

# **Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada**

2002-2003  
Estimates

Part III—Report on Plans and Priorities

## The Estimates Documents

Each year, the government prepares Estimates in support of its request to Parliament for authority to spend public monies. This request is formalized through the tabling of appropriation bills in Parliament. The Estimates, which are tabled in the House of Commons by the President of the Treasury Board, consist of three parts:

**Part I – The Government Expenditure Plan** provides an overview of federal spending and summarizes both the relationship of the key elements of the Main Estimates to the Expenditure Plan (as set out in the Budget).

**Part II – The Main Estimates** directly support the *Appropriation Act*. The Main Estimates identify the spending authorities (votes) and amounts to be included in subsequent appropriation bills. Parliament will be asked to approve these votes to enable the government to proceed with its spending plans. Parts I and II of the Estimates are tabled concurrently on or before 1 March.

**Part III – Departmental Expenditure Plans** which is divided into two components:

- (1) **Reports on Plans and Priorities (RPPs)** are individual expenditure plans for each department and agency (excluding Crown corporations). These reports provide increased levels of detail on a business line basis and contain information on objectives, initiatives and planned results, including links to related resource requirements over a three-year period. The RPPs also provide details on human resource requirements, major capital projects, grants and contributions, and net program costs. They are tabled in Parliament by the President of the Treasury Board on behalf of the ministers who preside over the departments and agencies identified in Schedules I, I.1 and II of the *Financial Administration Act*. These documents are tabled in the spring and referred to committees, which then report back to the House of Commons pursuant to Standing Order 81(4).
- (2) **Departmental Performance Reports (DPRs)** are individual department and agency accounts of accomplishments achieved against planned performance expectations as set out in respective RPPs. These Performance Reports, which cover the most recently completed fiscal year, are tabled in Parliament in the fall by the President of the Treasury Board on behalf of the ministers who preside over the departments and agencies identified in Schedules I, I.1 and II of the *Financial Administration Act*.

The Estimates, along with the Minister of Finance's Budget, reflect the government's annual budget planning and resource allocation priorities. In combination with the subsequent reporting of financial results in the Public Accounts and of accomplishments achieved in Departmental Performance Reports, this material helps Parliament hold the government to account for the allocation and management of public funds.

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Social Sciences and Humanities  
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en  
sciences humaines du Canada

# **Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada**

**2002-2003  
Estimates**

## **Report on Plans and Priorities**

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Allan Rock  
Minister of Industry

**Canada**



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## SECTION I: MESSAGES

### 1.1 Minister's Portfolio Message

Today, our people, our universities and our industries are successfully competing around the globe. At the same time, we have a democratic society and way of life that continues to be judged one of the best in the world. To continue our economic growth and social development, indeed, to continue our success as a nation, we must strive to be among the best in creating and commercializing new knowledge. We are committed to building a world-leading, knowledge-based economy and we need to be more innovative to stay competitive.

To support a nation of innovators, we are investing in the skills and abilities of all Canadians so that they can actively contribute to and participate in today's knowledge-based economy. By harnessing our human potential and talent, we can continue our economic success.

The Government of Canada is investing in research and development to improve the capability of our universities and private sector firms to compete internationally. To foster a culture of innovation, we are creating an environment that is favourable to innovation, an environment of trust and confidence, where the public and private interests are protected and there are marketplace incentives for innovation.

Whether stimulating the creation and use of knowledge, supporting the creation and development of businesses and industries, promoting inclusive economic growth, or ensuring a fair and equitable marketplace, each of the fifteen member organizations of the Industry Portfolio is contributing to Canada's innovation strategy. Their work with public and private sector partners across the country is key to Canada's success.

#### The Industry Portfolio is:

Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency  
Business Development Bank of Canada\*  
Canadian Economic Development for  
Québec Regions  
Canadian Space Agency  
Canadian Tourism Commission\*  
Competition Tribunal  
Copyright Board Canada  
Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation\*  
Industry Canada  
National Research Council Canada  
Natural Sciences and Engineering  
Research Council of Canada  
Social Sciences and Humanities Research  
Council of Canada  
Standards Council of Canada\*  
Statistics Canada  
Western Economic Diversification Canada

\* *Not required to submit a Report on Plans  
and Priorities*

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## Report on Plans and Priorities

I am pleased to present the *Report on Plans and Priorities* for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), which describes their expected achievements and results over the next three years. In the coming years, SSHRC will continue to build the knowledge and skills Canada needs to sustain its capacity for innovation, competitiveness and quality of life and to address key issues such as human security and social cohesion. More specifically, through its grants and fellowships program, the Council will support research that helps us to understand the evolving nature of the society we live in and to tackle emerging cultural, social, and economic challenges. SSHRC will also assist in the training of highly qualified personnel for research careers in universities and in public and private sector organizations. In addition, the Council will continue to build research partnerships that will address strategic knowledge gaps to assist evidence-based decisions making. Finally, SSHRC will promote more effective mechanisms for sharing knowledge with users and the broader public.

Through agencies like SSHRC, we will work together to build on the strengths and opportunities that exist throughout Canada.

To secure Canada's continued success in the 21st century, we are committed to nurturing and developing the potential of all our citizens in every community across our nation. By investing in organizations like the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, we will continue building an innovative economy and society for the benefit of all Canadians.

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The Honourable Allan Rock

## **1.2 Secretary of State Message (Science, Research and Development)**

The citizens of our nation represent a virtually limitless talent pool; we can and will develop and use their ideas and skills to continue building a world-class science, research and development community. With strategic investments and targeted programming, this community can propel Canada to become one of the top-ranked countries in the world in terms of investment in research and development. Advancing such an ambitious goal is a major challenge. As a start, the government is committed to doubling its own investment in research and development by 2010.

Government efforts alone, however, will not suffice. That is why we are also investing to increase and strengthen the research capacity of our industrial and academic sectors. And to make sure that these sectors can advance, we are also working to develop the requisite highly skilled people they need to do the research and, through the commercialization of this research, to bring Canadian innovation to market.

