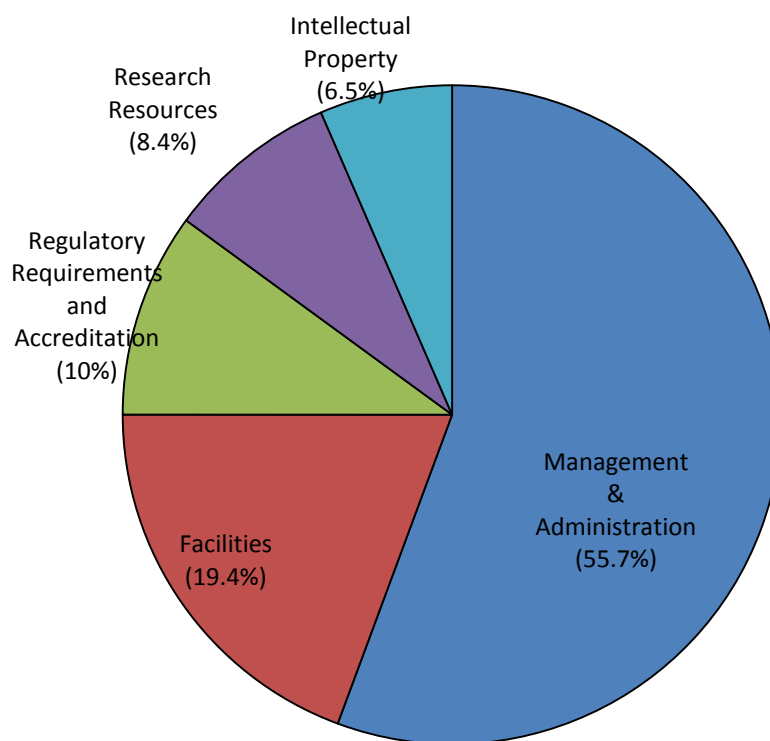


**Memorial University of Newfoundland
Indirect Costs Report
2014-15**



The grant provided through the Government of Canada Indirect Costs Program (ICP) is essential to Memorial's research success. Funding is allocated among a variety of activities that support the research enterprise. In 2015, Memorial received \$4,143,875. The distribution of this funding is outlined in the chart below, and further details on specific activities and impact can be found in the following section.

Total 2015 Indirect Costs Grant: \$4,143,875



- **Management & Administration** – provides support for research-related positions such as grant facilitators and research development and liaison officers within academic units, as well as administrative and operational costs for units within the Vice-President (Research) portfolio.
- **Facilities** - includes renovations and maintenance of laboratory space dedicated to research, as well as operational support for the Department of Technical Services and the Department of Information Technology Services; both of which provide technical support to research activities on campus.
- **Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation** - includes operations of animal care facilities, support for ethics boards, safety procedures and workplace hazardous materials handling.
- **Research Resources** - includes library acquisitions, software for library computers and operating costs.
- **Intellectual Property** - includes support for the operations of the Technology Transfer Office.

General impact of the Indirect Costs Program grant

Memorial University has ambitious goals for research growth which are outlined in the Strategic Research Intensity Plan (SRIP) 2014-2020 which was officially approved by Memorial University's Board of Regents in May 2014. The Plan builds on the University's Research Strategy Framework to support Memorial's vision to "...be one of the most distinguished public universities in Canada and beyond..." This plan reflects a synergistic and integrated approach for strengthening all aspects of research at Memorial University, including scholarship and creative activities, as well as the translation of knowledge into products, practices and policies, and other forms of community engagement. The Indirect Costs Program (ICP) grant provided additional support to a number of areas within Memorial University which play key roles in assisting with the implementation of many areas of the SRIP, as well as facilitating the outcomes of the Plan on a go-forward basis.

In addition, the Indirect Costs Program (ICP) assists Memorial University with the ability to provide top-notch services and maintain equipment essential to research success. The ICP grant provides funding support for a number of operational and administrative costs associated with the units housed under the Vice-President (Research) portfolio, as well as within the academic units. This uniquely positions Memorial University as an innovative research university with a broad range of services, equipment and expertise.

Specific impact of the Indirect Costs Program grant

Management and Administration

Research Grant and Contract Services (RGCS) perform pre- and post- award administration in a "one-stop-shop" approach. The pre-award component focuses on the review and approval of research grants and contracts, while the post-award component provides project management and administrative support for large-scale research programs. Funding from ICP supports costs associated with enhancing RGCS's research information database, including the launch of a database expansion project that will create process improvements, efficiencies and better service to stakeholders in the research administration enterprise at Memorial.

RGCS is the primary point of contact for all research funding applications except the Canada Research Chair (CRC) and Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) programs. The office of CREAT, CRC and CFI Services (CCCS) is responsible for the above-mentioned programs.

