



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

**2001-2002  
Estimates**

Part III – Report on Plans and Priorities

**Canada**

## 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 to be tabled on or before 31 March 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

2001-2002  
Estimates

## Report on Plans and Priorities

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Brian Tobin  
Minister of Industry

Canada

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## Section I: 1.1 Minister's Portfolio Message

Our vision of Canada is a country that is strong and dynamic, a leader in the global knowledge-based economy, and a country where all Canadians have the opportunity to benefit from economic and social prosperity.

That is why the government is investing in knowledge and innovation—fundamental contributors to our quality of life. Through strategic investments in skills development, knowledge creation and new technologies the government is committed to expanding Canada's knowledge base, innovation and research capacity, and accelerating Canada's leadership in the new economy.

The government's strategy of investing in knowledge and innovation is already helping to create new businesses, products, processes and jobs. The fifteen organizations within the Industry Portfolio contribute to economic growth, which leads to a higher quality of life and social well-being for all Canadians.

With over forty percent of the federal government's science and technology funding and many of the key micro-economic levers at its disposal, the Industry Portfolio is instrumental in promoting innovation through science and technology; helping small- and medium-sized enterprises grow; encouraging trade and investment; and promoting economic growth in Canadian communities.

I am pleased to present the Report on Plans and Priorities for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) which describes for Canadians the expected achievements 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. More specifically, through its grants and fellowships programs, SSHRC will support research that

### The Industry Portfolio is ...

Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency  
Business Development Bank of Canada\*  
Canadian Space Agency  
Competition Tribunal  
Copyright Board Canada  
Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions  
Canadian Tourism Commission\*  
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 Reports on Plans and Priorities*

helps us understand the evolving nature of the society we live in and addresses emerging cultural, social and economic challenges; it will train highly qualified personnel for research careers in universities and in public and private sector organizations; it will build research partnerships which will address strategic knowledge gaps to assist evidence-based decision-making; and it will promote more effective mechanisms for knowledge sharing with users and the broader public.

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

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The Honourable Brian Tobin

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

These are times of rapid social, economic and technological change. How these changes will impact on our country and our citizens are subjects that the government has been tackling head-on with the collaborative efforts of our partners in academia, the private sector, voluntary groups and other government agencies and organisations

The fabric of our lives is increasingly woven by advances in science and technology. Our health care, our jobs, our safety, and our culture reflect the profound influences of science and technology. Research goes hand-in-hand with a community's ability to ensure its continued quality of life, economic growth, and sustainable development.

Our standard of living is closely tied to our success in fostering knowledge creation, adaptability and innovation. Canadians enjoy the fruits of a strong and growing economy. But we cannot simply assume that this prosperity will continue forever. Governments, in tandem with the research partners, need to take a broad approach that encompasses a multi-disciplinary perspective that includes the natural sciences and engineering, the health sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities. Decisions taken by governments—and well-founded by sound advice from credible sources—will affect the lives of individual Canadians, the interaction of our communities and the future of our firms at both the national and international levels.

We must lead the world in selected research and technology sectors and we must create and retain world-class technology entrepreneurs—people with the know-how and the drive to market our research discoveries. We must build on Canada's image as a technologically advanced, entrepreneurial, creative and innovative nation. We must strengthen our science and technology presence in global markets abroad.

The government's vision of the future is one of a society whose economy is competitive, whose population is healthy, whose children are prepared, and which invests in knowledge and skills.

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The Honourable Gilbert Normand



## 1.3 Management Representation Statement

### REPORT ON PLANS AND PRIORITIES 2001-2002

I submit, for tabling in Parliament, the 2001-2002 Report on Plans and Priorities (RPP) for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).

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To the best of my knowledge, the information:

- accurately portrays the Council's mandate, priorities, strategies and planned results;
- is consistent with the disclosure principles contained in the *Guidelines for Preparing a 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 this RPP.

