

4.9 Expressions of Support

Purpose

1. This policy establishes the conditions under which RNS will lend its support to a research initiative convened by others.

Principles

2. Upon receipt of a request for support, RNS will consider the following questions:
 - o Is the initiative one that contributes to achieving one or more of the Corporation’s missions?
 - o Is the initiative one that is a priority for RNS?
 - o Is RNS support required for an application for financial support elsewhere?
 - o If financial and/or in-kind assistance is asked for, does RNS have the resources available to provide the requested support?

Policy

3. All requests for support will be received by the COO at least 21 days in advance of the deadline for a response. The COO will be responsible for leading a review of the request for support.
4. Recognizing that all details may not be available for initiatives RNS is being asked to support, engagement with the Corporation at the earliest possible stage is expected so that appropriate review can take place and decisions can be communicated to the applicant within the required timeframe.
5. All requests for support must be clear as to what RNS is being asked to contribute, e.g. a statement of support for the project, a financial commitment, in-kind support, etc.
6. If a request for support includes a potential financial commitment, it will be referred to the CFO for review.
7. If a request for support includes a potential commitment of RNS staff expertise, it will be reviewed to ensure the Corporation has the skills to meet the requirements. If it is deemed that RNS does have the appropriate skills, with the employee(s) who might be impacted will be consulted for an estimate of time required to support the initiative.
8. Senior management will decide on the request based on the recommendation of the COO.
9. The COO will respond to the applicant within 21 days of receipt of the official request for support.

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