costs allocation supports the salary and benefit costs of both administrative personnel supporting the activities of these committees, and technical experts such as the University Veterinarian. The REO also delivers ethics and responsible conduct of research education and training in many formats: through college and departmental presentations, incorporation into classes, web-based courses, ethics drop-ins and workshops. The REO is also responsible for ensuring the University meets its obligations under the Tri-Agency agreement (TCPS2) with respect to ethics matters and ensuring the University remains compliant with provincial, national and international guidelines and regulations for both human and animal research subjects.

Without Indirect Costs funding for the REO, more than half of the capacity of the REO would be affected. Reduced funding for these activities would result in a reduction of services in education and training and, at the extreme, a potential reduction in standards of animal care and oversight activities. This would result in non-compliance with regulatory bodies such as the Canadian Council on Animal Care, TCPS2, and with regulations imposed by the variety of funding agencies the University interacts with and would compromise research funding.

The University of Saskatchewan also allocated a fixed amount of Indirect Costs funds toward the disposal costs for biohazard and chemical waste from research activities. Providing support for this service ensures that researchers are not burdened with these responsibilities and costs in their research programs. The main cost driver is the price demanded by the specialized companies who provide this service and the amount of wastes generated by varying levels of research activity.

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

Section IV - Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation (continued)

Impact Statement

The College of Engineering directed a portion of its Indirect Costs allocation toward lab upgrades to meet safety requirements. Through the work of the College's Health and Safety committee, the College has prioritized improvements to their research environment - a sampling of upgrades includes maintenance and repairs to hoists and cranes, upgrades to chemical respirators and gas monitoring stations, an explosion-proof sash system, flammables and acid corrosive cabinets, addition of additional electrical outlets in laboratories, installation of reflective tape for PPE zones, and a college-wide Hazard and Operability Analysis (HazOp) initiative. Without Indirect Costs funds to support these compliance-related measures, the College would have to redirect resources from other priority areas in order to ensure that the College-based research spaces are a safe environment in which to conduct research.

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

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 2013-2014 grant invested?
1. Creation, expansion, or sustenance of a technology transfer office or similar function	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

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 of Saskatchewan continues to allocate Indirect Costs funding to support of the Industry Liaison Office. The Industry Liaison Office strives to accelerate the commercialization of University research and knowledge, and employs a team of specialists who provide education and assistance to researchers with respect to commercialization of research - including areas such as licensing, patents, start-up companies, contractual agreements, industry relations, protection of University intellectual property rights, and support for grant applications with commercialization elements. The Indirect Costs funding provides a fixed amount to the Industry Liaison office which offsets the salaries of personnel such as the Managing Director, Legal Manager, Technology Transfer Manager and Start-Up Company Specialist. Maintaining this fully staffed office allows the University, Colleges and Researchers to benefit from the Industry Liaison Office's expertise in Intellectual Property and commercialization opportunities which lead to increased licensing income. Without the support from the Indirect Costs program the Industry Liaison Office would not be able to support the current level of activity, without the University having to redirect resources from other priorities. There would be a decrease in the ability of the Industry Liaison Office to assist researchers with realizing research opportunities with industry and a reduction in adoption and use of knowledge created by researchers.

The Industry Liaison Office also directs a portion of its Indirect Costs funding to partially cover the cost of Inteum software. This web-based platform is a system for managing and tracking the University's patent portfolio, commercialization opportunities, licensing agreements, and financial data relating to these activities. This tool is widely used in the day-to-day operations of the Industry Liaison Office. The Inteum platform facilitates the flow of information and data regarding specialized commercialization activities among staff, and facilitates reporting to researchers on their commercialization activities. Many of these tasks would be much more time intensive without access to this valuable tool, and time would have to be directed away from higher priority initiatives, such as working directly with the research community, in order to provide the same level of information currently available with this tool.

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

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.

Indirect Costs funding at the University contributes to attraction and retention of high-quality researchers by creating a research environment which fosters productive research programs for researchers. Investment in strategic research planning ensures the University's research environment aligns with the institution's strategic goals, and ensures prospective and existing researchers are able to then align their research programs and goals with those of the institution. Additionally, investment in Research Facilitator positions, grant development and CCV assistance programs provides researchers with valuable assistance in building their research programs and maximizing their potential successes in national funding competitions.

Investment of funding toward research administration support services in units such as Research Services, Research Ethics, Financial Services, and the Industry Liaison Office provides a valuable resource for researchers in areas of agency compliance, research regulatory requirements, financial matters, and commercialization. This support allows researchers to focus their efforts on research program development and implementation, instead of on navigation of these complicated areas of administration.

Investment in a variety of other resource, facility and regulatory areas ensures researchers have access to proper tangible resources with which to fulfil their research goals. Investments in areas such as the upgrade and maintenance of facilities and equipment, provision of technical staff at larger facilities, and support for utilities and hazardous waste disposal for laboratories all support the common goal of attracting and retaining 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 Indirect Costs funding supports a wide variety of expenses across all five Indirect Cost 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 by providing researchers with mechanisms to create successful research programs. These successes lead to the attraction of additional researchers and to attraction of additional 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.

Indirect Costs Outcomes Report

File Number P0056

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 Indirect Cost funding to support the indirect costs of research that would have been otherwise charged to the operating budget. The Indirect Costs 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.

At the University of Saskatchewan, a portion of the annual Indirect Costs funding is currently allocated to Colleges and Schools based on the amount of Tri-Agency revenue that their College or School is successful in obtaining. This allocation method illustrates the linkage between Indirect Costs funding support and research activity to researchers and administrators. The Colleges and Schools have invested these Indirect Costs funding allocations toward eligible expenses in a variety of areas and have been able to redirect their central operating funding to other priorities. Without the Indirect Costs funding, there would likely be some initiatives left unfunded, as not all of these indirect costs could be 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.

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.