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

---

Marc Renaud, President

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Date

## Section II: SSHRC Overview

### 2.1 WHAT'S NEW

#### A Special Allocation of \$100 million for a Targeted Research Initiative on the New Economy

SSHRC has received a mandate to administer a research initiative targeting the new economy. The Initiative on the New Economy (INE) will promote and support research that will deepen our understanding both of the new economy and of the management, education and lifelong learning strategies that will ensure that Canadians are able to fully participate in and benefit from it.

SSHRC will launch the new program in April 2001 following consultation with the research and research user communities. Research supported under this new initiative will enhance our knowledge of the evolving nature of the new economy, the opportunities it offers and the capabilities it requires. It will promote the development of new interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary partnerships. It will also greatly increase the ability of both public and private sector decision-making to devise new policies and practices that will enhance Canadians' success in the new economy.

A special allocation of \$100 million over five years will support the Initiative, which is to start in 2001.

#### SSHRC Hosts the Canada Research Chairs Secretariat

The Government of Canada has entrusted SSHRC to administer the \$900 million it has committed to support the establishment of 2,000 research chairs in Canadian universities by the year 2004-05. The Canada Research Chairs Program (CRCP) is governed by the three federal granting councils—the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and SSHRC, the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and Industry Canada. It will enable Canadian universities to attract and retain the best researchers and achieve excellence in health, natural sciences, technology, social sciences and humanities.

Dr. Marc Renaud, President of SSHRC, was appointed as the first Chair of the Program's Steering Committee which will oversee the management of the program and provide policy guidance on its general direction.

The first competition under the CRCP, held in Fall 2000, the results of which were announced by the Prime Minister, has led to the creation of 195 research chairs across the country in areas such as genetics, design and manufacturing, artificial intelligence, population health, education and urban studies. (also see pages 17 and 18)

### A New Results-Based Accountability Framework

In line with the government expectations and policies set out in the Treasury Board report, *Managing for Results 1999*, SSHRC has developed a new corporate accountability framework that is focused on results and consistent with its mission, objectives and fundamental operating principles. While SSHRC already collects valuable data on its activities and outputs, the new accountability framework and associated measurement tools will greatly increase SSHRC's knowledge of the results of the research it supports. In addition to this new framework, SSHRC has adopted a new plan for evaluating its policies and programs, one which will further enhance their significance, efficiency and effectiveness.

## 2.2 MANDATE, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The **mandate** of the Council, based on the authority and responsibility assigned to it under the *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Act* (1976-77, c.24, s.2), is to:

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

## SSHRC Funds Research and Training in:

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

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) is the federal agency that supports university-based research in the social sciences and humanities through research grants and through joint initiatives with partners from numerous organizations in the public, private and community sectors. SSHRC also supports the advanced training of highly qualified people in the social sciences and humanities. Its main clientele consists of 18,000 full-time professors representing 53 per cent of all full-time university-based researchers in Canada and approximately 33,000 graduate students or 61 per cent of all full-time Masters and PhD students in Canadian universities.

SSHRC supports research in all the disciplines of the social sciences and humanities as well as in a broad range of interdisciplinary topics. These include the impact of genetic factors on health care, the development of information highway, immigration and social cohesion, the management of technological changes in a new economy, Canada's cultural heritage and environmental sustainability.

All SSHRC grants and fellowships are awarded through an independent and highly competitive adjudication process based on peer review, which ensures that only the highest quality research and the most deserving candidates are funded.

SSHRC plays a leadership role in the development of research policy. Within the social sciences and humanities research community, it functions as an essential catalyst by working to consolidate and structure the national research effort in the human sciences, to enhance knowledge-building and innovation and to respond effectively to the changing needs of the public, private and community sectors as well as those of Canadian society as a whole.

