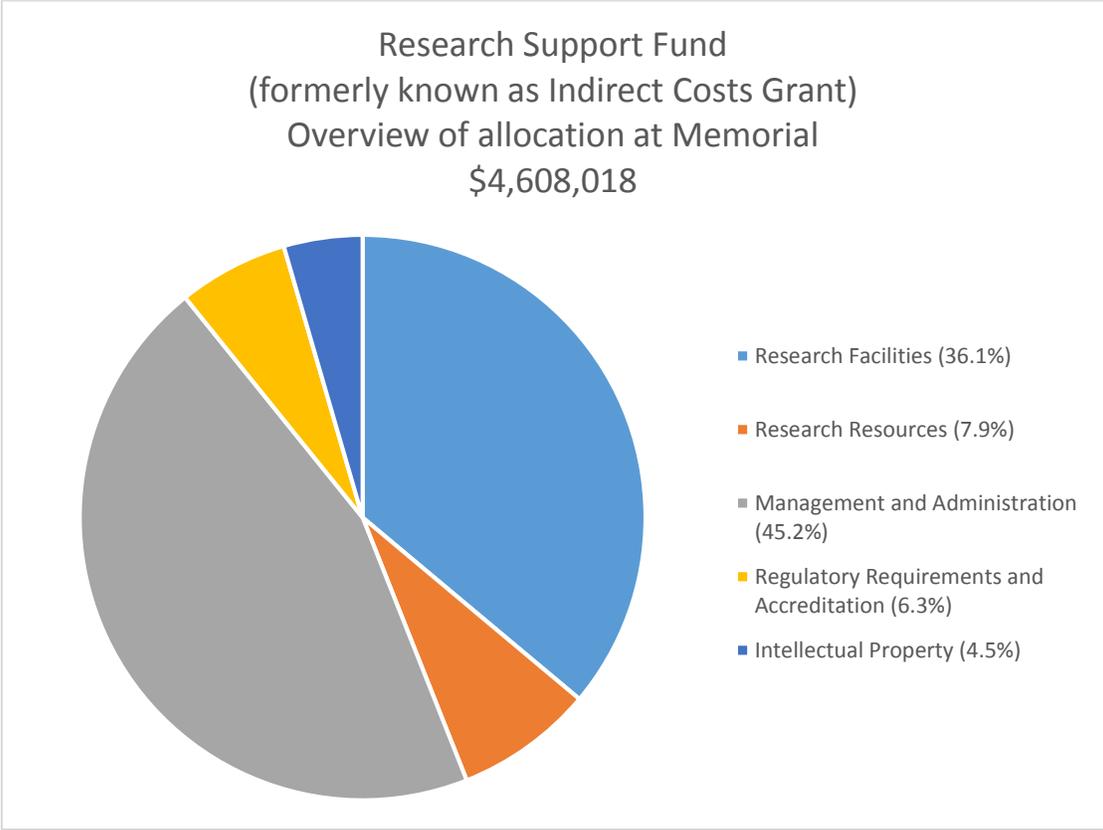


# Memorial University of Newfoundland Research Support Fund Report 2019-20

The grant provided through the Government of Canada Research Support Fund (RSF) is essential to Memorial’s research success. Funding is allocated among a variety of activities that support the research enterprise. In 2019-20, Memorial received \$4,608,018. The distribution of this funding is outlined in the chart below.



**Memorial University of Newfoundland – Research Support Fund – 2019-20 Performance Indicators and Target Outcomes**

Eligible Program Expenditure Category	Institutional Performance Objectives	Performance Indicator	Target Outcomes	Outcomes Reported at Year-End
Research Facilities	<p>Research data maintained through appropriate data storage capacity.</p> <p>Competent technical staff and appropriate facilities to maximize research support.</p>	<p>Volume of data back-up.</p> <p>Provision of technical support appropriate for research needs and functional equipment.</p>	<p>Research data maintained.</p> <p>Technical research support facilities meeting the needs of researchers and graduate students.</p>	<p>Data storage capacity in the Information Technology Services (ITS) data centres is approximately 900TB to support storage requirements, which includes research storage. 100% of this data was backed up on a regular basis.</p> <p>Memorial’s IT Governance and Collaboration Framework includes a research committee which provides input to the university IT governance council.</p> <p>With its team of engineers, technologists and craftpersons, and with its significant investment in technology and equipment, the Department of Technical Services assists researchers and graduate students in the design and development of the many custom devices required by their experimental programs.</p> <p>The Department of Technical Services is also responsible for the production of cryogenic liquids and must ensure an uninterrupted supply of liquid nitrogen (LN2) and liquid helium (LHe). The department produces greater than 40,000 litres of LN2 and 2,000 litres of LHe annually.</p>