We are committed to improving our overall level of innovation and to this end we have launched a number of initiatives to invigorate the development of our knowledge infrastructure, our commercial environment, our universities, and our human capital. Within the Industry Portfolio, the National Research Council Canada (NRC), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) play a major role in advancing these objectives.

This report illustrates how SSHRC initiatives are making and will continue to make a strategic contribution to the advancement of our scientific, research and development community. These are the types of initiatives that are needed to help turn the promise of Canadian know-how and ingenuity into reality.

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The Honourable Maurizio Bevilacqua



### **1.3 Management Representation Statement**

#### ***REPORT ON PLANS AND PRIORITIES 2002-2003***

I submit, for tabling in Parliament, the 2002-2003 *Report on Plans and Priorities* (RPP) for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada.

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To the best of my knowledge, the information in this document:

- accurately portrays the Council's plans and priorities;
- is consistent with the reporting principles contained in the *Guide to the Preparation of the 2002-2003 Report on Plans and Priorities*;
- is comprehensive and accurate;
- is based on sound underlying agency information and management systems.

I am satisfied as to the quality assurance processes and procedures used to produce the RPP.

The Planning, Reporting and Accountability Structure (PRAS) on which this document is based has been approved by Treasury Board Ministers and constitutes the basis for accountability for the results achieved with the resources and authorities provided.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION II: SSHRC—OVERVIEW

### 2.1 *Raison d'être*

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) is the main funding agency for social sciences and humanities research and research training in Canada. According to the *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Act* (1976-1977, c.24, section 4 (1)), SSHRC's mandate is to:

- “promote and assist research and scholarship in the social sciences and humanities”; and
- “advise the Minister of Industry regarding such matters related to research as the Minister may refer to the Council for its consideration.”

SSHRC's *raison d'être* is to help build and maintain the knowledge and expertise that Canada needs to improve its social, economic and cultural life. More specifically, the Council's mission is to

- support high-quality research and research training to help us understand the evolving nature of our society and to address emerging challenges and opportunities in the most effective way; and
- encourage and assist the transfer of knowledge among researchers, research partners, policy makers and other stakeholders in Canadian society in order to put the benefits of research to work.

#### SSHRC Funds Research and Research Training in:

anthropology, archaeology, business & administrative studies, classics, communication & media studies, criminology, economics, education, environmental studies, ethics, fine arts, geography, history, industrial relations, inter- and multi-disciplinary studies, law, linguistics, literature, management, mediaeval studies, modern languages, native studies, philosophy, political science, psychology, religious studies, social work, sociology, urban and regional studies, women's studies

SSHRC's main clientele—university-based researchers and research students in the social sciences and humanities—consists of 18,000 full-time professors, who represent 53 per cent of all university faculty and approximately 40,000 full-time graduate students, who represent about 61 per cent of all graduate students. The social sciences and humanities disciplines thus account for 55 per cent of all researchers and graduate students in our universities—the largest research community in Canada.

In addition to researchers based in universities, researchers in Canada's 175 community colleges can receive SSHRC funds. Non-profit organizations that have a research mandate and that have qualified researchers on staff, can also meet the eligibility criteria for specific SSHRC programs.

SSHRC supports basic, applied and targeted research, advanced research training, the building of research partnerships with users of research, and the broad dissemination of research results within and beyond the academic community. In addition to supporting research in all social sciences and humanities disciplines, SSHRC encourages—especially through its *Strategic Themes* and *Joint Initiatives* programs—research on a great variety of interdisciplinary issues.

SSHRC grants and fellowships are awarded only after an exhaustive, independent, and highly competitive peer review process. This independent review process ensures that only the best research projects and only the most deserving researchers receive SSHRC funding.

SSHRC also plays a leadership role in the development of research policy. It monitors emerging research trends in the social sciences and humanities and helps to structure the national research effort to enhance knowledge building and innovation and respond to the changing needs of Canadian society.

Finally, SSHRC advises the Minister of Industry and the Government of Canada on future directions in the social sciences and humanities.

### **Fundamental Principles:**

*Academic Excellence:* SSHRC supports research that meets the highest academic standards through its rigorous and competitive peer review system.

*Impartiality:* SSHRC operates at arm's length from government to ensure the independence of its grants decision-making process.

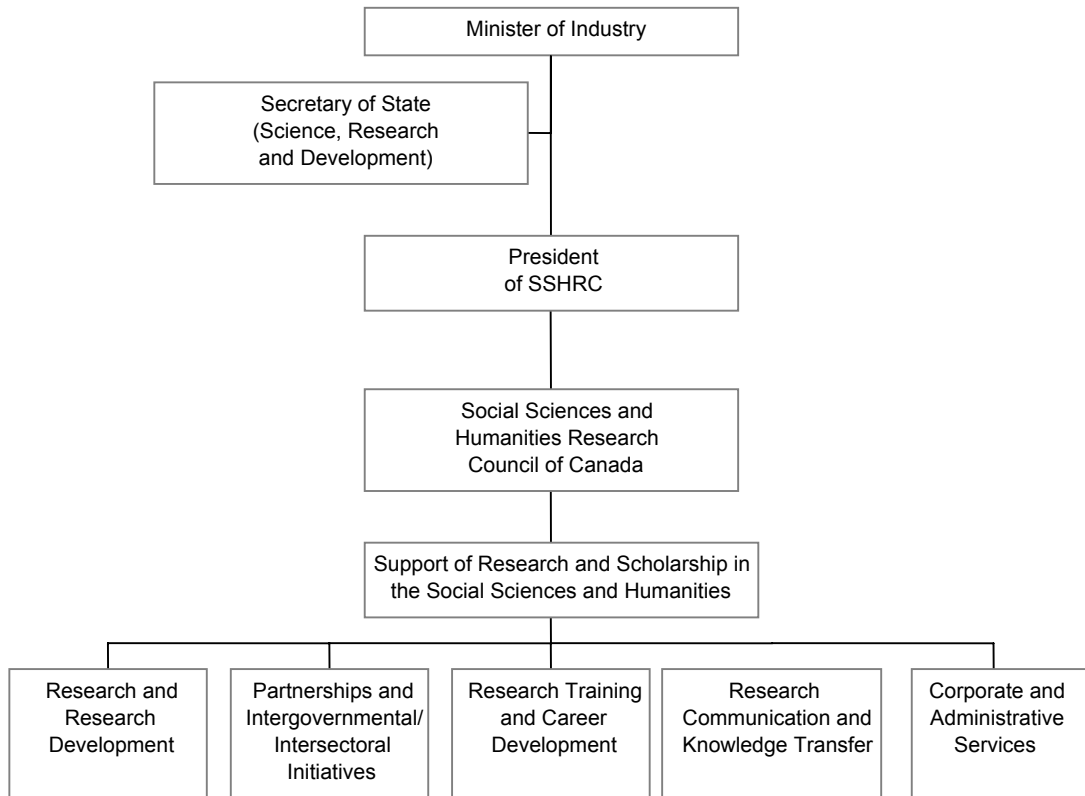
*Public Access:* SSHRC requires the results of all funded research to be accessible to Canadians.