Memorial University's multi-disciplinary array of laboratories enables access to a network of "Core Research Equipment and Instrument Training" (CREAIT). Funding supports the operational and management costs associated with strategic laboratory equipment, instrumentation and provision of related laboratory services. The availability of highly-trained and expert laboratory staff with access to the latest technology is critical to research deliverables.

Funding from ICP is used to support the administrative and operational costs incurred by units within the Vice-President (Research) portfolio, as well as the academic units of Memorial University. Such costs include salaries and benefits of staff who work to support the research enterprise. It is used to assist in paying salaries for research positions within the units such as grant facilitators, research development and liaison officers and a project accountant. This funding is vital in ensuring researchers have the administrative expertise required for securing Tri-Council and other forms of external funding to help grow research success at Memorial University.

Funding was also provided to SafetyNet to assist with operational and salary costs. The SafetyNet Centre for Occupational Health and Safety Research is a community alliance for multidisciplinary research, knowledge-exchange and education in the occupational health and safety (OHS) based at Memorial.

A percentage of funding received from the ICP grant was transferred to Memorial's health affiliate Eastern Health. This supports infrastructure costs incurred by Eastern Health for clinical researchers who hold appointments at Memorial University and engage in research funded by the granting councils. This arrangement is governed by an MOU between the two parties.

Facilities

The funding received by Memorial University through the ICP grant plays a vital role in maintaining facilities on campus dedicated to research. ICP funding allocated under the facilities section is used to support three departments: Technical Services, Information Technology Services (ITS) and Facilities Management.

The Department of Technical Services maintains research equipment and scientific instruments, and develops custom research apparatus. Technical Services provides technologists to support research in the Faculty of Medicine by repairing and maintaining laboratory apparatus. Technical Services is highly integrated with research at Memorial which is demonstrated by the wide range of projects supported by the group. The department offers high-quality, state-of-the-art services to Memorial's research community and this is considered to be a critical component of the core infrastructure. Many of the services provided are not available in the local marketplace and the cost of developing custom devices in a commercial setting would be prohibitive to individual grant holders. In addition, the work performed by Technical Services supports physical infrastructure, individual units or faculties and research programs. Over the past year, 50 per cent of the department's activity was in direct support of research programs. Funding allocated from ICP also supports employee costs, including salaries and benefits.

Grant investments are an ongoing part of Memorial's operating budget, from which Information Technology Services (ITS) is funded. ITS supports all University computing, networking and telephone systems, as well as Memorial's data centre which houses high performance computing services for Memorial's research community and ACEnet (Atlantic Computational Excellence Network). Funding from the ICP grant allows collaborative research to be carried out between Memorial and other Canadian Universities. In 2014-15, ITS replaced the core network which supports the Chemistry building. Memorial has also funded a three-year lease to upgrade

the network distribution on campus which will result in a more stable and expanded network of services to support research activities on the ground. These investments not only ensure availability and stability of the network to Research Computing, but maintain data integrity and allow seamless movement of data to and from the University in real time.

In 2014-15, Memorial established the Office of the Chief Information Officer (CIO) to lead information strategy to enable academic, research, teaching and administration functions, and to support collaboration across disciplines.

ICP also allocates funding to maintain operational and upgrade costs of Facilities Management to ensure the appropriate facilities can carry out their research programs. A portion of the funding allocated to the academic units was used in support of upgrading laboratories and renovation to research facilities during fiscal year 2014-15.

Research Resources

The ICP allocation is a critical funding source to ensure collections and information resources needed for the research function are maintained. ICP supports Memorial's electronic resources that span multi-disciplinary content. The ICP allocation has been invaluable in defraying costs borne by Memorial libraries in dissemination of our faculty members' research results and outputs.

During the 2014-15 year, the ICP allocation was used for offsetting currency losses that applied to journal renewals. Funding was also used to avoid having to discontinue journal subscriptions within the fiscal year and to maintain continuity of key journal resources critical to researchers needs.

Regulatory Requirements and Administration

ICP funding supported the provision of infrastructure and programming within Memorial University's Animal Care Services, which delivers quality research while also providing the regulatory function in the oversight of Memorial's animal care and use program. Funding supports the costs of infrastructure, programming and staffing that are essential to meet regulatory standards and encourage excellence and innovation in research. The most significant change from previous years has been the provision of a new surgical space for Psychology and Biochemistry investigators at the Biotechnology building. The ICP grant also helps to offset salary and operating costs associated with the function of the Institutional Animal Care Committee.

Intellectual Property

On March 31, 2015, Memorial brought the Technology Transfer Office (TTO) operations in-house, whereas in previous years these functions were performed by a separately incorporated entity. The change aimed to achieve closer alignment of the TTO's function with the institution's research goals and aspirations. ICP funding continues to support technology transfer, as well as providing general IP administration and support to the office of Research Grants & Contract Services. The funding provides support for salaries and legal costs: it ensures Memorial

maintains a staffing level adequate to address the institution's obligations for IP administration and the protection and disposition of jointly-owned faculty/university discoveries.