#### Corporate Priorities

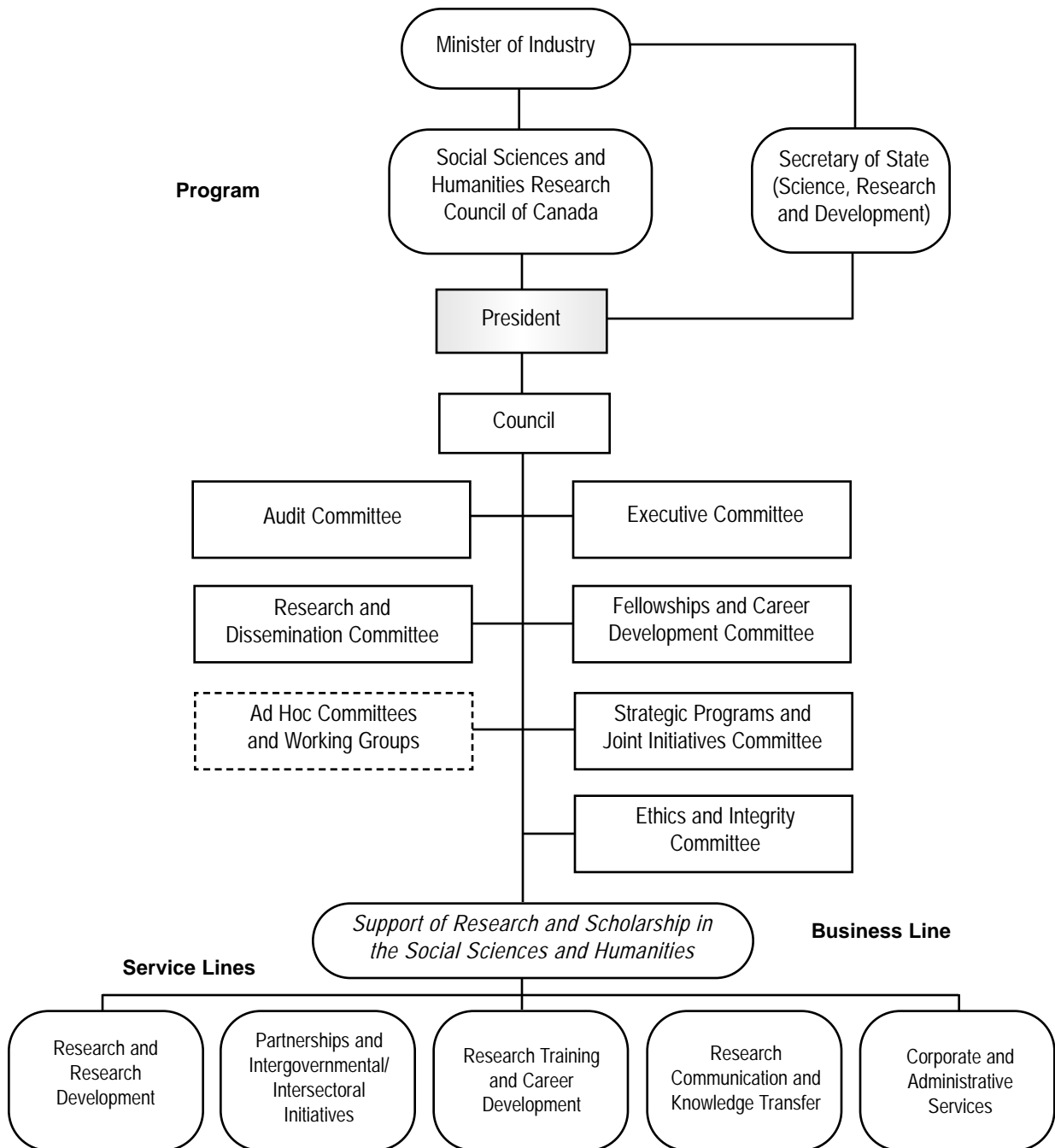
SSHRC's aim for the future is to further develop research excellence, innovation, productivity and socio-economic relevance by:

- continuing to sustain excellence in research and research training,
- building research capacity and promoting research conducted in partnership with users in government, private sector and voluntary organizations;
- positioning itself more effectively as a knowledge broker by reporting more efficiently on the research it supports, in simple and readily understandable terms, to elected officials and all Canadians;
- maximizing its contribution to the government's policy research and innovation agenda.