*Accountability:* SSHRC reports openly on the processes and results of its investments.

*Innovation:* SSHRC adapts its activities to meet the challenges facing Canadians and the Canadian research community.

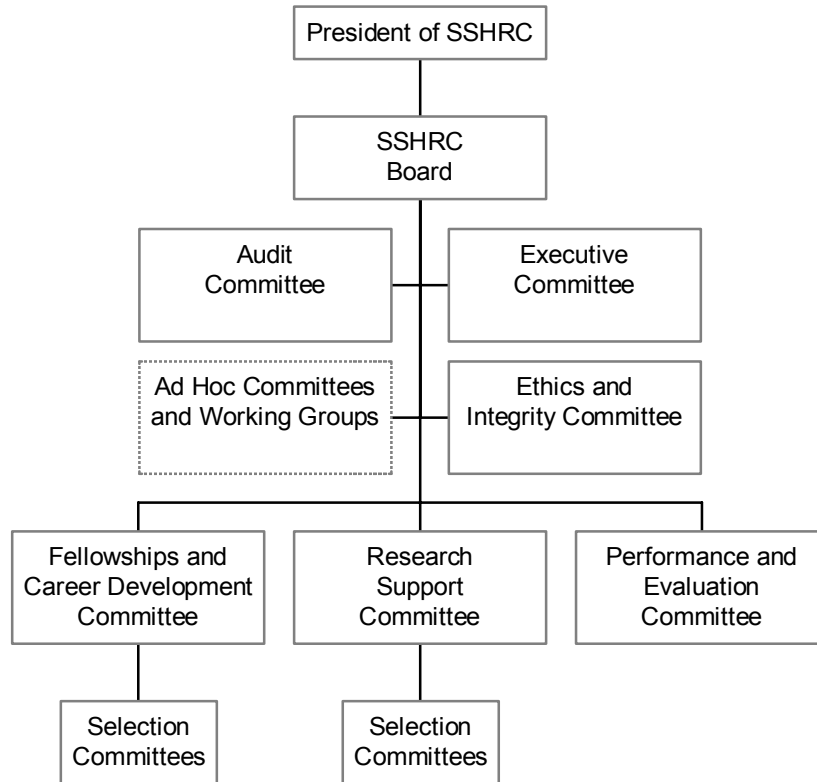
## 2.2 Governance

Figure 1: SSHRC–Governance Structure



SSHRC reports to Parliament through the Ministry of Industry. It is governed by a 22-member Board which the Governor-in-Council appoints to represent the interests of the academic, public and private sectors in all regions of Canada (Figure 1). The SSHRC Board determines program priorities, budget allocations, and initiatives, and monitors their proper implementation by staff. A number of consultative committees assist the Board in establishing policy directions, funding mechanisms and accountability structures (Figure 2).

Figure 2: SSHRC–Committee Structure



## 2.3 Objectives

The general objectives of SSHRC are to provide:

- a first-class research capacity in the social sciences and humanities;
- a substantial pool of knowledge that furthers our understanding of and enhances our ability to deal with a great variety of current and future social, economic, intellectual and cultural issues;
- a new generation of well-trained researchers and highly-skilled professionals who can meet the education and research needs in the social sciences and humanities of the Canadian public and the private sector in general, and of Canadian universities in particular;
- the communication of research results and transfer of knowledge between the academic world, the public sector, the private sector, and the Canadian public; and
- policy leadership and advice to the Government for the future development of social sciences and humanities research capacity.

## **2.4 Challenges, Risks and Rationale for the Choices Made**

SSHRC faces the ongoing challenge of finding balanced ways to address the changing research and training needs of its diverse clientele while also meeting the evolving needs of Canadian society. The key environmental factors that influence SSHRC's planning are:

- the rising demand for social sciences and humanities knowledge and expertise from diverse sectors of society;
- the renewal of full-time faculty; and
- the rapid growth in research activity, the rising cost of research, and the increasing demand for research funding.

### **Burgeoning Need for Social Sciences and Humanities Research, Knowledge and Expertise**

Canada is confronted with a host of issues which increasingly call for research into diverse aspects of society, human behaviour and human activity, including the need to understand other cultures and our interaction with them. Key challenges include:

- world stability, peace and security;
- the impact of new technologies and globalization on society and the concomitant need to develop tools to enhance the capability of Canadians to benefit from the new economy;
- the ethical and moral implications of rapidly evolving new technologies (for example, genomics and nanotechnologies);
- the complex and difficult relationships between the economy, citizens and the environment (for example, resource management and global warming), which require imaginative, often interdisciplinary, solutions; and
- regional development and the sustainability of communities.