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	<p>Research infrastructure upgrades and development.</p>	<p>Structural condition of buildings and laboratories.</p>	<p>A safe working environment.</p>	<p>Continued investment in professional development for scientific staff within the Core Research Equipment &amp; Instrument Training (CREAIT) Network laboratories ensures continuity of high quality/expert laboratory output along with high quality performance management for a Network of sophisticated scientific equipment and instrumentation. The CREAIT Network was successful in staffing two strategic, PhD level, laboratory positions – these will contribute to long-term growth and development of laboratory capacity and research output.</p> <p>The Department of Technical Services provides the staffing and maintains certifications to ensure that Memorial’s 300 fume hoods and 100 Biological Safety Cabinets are compliant with current legislation.</p> <p>Biosafety Cabinets have been purchased for all animal housing rooms, quarantine, CL2 and two special procedure areas in the new Animal Resource Centre. In addition, an automated dirty bedding handling system will reduce exposure to contaminants and odors.</p>
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**Memorial University of Newfoundland – Research Support Fund – 2019-20 Performance Indicators and Target Outcomes**

<p>Research Resources</p>	<p>Ensuring Memorial University’s researchers and students have the essential resources available within all branches of the Library system and access to all required content not held onsite.</p>	<p>Collection usage data as well as document delivery metrics.</p>	<p>Provide efficient and effective access to all library research content required by researchers and students.</p>	<p>In anticipation of the Tri-Agencies new data management policy, the library implemented Dataverse to provide researchers with a tool to manage and share their data. Continue to support open access publishing for Memorial University authors through discounted and waived article processing charges (APCs) negotiated as part of journal subscription packages and by maintaining memberships with open access (OA) publishers. Invested in key electronic journal archives to expand rapid online access to research.</p>
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**Memorial University of Newfoundland – Research Support Fund – 2019-20 Performance Indicators and Target Outcomes**

<p>Management and Administration of Institution’s Research Enterprise</p>	<p>To provide continued improvement and gain increased efficiency in research administration.</p> <p>Optimizing pre- and post-award services offered to Memorial’s research community by Research Grant and Contracts (RGCS) and Strategic Institutional Research Initiatives (SIRI).</p> <p>Maximizing the impact of Memorial’s multi-disciplinary array of laboratories and equipment through the Core Research Equipment and Instrument Training (CREAIT) Network.</p>	<p>Metrics have been developed to track continued growth in research intensity, institutional reputation and rankings.</p> <p>Research office metrics.</p> <p>Metrics for the utilization of CREAIT facilities.</p>	<p>Maintain and increase in research intensity, research revenue, and institutional rankings on a national and international scale.</p> <p>Maintain or improve service levels.</p> <p>Maintain or improve service levels.</p>	<p>Maintained Tri-Agency funding above \$18M. Overall funding from all sources increased over 2018-19 levels.</p> <p>Continued development of highly effective client communications and management of services through extensive consultations, feedback and change initiatives.</p> <p>Multi-year consistency in contribution to scientific research as measured by stability in the number of laboratory users (approx. 680 in 2019/20) and internal and external financial recoveries (\$635K in 2019/20). This is significant in the context of increasingly challenging research and business environments. CREAIT laboratories remain a dynamic and multi-disciplinary source of expertise in instrument and equipment training, and in providing research output and contribution to research outcomes.</p>
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**Memorial University of Newfoundland – Research Support Fund – 2019-20 Performance Indicators and Target Outcomes**

	<p>Providing academic unit resources to assist with grants facilitation, research development, grant administration and project management.</p>	<p>Researcher engagement with grants facilitation within the units and continued professional development of research administration staff.</p>	<p>Research funding success and researcher participation rates; maintain or improve financial oversight of research.</p>	<p>RSF supported annual membership registrations and conference attendance for continuing education of grants facilitation officers in various faculties.</p>
<p>Regulatory Requirements and Accreditation</p>	<p>Maintain high-quality support for ethical research and teaching through Memorial University’s Ethics Boards and Animal Care Services.</p> <p>Maintain infrastructure, programming and staffing necessary to meet regulatory standards and to encourage excellence and innovation in research.</p>	<p>Number of researchers and graduate students involved in human and animal research.</p> <p>Proper housing and care of animals. Ventilated caging for animals. Ensuring emergency power to be safeguarded against animal distress/loss.</p>	<p>Maintain or improve service levels.</p> <p>A safe, ethical research environment within Animal Care Services maintaining CCAC regulatory requirements.</p>	<p>There were 243 new ethics applications and 104 amendment requests in the fiscal year April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020. There were 565 annual updates, which monitor continued ethics review for compliance with the TCPS2 for the duration of a research project. Ethics clearances were renewed if data collection was ongoing and/or expected to continue. They were closed if data collection was finished or the researcher did not provide an annual update and did not respond to repeated reminders that their clearance had expired. Service levels have been maintained, and workload is on par with that of the past few years.</p> <p>Animal Care Services created the Animal Facility Consultant position (one-year contract) implemented to enable smooth transition to the new Animal Resource Centre, to create required documentation, and to liaise with Technical Services and Facilities Management for new service contracts.</p>

**Memorial University of Newfoundland – Research Support Fund – 2019-20 Performance Indicators and Target Outcomes**

Intellectual Property	To assist Memorial University's researchers with intellectual property protection, commercialization, industry engagement, and related activities.	Increase in industry engagement and collaboration with external partners.	Creation of collaborations and partnerships with external stakeholders	There were 14 disclosures made, two patents filed, two patents issued and 71 grants of rights. There were also 180 individual meetings with companies, 122 industry R&D contracts and 58 new spin-off or startup companies formed.
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