#### Governance

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 from all regions of Canada. A number of consultative committees assist the Council in establishing policy directions, funding mechanisms and accountability structures. In 2001, in order to implement a results-based management approach on a more "borderless" basis across its research programs, SSHRC plans to amalgamate its two standing research committees, the Research and Dissemination Committee and the Strategic Programs and Joint Initiatives Committee.

## Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Governance Structure



## 2.3 SSHRC's PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

In broad terms, SSHRC's objectives are:

- to support high-quality research and research training that help us understand the evolving nature of the society we live in and address emerging challenges and opportunities more effectively, and
- to help put the benefits of research to work by promoting the transfer of knowledge among researchers, research partners, policy makers and other stakeholders within Canadian society

In addition, SSHRC has adopted the following five fundamental principles which guide its planning, management and evaluation functions.

## 2.4 PLANNING CONTEXT

A continuing challenge for SSHRC is to find balanced, effective ways to address the research and research training needs of its diverse clientele while at the same time meeting the evolving needs of Canadian society. A number of key environmental factors, listed below, influence SSHRC's planning.

### Renewal of University Faculty

It is estimated that in the first decade of this century, more than 20,000 of the country's 33,000 full-time faculty will retire or leave their university positions. In addition, by

## 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.

2010, enrolment in Canadian universities will most likely increase by more than 20 per cent, with the increase reaching as high as 40 per cent in British Columbia and Ontario. This combination of mass retirement and growing enrolment will require that universities hire 30,000 new faculty over the next ten years. In the social sciences and humanities alone, by 2005, some 5,000 new professors will enter the university system.

SSHRC therefore needs to strengthen its commitment to the training of social scientists and humanists to ensure that Canadian universities are able to replenish their pool of researchers and faculty members.

### The Escalating Need for Social Sciences and Humanities Knowledge and Expertise

As Canada enters the 21<sup>st</sup> century, it faces crucial social challenges of unprecedented complexity. These include a rapidly aging population, economic globalization and its impact on employment and cultural identities, successful adaptation to the technological revolution, the place of youth in society, the moral and ethical implications of genome research, Canada's changing role in the world and the impact of global warming on social, human and economic resources. There is a growing recognition that Canada needs rigorous, in-depth, state-of-the-art knowledge and expertise to address these challenges and to formulate strategies and interventions that will effectively assist public policy. As the only national body that funds independent research in the social sciences and humanities, SSHRC must play a major role in addressing these knowledge gaps. The importance of this role is highlighted by the fact that both government departments and community organizations increasingly solicit the Council to help generate policy-relevant knowledge through the development of research partnerships.

Above are examples of partners in SSHRC's Joint Initiatives programs:

## Partners in Joint Initiatives

Natural Sciences and  
Engineering Research Council  
Industry Canada  
Statistics Canada  
Health Canada  
Privy Council Office  
Canadian Law Commission  
Canadian Forestry Service  
Fisheries and Oceans  
Citizenship and Immigration  
National Research Council  
Policy Research Secretariat  
Canadian Institutes of Health Research  
National Cancer Institute of Canada  
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation

### The Rising Cost of Research

New modes of knowledge production are incurring significantly increased costs in the conduct of social sciences and humanities research.

#### *Multidisciplinary and International Research Teams*

There is a sharp rise in problem-focused research which is conducted by large teams representing a range of academic disciplines, scientific sectors and universities and involving large numbers of student assistants and numerous community and/or international collaborators. Such research

projects require major financial support. The following two examples illustrate this trend.