For many years, SSHRC has made it a priority to structure programs of research support in the social sciences and humanities in such a manner as to address issues of real concern to society. A recent example is the *Initiative on the New Economy*, which is making a vital contribution to building the knowledge base and decision-making capability in the areas of the nature of the new economy, management and entrepreneurship, education, and lifelong learning.

In light of current world events and the grave challenge to world stability they represent, social sciences and humanities research has a crucial role to play in helping us deepen our understanding of other cultures and languages, of history and religion as well as of economics and politics.

SSHRC has provided leadership in mobilizing available knowledge and identifying and addressing knowledge gaps in critical areas. As a result, government departments and community organizations increasingly solicit the Council to help generate knowledge to understand and effectively confront important issues.

SSHRC has initiated, will continue to maintain, and intends to further develop partnerships with government departments and agencies, the private sector and the voluntary sector to satisfy the burgeoning demand for research and knowledge-building in key areas. Examples of partners in SSHRC's *Joint Initiatives* programs are given in the adjacent text box.

### Partners in Joint Initiatives:

Statistics Canada  
Health Canada  
Heart and Stroke Foundation  
Natural Sciences and Engineering  
Research Council  
Privy Council Office  
Canadian Heritage  
Human Resources Development  
Canada  
Status of Women Canada  
Law Commission of Canada  
Canadian Forestry Service  
Fisheries and Oceans  
Citizenship and Immigration  
National Research Council  
Policy Research Secretariat  
National Literacy Secretariat  
Canadian Institutes of Health Research  
International Development Research  
Centre  
Canadian Cancer Society  
National Cancer Institute of Canada  
Kahanoff Foundation  
Canada Mortgage and Housing  
Corporation

### Renewal of Full-Time University Faculty

Over the next ten years, more than 20,000 of Canada's 33,000 full-time university faculty are expected to either retire or leave their positions. At the same time, student enrolment is projected to increase by more than 20 per cent and in some provinces, like British Columbia or Ontario, by as much as 40 per cent. Retiring faculty and rising enrolment will require SSHRC to play a more prominent role in funding research training for a new generation of scholars to help meet the staggering demand, in this first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, for about 16,000 new faculty in the social sciences and humanities (out of a total of about 30,000).

### The Explosion of Research Activity, the Rising Costs of Research and the Growing Demand for Research Funds

In the past five years, research activity in the social sciences and humanities has grown substantially in fields as diverse as labour economics, population health, election dynamics, the (invented-in-Canada) Geographical Information System (GIS), and applied linguistics (particularly as it relates to second language learning and how the brain processes language).

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## Report on Plans and Priorities

At the same time, research costs have increased considerably. Because social sciences and humanities research today is more problem- than discipline-driven, it is frequently conducted by large, multidisciplinary, nation-wide or international teams assembled through collaborations between numerous institutions (public, private, non-profit) and/or government departments/agencies. Stimulated by competitive grants and driven by the explicit objective of creating new knowledge, such multidisciplinary teams are developing an “entrepreneurial” culture which makes them very attractive for practical and innovative minds. This in turn, is generating growth of this type of research.

To facilitate collaboration on complex issues, such large-scale, multidisciplinary, problem-based research requires improved co-ordination, more travel, and better communication as well as state-of-the-art computer technology (for example, larger and more powerful databases for organizing and analyzing data). Finally, for social sciences and humanities researchers the Internet has become an indispensable research and communication tool, but one that also demands ongoing investment in new technologies. It is no surprise, then, that the steady growth and increased sophistication of research activity and the escalation of research costs has led to a rising demand for research funding.

### 2.5 Priorities

SSHRC’s aim, for research in the social sciences and humanities, is to support and develop knowledge, innovation, cultural and socio-economic relevance by:

- maintaining and enhancing excellence in research and research training so that we continually renew the pool of knowledge and expertise to address emerging challenges;
- addressing strategic knowledge gaps in key areas of concern to society;
- promoting partnerships with users of research in government, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations;
- positioning itself more effectively as a knowledge broker for users of research results and Canadians; and
- maximizing its contribution to the Government’s policy research and innovation agenda.

With a budget increase of \$9.5 million for the coming fiscal year, SSHRC will be able to pursue its existing and planned activities.

#### Monitoring of Priorities

SSHRC’s governing Board establishes and monitors corporate and program priorities and reviews them periodically to ensure that they are on track. Several standing committees assist the Board in this task. This year, Council established a new standing committee on performance and evaluation in order to further enhance the Board’s ability to monitor performance and results.



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## **Report on Plans and Priorities**

SSHRC has also developed a corporate accountability framework that is consistent with its mission, objectives and fundamental operating principles. In order to answer questions about the results and impact of Council-funded research, SSHRC has also developed an evaluation approach and plan, together with new measurement and evaluation tools and key indicators. These tools build on ongoing work to further develop and refine our overall measurement and monitoring capacity.

## 2.6 Planned Spending

**Table 1: Planned Spending**

(\$ millions)	Forecast Spending 2001-2002*	<b>Planned Spending 2002-2003</b>	Planned Spending 2003-2004	Planned Spending 2004-2005
Budgetary Main Estimates (gross)	160.8	<b>196.3</b>	211.0	217.9
Non-Budgetary Main Estimates (gross)	-	-	-	-
Less: Respendable Revenue	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Main Estimates</b>	160.8	<b>196.3</b>	211.0	217.9
Adjustments **	212.5	<b>10.2</b>	9.5	9.5
<b>Net Planned Spending</b>	373.3	<b>206.5</b>	220.5	227.4
Less: Non-Respendable Revenue	0.4	<b>0.4</b>	0.4	0.4
Plus: Cost of Services Received Without Charge	1.9	<b>1.9</b>	1.9	1.9
<b>Net Cost of Program</b>	374.8	<b>208.0</b>	222.0	228.9
<b>Full-Time Equivalents</b>	150.0	<b>150.0</b>	150.0	150.0

\* Reflects the best forecast of total net planned spending to the end of the fiscal year.

