



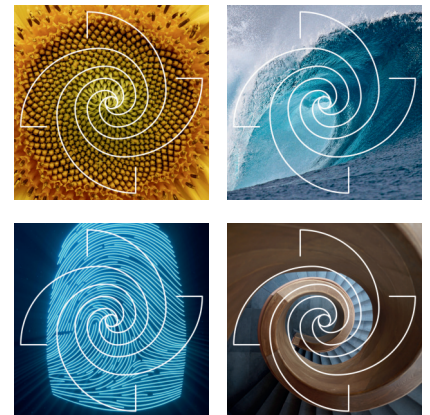
FOCUSED RESEARCH INVESTMENTS (FRI)



Research Nova Scotia harnesses the imagination and expertise of the research community to solve some of Nova Scotia's greatest challenges.

SOCIETY DRIVING RESEARCH. RESEARCH IN SERVICE OF SOCIETY.

The **Focused Research Investment (FRI)** is a unique funding program designed to advance research that tackles Nova Scotia's salient issues, pursuing discoveries that are timely, relevant, and actionable for those who need it. FRI supports researchers, partners, and beneficiaries to work together to define a societal challenge and focus their research efforts to solve it.



WHAT MAKES FRI UNIQUE



The purpose is to *solve*. FRI are selected, managed, and held to account for their contribution to society.



Beneficiaries of the research are active participants, shaping the ideas, priorities, and proposals, and remain engaged throughout the research process.



FRI tackle large, complicated problems that cross disciplines and are relevant across Nova Scotia, where research coordination and integration is key to success.



Research Nova Scotia is engaged as a partner, from proposal development and throughout implementation, to support FRI teams in achieving outcomes.



The investment is large-scale, sustained, and flexible to ensure teams have the resources they need to realize outcomes.

Research Nova Scotia developed FRI to support research that works in service of society. FRI teams search for answers to society's most urgent questions, asking what is needed and crafting their research to respond. Research produces discoveries, but that is not enough; for FRI, what we solve matters most.

STEFAN LESLIE
CEO

KEY ELEMENTS OF EACH FRI

- 1. Outcome-focused:** Beneficiaries are engaged in defining the problem and designing the research projects to achieve specified outcomes.
- 2. Research-driven:** Solving the challenge requires research - discovery that produces knowledge. A logical set of research activities are identified.
- 3. Coordination:** The work requires coordination across groups, disciplines, or sectors.
- 4. Broad societal value:** Outputs are applicable in different ways and for different end users.
- 5. Need:** The issue is relevant and urgent for Nova Scotia.
- 6. Capacity to Deliver:** The team has the expertise, passion, and ambition to do the job.

THE INVESTMENT

Research Nova Scotia supports each FRI team with a significant investment to focus their efforts on delivering outcomes over five to seven years.

For the first round, four FRI projects received a total investment of \$27 million.

Teams from all public and private organizations can apply.

“The FRI initiative is a rare opportunity for researchers to invest in their communities and create a future with genuine impact. It’s more than a project; it’s a commitment to building a thriving Nova Scotia that draws in those hungry for purpose and connection. I think this is a unique chance for individuals to contribute to a meaningful and tangible future.”

MELISSA FLAGG

Founder and President of Flagg Consulting LLC,
Fellow at Acquisition Innovation Research Centre,
Visiting Fellow at the Perry World House, and
former U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research



Learn more at researchns.ca/FRI



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