- The Metropolis Project supports research on the impact of immigration in cities. It involves nine federal departments, more than 300 researchers across Canada, hundreds of community partners, and collaborators in 15 countries. SSHRC is supporting the project with a grant of \$8 million over six years.
- The International Project on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems seeks to preserve authentic electronic records through coherent national, international and organizational policies. The project involves 50 researchers in Canada and collaborators in some 30 foreign organizations, including the American National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the US National Archives and Records and the Italian National Research Council. Support to date from Canada and abroad has amounted to \$6 million over three years.

### *New Technologies*

Access to new technologies provides clear incentives for the development of large scale infrastructure projects. Modern research methods require advanced information and telecommunications technology, access to and development of sophisticated databases and the availability of complex multi-media tools. While these are far more

expensive than traditional technologies they are absolutely necessary for Canada to be able to attract and retain world-class researchers and to conduct world-class research.

### *Inflation and the Dollar*

Normal inflationary pressures over the past seven years have led to a 15 per cent increase in the cost of living. Over and above this, Canadian researchers must cope with increases in travel costs and student salary rates as well as a devalued Canadian dollar. In addition, the cost of library acquisitions such as scholarly journals has risen sharply. All these factors have contributed to a decade of increasing costs in social sciences and humanities research.

### The Explosion of Research Activity and Increased Demand for Research Funding

New approaches to conducting research, increased demand for policy-relevant knowledge, new, younger faculty who are much more aggressive than previous cohorts in seeking SSHRC funding, the introduction of innovative research programs such as the Canada Research Chairs— together, these have created a vibrant climate in Canada for the conduct of high quality, cutting-edge research.

SSHRC has limited capacity to meet the demand for research support which has resulted from this explosion of research activity:



- Participation by Canadian faculty in SSHRC programs has increased from 17 to 25 per cent over the last five years.
- In SSHRC's most innovative programs, the demand exceeds the Council's capability—for example, the Council can only fund 10 to 20 per cent of meritorious proposals. Over the last two years, the innovative Community-University Research Alliances (CURA) program, which supports the creation of dynamic research partnerships between universities and their local communities, was able to support 37 projects from among 298 initial submissions.
- Similarly, SSHRC is challenged to meet the demand for new Joint Initiatives in the areas where the need for research is strongest—for example, research on the sustainability of Northern communities and on the development of expertise in social statistics.

Given the pressure for new research in the social sciences and humanities, SSHRC anticipates that requests for support under its programs will increase by up to 50 per cent over the next five years.

In addition, there is a demand for SSHRC to support, on a national basis, Canada's best and brightest Master's-level students in the social sciences and humanities—as has long been the case in the natural and health sciences and in engineering.

## 2.5 PLANNED SPENDING

Table 1: Planned Spending

(\$ millions)	Forecast Spending 2000-2001*	Planned Spending 2001-2002	Planned Spending 2002-2003	Planned Spending 2003-2004
Budgetary Main Estimates (gross)	121.7	<b>160.8</b>	167.4	173.7
Non-Budgetary Main Estimates (gross)	-	-	-	-
Less: Respendable Revenue	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Main Estimates</b>	<u>121.7</u>	<u><b>160.8</b></u>	<u>167.4</u>	<u>173.7</u>
Adjustments **	28.4	<b>19.8</b>	19.8	20.0
<b>Net Planned Spending</b>	<u>150.1</u>	<u><b>180.6</b></u>	<u>187.2</u>	<u>193.7</u>
Less: Non-Respendable Revenue	0.4	<b>0.4</b>	0.4	0.4
Plus: Cost of Services Received Without Charge	1.8	<b>1.8</b>	1.8	1.8
<b>Net Cost of Program</b>	<u>151.5</u>	<u><b>182.0</b></u>	<u>188.6</u>	<u>195.1</u>
<b>Full-Time Equivalents</b>	<u>134</u>	<u><b>135</b></u>	<u>135</u>	<u>135</u>

\* 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 are to include Budget Initiatives, Supplementary Estimates, etc.