\*\* Adjustments are to accommodate approvals obtained since the Main Estimates and include Budget Initiatives, Supplementary Estimates, etc.

Note: Planned spending includes SSHRC's portion of the NCE program, the Canada Research Chairs Program, and the Initiative on the New Economy (for more information on these programs, see pages 16 and 17 below).

## **SECTION III: STRATEGIC OUTCOMES—PLANS AND PRIORITIES**

### **3.1 Introduction**

The strategic outcomes of SSHRC's investments are to provide Canadians with significant advances in knowledge and expertise in the social sciences and humanities and to offer strong leadership to help shape the development of a first-class research capacity and science policy.

**Table 2: Strategic Outcomes, Benefits for Canadians, Related Activities and Resources**

Strategic Outcome	Benefits for Canadians	Related Activities	Planned Resources 2002-2003*
<p>The strategic outcomes of SSHRC's investments are to provide Canadians with significant advances in knowledge and expertise in the social sciences and humanities and to offer strong leadership to help shape the development of a first-class research capacity and science policy.</p>	<p>Training of the next generation of researchers and highly skilled professionals to meet the needs of Canadian universities and the public and private sector</p>	<p>Support doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows at the current level with the possibility of increasing the amount of postdoctoral fellowship awards</p>	<p>\$35 M</p>
	<p>Knowledge that contributes to understanding and solving social, cultural, intellectual and economic problems</p> <p>Evidence-based research results on key issues of national importance</p>	<p>Continue to support several joint initiatives with partners from the public, private and non-governmental sectors</p> <p>Continue to support <i>Community-University Research Alliances (CURA)</i></p> <p>Support research on the new economy and in related key areas—education, management, and lifelong learning</p> <p>Continue to support the social sciences and humanities component of ongoing <i>Networks of Centres of Excellence</i>, and contribute to the funding of several new networks</p>	<p>\$55.7 M</p>
	<p>Broad-ranging research activities to advance knowledge, fuel innovation and remobilize</p>	<p>Support research through <i>Standard Research Grants (SRG)</i> and through <i>Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (MCRI)</i></p>	<p>\$58 M</p>
	<p>Research promotion</p>	<p>Support of communication and transfer of knowledge activities</p>	<p>\$5.5 M</p>

\* To be approved by SSHRC's Governing Board in March 2002.

## 3.2 Providing Canadians with Significant Advances in Knowledge

### Addressing Gaps in Strategic Knowledge

SSHRC will continue its strategy to fund research in areas of need and to expand its partnerships with stakeholder organizations to co-develop and co-fund research on such issues. More specifically, the Council will:

- work towards mobilizing and generating knowledge on peace, human security, terrorism and intercultural relations;
- continue effective implementation of the *Initiative on the New Economy* (INE; see text box below);
- allocate funds for new joint initiatives to meet Canada's need for targeted, policy-relevant research and identify new theme areas for research, including extended support for the *Immigration and the Metropolis Centres of Excellence* project;
- support, through the MCRI program, major national and international interdisciplinary research projects involving diverse partners;
- maintain national partnerships and networks of world-class researchers through the *Networks of Centres of Excellence* (NCE), jointly managed by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), and SSHRC; and
- transform the temporarily suspended *Community-University Research Alliances* (CURA) program from a pilot project (its current status) into a permanent program (funds permitting).

### The Initiative on the New Economy (INE)

On June 26, 2001, the Minister of Industry announced the \$100 million *Initiative on the New Economy* (INE). SSHRC designed and administers the program. The overall goal of the INE is to help Canada and Canadians adapt successfully to and reap the benefits of the new economy. More specifically, the *Initiative on the New Economy* seeks to

- foster excellent research, with particular emphasis on innovative and multidisciplinary approaches, to deepen our understanding of the new economy;
- extend and develop research partnerships among the public, private and not-for-profit sectors;
- inform decision-making in the public and private sector.

The INE builds knowledge and expertise and develops tools in four key areas:

- *General Issues Concerning the New Economy*—understanding the economic, social and technological dimensions of the new economy;
- *Management and Entrepreneurship*—understanding and meeting the requirements for private sector leadership and management in the new economy;
- *Education*—ensuring the effectiveness of formal education in meeting the needs of the new economy (including new ways of supporting educational practice, decision-making, and appropriate implementation of transformative technologies); and
- *Lifelong Learning*—determining the true needs, most effective incentives, and best models for lifelong learning in the new economy.

In the fall of 2001, the INE established an Advisory Committee and a Screening Committee. The new INE Secretariat has just finished awarding its first *Outreach Grants* and *Development Grants*. The Secretariat is currently monitoring the processing of applications for *Research Grants*, *Research Alliances Grants*, and *Collaborative Research Initiatives*. In addition, several organizations have approached the INE Secretariat with a view to developing *Joint Initiatives*.

Interest in the INE programs is very strong: 64 applications were received for first competitions in the *Collaborative Research Initiatives* program, 41 in the *Research Alliances* program, and 169 in the *Research Grants* program.

### Supporting and Strengthening Research Capacity

SSHRC will continue to sustain the critical mass of research expertise and momentum, on which innovation depends, by:

- supporting researchers in all social sciences and humanities disciplines through its basic research programs while attempting to maintain current success rates. In the long term, SSHRC aims to support 50 per cent of new applicants;
- strengthening research capacity in the social sciences and humanities, especially by attracting and retaining the best researchers in Canada through the *Canada Research Chairs Program* (see below); and
- funding special initiatives related to the structuring, transfer and integration of knowledge, through the Council's *Presidential Fund for Innovation and Development* and the *Research Development Initiatives*.