**Note:** Planned spending 2003-04 does not include SSHRC's portion of the NCE program

## Section III: Plans, Results, Activities and Resources

### 3.1. BUSINESS LINE DETAILS

The objectives of SSHRC's business line are identical to the Council's overall objectives described on page 9: to support high-quality research and research training that help us understand the evolving nature of the society we live in and address emerging challenges and opportunities more effectively; and, to help put the benefits of research to work by promoting the transfer of knowledge among researchers, research partners, policy makers and other stakeholders within Canadian society.

All SSHRC's activities relate to a single business line: **support of research and scholarship in the social sciences and humanities.**

SSHRC provides research grants to individual or teams of researchers or universities to support basic research in the social sciences and humanities, and collaborative and targeted research on issues of national importance, fellowships to doctoral and postdoctoral fellows, grants to support research communication and the related administrative support.

### 3.2. KEY RESULTS COMMITMENTS, PLANNED RESULTS, RELATED ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

The key result of SSHRC's business line is to provide Canadians with significant

advances in knowledge and expertise in the social sciences and humanities and with strong leadership to help shape the development of a first-class research capacity for the benefit of Canadian society. Long-term benefits for Canadians include:

- strong, effective research capacity in the social sciences and humanities that is competitive with that of the world's most advanced nations;
- a continually renewed pool of leading-edge researchers at Canadian universities to educate, train and inspire the next generation;
- the knowledge and expertise needed to sustain a strong cultural and social fabric and to address complex social, cultural and economic problems.

#### Supporting Training in the Social Sciences and Humanities

SSHRC allocates 25 per cent of its basic Grants and Scholarships budget (excluding the Canada Research Chairs allocation) to its doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships programs to support the training of highly qualified personnel in the social sciences and humanities. SSHRC also emphasizes the training components of its numerous research and strategic grants programs. Through their participation in these SSHRC-funded projects, students acquire both valuable hands-on research training and marketable skills. For 2001-02, SSHRC plans to:

**Table 2: Key Results Commitments, Planned Results, Related Activities and Resources**

Key Results Commitment	Planned Results	Related Activities	Resources 2001-2002
Provide Canadians with significant advances in knowledge and expertise in the social sciences and humanities and with strong leadership to help shape the development of a first-class Canadian research capacity and science policy for the benefit of Canadian society	Renewing the next generation of researchers and highly skilled professionals to meet the needs of Canadian universities and the public and private sectors (see page 14 - <i>Supporting Training in the Social Sciences and Humanities</i> )	Support doctoral students and postdoctoral fellowships at the current level with the possibility of increasing the amount of postdoctoral fellowship awards	\$33 M
	<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 (see page 16 - <i>Promoting Research Collaboration, Partnerships and Alliances with the Private, Public and Voluntary Sectors</i>)</p>	<p>Continue to support 3 joint initiatives with partners from the public, private or non-governmental organization sectors</p> <p>Continue to support ongoing Community-University Research Alliances (CURAs)</p> <p>Support research on the New Economy and on related key areas—education, management and lifelong learning</p> <p>Continue to support the social sciences and humanities component of ongoing networks of excellence, and contribute to the funding of four new networks</p>	\$39 M
	Broad-ranging research activities to advance knowledge, fuel innovation and remobilize the talents of social sciences and humanities researchers (see page 16 - <i>Sustaining a Strong Capacity for Innovation</i> )	Support research through the Research Grants and the Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (MCRI) programs	\$43 M
	Research promotion (see page 18 - <i>Research Promotion and Knowledge Management</i> )	Support communication and transfer of knowledge activities	\$5.4 M