### The Canada Research Chairs Program

In its millennium budget, the Government of Canada provided \$900 million for the establishment of 2,000 Canada Research Chairs in universities across the country by 2005. In each of the next five years, about 400 new Chairs, recruited from Canada and abroad, will be created in the natural sciences, engineering, health sciences, and in the social sciences and humanities. SSHRC administers Canada Research Chairs funds and hosts its Secretariat.

The key objective of the Canada Research Chairs program is to enable Canadian universities, together with their affiliated institutes and hospitals, to achieve the highest levels of excellence and to become world-class research centres in the global, knowledge-based economy.

Most Canadian universities participated in the first four rounds of evaluation of chair nominations, which ended in June 2001, and made a total of 521 nominations. Of these, 463 were approved for funding and, of these, 448 chairs have been created so far.

Evaluation and monitoring strategies are being implemented in accordance with respective Treasury Board requirements. An Evaluation Steering Committee has been created, and a comprehensive evaluation framework has been commissioned and approved. The review of the program structure and operations scheduled for the third year starts in February, 2002, and will be completed by June 2002. Any resulting program modifications will be implemented by September 2002. An overall program evaluation will be conducted in 2004-2005.

### 3.3 Renewing Expertise Through Advanced Training

To supply the labour market with sufficient numbers of well-qualified social scientists and humanists, SSHRC will:

- continue to devote at least 25 per cent of its grants and scholarships budget to doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships; and
- continue to promote the training of students within the research and strategic grants programs so that students can acquire hands-on research training and marketable skills in the context of actual research projects. In particular, the Council will continue to enhance interdisciplinary training opportunities and to support innovative, interactive training through the *Strategic Themes* programs, the *Major Collaborative Research Initiatives* (MCRI), *Community-University Research Alliances* (CURA) and the *Initiative on the New Economy* (INE).

Over the long term and contingent on sufficient funds, SSHRC will explore the possibility of:

- establishing a master's scholarship program to support about 10 per cent of the best full-time Canadian graduate students in the social sciences and humanities; and
- increasing the value and number of doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships to help Canadian graduate schools attract the best students.

### **3.4 Research Promotion**

SSHRC is committed to effective communication, dissemination and transfer of knowledge, for these are as essential to the effective application of research results as the research itself. To this end, SSHRC will:

- continue to support research dissemination and the transfer of knowledge through its communications programs for conferences, congresses and journals;
- continue to build partnership programs and research alliances to foster improved transfer of knowledge between the researchers it funds and users in government, the research community and the private sector;
- seek, through SSHRC's new Knowledge Products and Mobilization Division, new ways to act as knowledge broker between producers and consumers of social sciences and humanities research;
- focus, through the reconfigured Public Affairs Division, on reaching a wider audience by developing a "market culture" throughout SSHRC to enable it to better explain to Canadians its significant contributions to our research/academic communities and to Canadian society by putting greater emphasis on effective media relations, and by developing new marketing-oriented communications products; and
- continue to develop strategies to further improve its links with parliamentary audiences and the federal policy sector.

### **3.5 Knowledge Management**

#### **New Strategy**

SSHRC will develop and initiate an explicit knowledge management strategy that will, systematically and on an ongoing basis, diffuse social sciences and humanities knowledge to an appropriately broad range of potential users. SSHRC will also develop—on the basis of systematic collection and analysis of data—in-depth written materials that present the broader significance of new knowledge generated by social sciences and humanities research.

#### **National Consultation on Research Data Archiving, Management and Access Systems**

The *National Data Archive Consultation Working Group*—a joint initiative of SSHRC and the National Archives of Canada (NAC)—is finalizing its recommendations for the development of a national strategy for the management of, and improved access to, research data. The Working Group will submit its final report to the SSHRC Board of Directors and the National Archivist in early spring 2002. This report will contain a full evaluation of the need for a national research data archiving system and recommendations on how to construct such a system to best meet the needs of the Canadian research community.



### Sharing of and Access to Research Data Produced through Public Funding

The Committee for Science and Technology Policy of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has commissioned an international group of researchers and science policy specialists to examine the state of access to and sharing of research data produced through public funding in various OECD-member countries. Industry Canada has designated SSHRC to send a representative to join the Working Group and provide input on Canadian policies and practices. The Working Group will submit to the OECD a full report on policies and practices, along with recommendations for improvements, by October 2002.

## 3.6 Policy Leadership

### Human Security Agenda

In the aftermath of September 11<sup>th</sup>, Canadians have added human security and international terrorism to their list of daily worries. While previous conflicts have been resolved by mastering advances in the “hard” sciences, the war on terrorism brings to light a situation to which technology does not have all the answers, for this war is one of cultural, political and religious issues and perceptions.

The social sciences and humanities community was mobilized to help Canadians understand these traumatic moments. In fact, the wealth of knowledge generated by the Government of Canada’s support for humanities and social sciences research has played a crucial role in helping us all comprehend the root causes and the possible impacts of this international struggle.

SSHRC is examining several ways of mobilizing available knowledge about the current crisis so that policy makers and the general public may put the benefits of this research to work. In addition, SSHRC has conducted, with the assistance of Canadian experts in these fields, an overview of research questions that will strengthen our ability to understand and address human security issues. To fill these knowledge gaps, SSHRC is developing a longer-term, broadly-defined action plan for research that will enable us to better understand human security issues and the reasons and motivations for international terrorism, as well as to find means of mitigating it.

### Consultation on New Areas for Targeted Research

To identify new areas of priority and strategic research, SSHRC recently completed a major consultation with organizations and individuals representative of its diverse client base—researchers, universities, governments and users of research in the public, private and community sectors. The results of this consultation were presented to and accepted by the SSHRC Board in the summer of 2001. During 2002-2003, Council will use the outcomes of this consultation to inform its decision-making on strategic priority areas for the next few years.

### **Electronic Scholarly Journals**

Over the coming year, SSHRC will explore the future development of electronic scholarly journals in Canada. In collaboration with the Canadian National Site Licensing (CNSL) project, the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) and the Canadian Association of Learned Journals (CALJ), SSHRC will examine how best to develop an efficient and effective system for the electronic publication of research results.

### 3.7 Service Improvements

SSHRC is committed to improving its client satisfaction as outlined in the *Service Improvement Initiative* launched by the Government of Canada in 2000. The Council developed its own service improvement strategy in the past year. After reviewing its current practices, SSHRC retained a consulting firm to analyze the feedback that the Council receives on an ongoing basis. Guided by the nine service improvement initiative activities developed by Treasury Board, the consultants will present a service improvement report at the end of March 2002. This will provide an overview of the areas in which we already possess enough information to develop service improvement measures and will identify other areas that require further analysis. Table 3 outlines the planned results of SSHRC's service improvement plans and the key related activities.

In 2002, SSHRC, NSERC, and CIHR expect to put into operation the first phase of a *Memorandum of Understanding on Roles and Responsibilities*—a single policy document that will harmonize, clarify and make more consistent a broad spectrum of policies, regulations and practices pertaining to grants and awards (including procedures to be followed in cases of non-compliance). This initiative is being carried out under the auspices of a Working Group made up of representatives of the three granting agencies and their client communities. The Working Group's aim is to:

- articulate those broad principles for administering funds which underlie the partnerships between the three agencies, researchers and recipient institutions;
- clarify the roles and responsibilities of the partners in the administration of council funds through written policies and procedures; and
- eliminate inconsistencies and redundancies in the three agencies' policies, regulations and practices.

The second phase of this initiative will continue during 2002. This major tri-council collaboration will significantly improve service delivery for clients.

Canada's three federal research funding agencies are also collaborating in another major area—ethics in relation to research involving human subjects. On November 9, 2001, the three agencies launched the Panel and Secretariat on Research Ethics. Supported by the Secretariat, the Panel will manage the development, interpretation, promotion and implementation of the 1998 *Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethics for Research Involving Humans*. The objectives of this five-year, \$5.5 million initiative, the results of which will be reported in 2006, are to:

- contribute, in general, to better governance of research ethics policies and practices in Canada;
- promote, in particular, high ethical standards in Canadian research involving humans to ensure the protection of human participants; and
- enhance public trust in Canadian research ethics policies.

**Table 3: SSHRC Service Improvement Plans**

Planned Results	Key Related Activities
Improved accountability	<p>Implementation of various measures to improve accountability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an increased evaluation capacity, with a continuing focus on results;</li> <li>• a new Web-based Final Research Report form, for all researchers to complete, that focuses on outcomes to enhance performance reporting, program evaluation, and promotion of SSHRC-funded research results;</li> <li>• ongoing implementation and refinement of SSHRC's Results-Based Management and Accountability Framework;</li> <li>• continued development of performance indicators in the social sciences and humanities.</li> </ul>
Increased public awareness of the humanities and social sciences research sector	<p>Carrying out of a host of measures designed to increase public awareness of SSHRC by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting active use of the mass media to draw public attention to SSHRC-supported experts and the results of their research;</li> <li>• maintaining and enlarging SPARK (Students Promoting Awareness of Research Knowledge) program, in which students write articles, mainly for their local communities, based on SSHRC-supported research;</li> <li>• supporting the <i>Breakfast on the Hill Seminar Series</i>, <i>Research Profiles</i> distributed to parliamentarians, media and university community, and the <i>Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities</i> (the largest annual congress in Canada)—all organized by the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada (HSSFC);</li> <li>• redesigning SSHRC promotional materials and the Council's Web site to emphasize research results and their relevance to Canadians;</li> <li>• enhancing the profile of the Parliamentary Internship Program, in which students assist MPs and write research papers about Parliament;</li> <li>• promoting SSHRC-supported academic conferences and congresses.</li> </ul>
A significant, quantifiable improvement in client satisfaction	<p>Maintenance and enhancement of our Service Improvement Plan by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• establishing our current client satisfaction baseline measures;</li> <li>• developing plans to achieve, by 2005, a 10 per cent improvement in our client satisfaction baseline measures.</li> </ul>
Improved electronic services to afford Canadians better access to SSHRC information, programs and services and to streamline work within the Council.	<p>Improvement of electronic service delivery in relation to the Government On-Line Initiative, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a search engine query to allow access to SSHRC competition results;</li> <li>• an electronic Letter of Intent Pilot Project to reduce the burden on applicants and peer review committees;</li> <li>• an upgrade of the current on-line CV, fellowships and grant application forms—in collaboration, where possible, with other granting Councils; and</li> <li>• a revised Web site, to improve access to SSHRC applications, award information and research results.</li> </ul> <p>Implementation, over the next year, of the Common Look and Feel for the Internet standards set out by Treasury Board.</p>

## SECTION IV: SSHRC JOINT INITIATIVES

### 4.1 Joint Initiatives

Since 1989, SSHRC's *Joint Initiatives* program has provided a framework for Council to enter into partnerships and to co-fund programs with organizations in the public, private and non-governmental sectors. To date, Council has co-created 34 *Joint Initiatives*, which have generated some \$40 million in additional funding for social sciences and humanities research.

**Table 4: On-Going Joint Initiatives at SSHRC**

Joint Initiative/ Program	Benefits to Canadians	Partner(s)	Funds Allocated by Partner(s)	Strategic Outcomes
<b>Canada in the World Grants</b>	To enable Canadian researchers to collaborate with colleagues in developing countries to work on common problems	International Development Research Centre (IDRC)	\$200,000 over 3 years	Insights into, and solutions to, problems shared by Canada and developing countries; renewal of Canadian expertise on development issues
<b>Canadian Forest Service (CFS) Graduate Supplements</b>	To promote Canadian doctoral research in forestry in collaboration with CFS regional centres or national institutions	Canadian Forest Service (CFS)	\$75,000 over 3 years	New research capacity in forestry from social sciences and humanities perspectives
<b>Forest Research Partnerships Program</b>	To increase contacts between CFS research scientists and Canadian universities	CFS, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC)	Up to \$1.3 M over 3 years	Better informed policy decisions, regulations and practices in forestry management and resource sustainability
<b>Canadian Tobacco Control Research Initiative</b>	To support targeted research on tobacco control and develop a closer relationship between researchers and program/policy stakeholders	National Cancer Institute, Canadian Cancer Society, Health Canada, Heart and Stroke Foundation	More than 2.5 M over 5 years	More research that will better inform tobacco control programs and policies
<b>Chairs in the Management of Technological Change</b>	To increase technological entrepreneurship and develop a closer relationship between researchers and program/policy stakeholders  To facilitate integration of new knowledge and technology into the workplace and other areas of society and research	NSERC, private sector	\$14.8 M over 10 years	New research capacity and knowledge benefits in the area of management of technological change

**Table 4: On-Going Joint Initiatives at SSHRC (cont'd)**

Joint Initiative/ Program	Benefits to Canadians	Partner(s)	Funds Allocated by Partner(s)	Strategic Outcomes
<b>Canadian Initiative on Social Statistics (CISS): Data Training Schools</b>	<p>To increase awareness and use of currently available Statistics Canada data and surveys</p> <p>To build statistical expertise that focuses on Canadian issues and Canadian data</p> <p>To aid in the identification of those policy issues which can be illuminated through quantitative research</p>	Statistics Canada	\$141,630 over 2 years	Increased capacity and expertise in quantitative social research that will strengthen evidence-based decision-making
<b>Federalism and Federations</b>	To further our understanding of federalism and of the relationship between federalism and public policy through basic research, training and dissemination of research	Intergovernmental Affairs, Privy Council Office (PCO)	\$1.2 M over 4 years	Increased research capacity and knowledge and a renewal of university faculty in this area
<b>Immigration and the Metropolis Centres of Excellence</b>	To develop multidisciplinary, community-based research for the study of immigration and integration issues in large cities	Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Health Canada, Canadian Heritage, Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC), Status of Women, Solicitor General, Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), Statistics Canada	\$5 M over 5 years	Increased research capacity and knowledge that will aid in formulating public policy and in improving services related to immigration and integration
<b>The Non-Profit Sector in Canada</b>	To increase our understanding of the role of non-profit organizations in society and to contribute to informing and developing public policy on related issues	Kahanoff Foundation	\$750,000 over 3 years	A developing body of knowledge about the sector at large

**Table 4: On-Going Joint Initiatives at SSHRC (cont'd)**

Joint Initiative/ Program	Benefits to Canadians	Partner(s)	Funds Allocated by Partner(s)	Strategic Outcomes
<b>Ocean Management National Research Network Initiative</b>	<p>To create a national network of cross-disciplinary and multi-sectoral research nodes dedicated to the study of the ocean</p> <p>To accelerate, through research, the application of critical thinking and best practices to enhance sustainable ocean management</p>	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Up to \$500,000 over 3 years	An expert core of ocean management researchers, a broad comparative context for developing the National Oceans Management Strategy, and the transfer of research results to, and their utilization by, governments, communities and other stakeholders
<b>Relationships in Transition</b>	To improve understanding of political and other forces that drive transitions in four research areas: economic, personal, social and governance relationships	Law Commission of Canada (LCC)	\$400,000 over 4 years	Better knowledge, more research and the creation of multidisciplinary research partnerships
<b>Virtual Scholar in Residence</b>	To fund, annually, individual researchers to work within one of the LCC's four research theme areas	Law Commission of Canada	\$245,000 over 4 years	Major reports on legal and law reform issues
<b>Valuing Literacy in Canada</b>	To stimulate research into key areas in the field of adult literacy	National Literacy Secretariat of HRDC	\$1.25 M over 5 years	Increased research capacity and training in this area



## SECTION V: SSHRC FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**Table 5: Summary of Transfer Payments**

(\$ millions)	Forecast Spending 2001-2002*	<b>Planned Spending 2002-2003</b>	Planned Spending 2003-2004	Planned Spending 2004-2005
<b>Grants</b>				
Support for research and scholarship	157.1	<b>188.9</b>	207.5	214.5
<b>Total Grants</b>	157.1	<b>188.9</b>	207.5	214.5
<b>Contributions</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Other Transfer Payments</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Grants, Contributions and Other Transfer Payments</b>	157.1	<b>188.9</b>	207.5	214.5

Note: Planned spending 2003-2004 does not include SSHRC's portion of the NCE program.

**Table 6: Source of Non-Respendable Revenue**

<b>Non-Respendable Revenue (\$ millions)</b>	Forecast Revenue 2001-2002*	<b>Planned Revenue 2002-2003</b>	Planned Revenue 2003-2004	Planned Revenue 2004-2005
<b>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council</b>				
Support for research and scholarship	0.4	<b>0.4</b>	0.4	0.4
<b>Total of Non-Respendable Revenue</b>	0.4	<b>0.4</b>	0.4	0.4

\* Reflects best forecast of total anticipated revenue until the end of the fiscal year.

**Table 7: Net Cost of Program for 2002-2003**

(\$ millions)	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Program	Total
<b>Planned Spending (Budgetary and Non-Budgetary Main Estimates plus Adjustments)</b>	205.8	<b>205.8</b>
Plus: Services Received Without Charge		
• Accommodation provided by Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC)	1.3	<b>1.3</b>
• Contributions covering employer's share of employees' insurance premiums and expenditures paid by Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS; \$8.635 million x 7.5%)	0.6	<b>0.6</b>
• Workman's compensation coverage provided by Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC)	-	-
• Salary and associated expenditures of legal services provided by Justice Canada	-	-
	1.9	<b>1.9</b>
Less: Non-Respendable Revenue	0.4	<b>0.4</b>
	0.4	<b>0.4</b>
<b>2002-2003 Net Cost of Program</b>	207.3	<b>207.3</b>

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