- maintain its direct support to highly promising doctoral students and young researchers to meet the needs of employers in the academic, government and business sectors;
- enhance training opportunities in interdisciplinary settings and also provide innovative and interactive training opportunities through the strategic theme programs, the Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (MCRI) program and the new Initiative on the New Economy (INE);
- continue to support training in the regular standard research grants program, where a high proportion of the money that researchers request is for training (an average of 50 to 60 per cent on an annual basis).
- launch, over the next few years, new joint initiatives in order to meet Canada's need for targeted and policy relevant research;
- launch a new initiative on the New Economy to build knowledge and expertise and to develop tools in four key areas:

**General**—understanding the economic, social and technological dimensions of the new economy;

**Management**—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 and decision making and appropriate implementation of transformative technologies);

**Lifelong Learning**—determining the true needs, most effective incentives and best models for lifelong learning in the new economy.

#### Promoting Research Collaboration, Partnerships and Alliances with the Private, Public and Voluntary Sectors

SSHRC will continue to expand its partnerships with stakeholder organizations to co-develop, and wherever feasible, to co-fund, research on important social, cultural and economic issues. More specifically, SSHRC plans to:

- support, through the MCRI program, major national and international interdisciplinary research projects involving diverse partners;
- continue to invest in the creation of national partnerships and networks of world-class researchers through the NCE program, which is jointly managed by the three granting councils (NSERC, CIHR and SSHRC);

### Sustaining a Strong Capacity for Innovation

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

- providing support to researchers in all disciplines of the social sciences and humanities through its basic research programs;
- funding special initiatives for knowledge structuring, transfer and integration activities, through the Council's Presidential Fund for Innovation and the Research Development Initiatives
- strengthening research capacity in the social sciences and humanities and, through the Canada Research Chairs Program, attracting and retaining the best researchers in Canada.

## The Canada Research Chairs Program (CRCP)

In its 2000 budget, the Government of Canada provided \$900 million to support the establishment of 2,000 Canada Research Chairs in universities across the country by 2005. About 400 new Chairs, recruited from within Canada and from abroad, will be appointed in each of the next five years. SSHRC has been entrusted with the administration of the Canada Research Chair funds and also hosts its Secretariat.

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

The CRCP initiative is part of an overall \$4.1 billion targeted investment by the Government of Canada to strengthen research and innovation. Its purpose is to develop new environmental technologies and improve environmental practices and to strengthen federal, provincial, and municipal infrastructure.

The Program establishes Research Chairs in the natural sciences, engineering, health sciences, social sciences and humanities. The Program emphasises investment in both basic and applied research at Canadian universities.

In the first round of evaluations of Chairs nominations, 24 Canadian universities nominated 207 candidates of which 195 were approved. In the second round, participation has increased to 30 of 61 eligible universities and it is expected that, by the end of 2001-02, all 61 universities will be nominating candidates to the program.

In the next few years, the CRCP will continue to pursue its objectives by:

- maintaining, in the selection process, the highest standards of peer review;
- stimulating interest and participation in the program through an active communication strategy targeted at universities and potential nominees (in particular top researchers who are working abroad);
- assisting with regional announcements of CRCP appointments and related infrastructure, thereby ensuring maximum visibility for and awareness of the Federal Government's investment;
- putting in place a rigorous program evaluation framework to prepare for the evaluations planned for the third and fifth years of the program.

### Research Promotion and Knowledge Management

SSHRC is committed to effective communication and transfer of knowledge, both of which are essential parts of the research process. To this end, SSHRC will:

- continue to support research dissemination and transfer of knowledge through its conferences, congresses and journals communications programs;
- continue to build its partnership programs and research alliances to foster increased transfer of knowledge between the researchers it funds and various user groups in government, the community and the private sector;
- seek new ways to act as knowledge broker between producers and consumers of social sciences and humanities research;

- reorganise its Communications Division to enhance the effectiveness and scope of the Division's work in public affairs and knowledge transfer;
- continue to develop strategies to improve the Council's links with parliamentary audiences and the federal policy sector.

### *Service Improvement Initiatives*

Moreover, SSHRC is committed to improving its client satisfaction as per the *Service Improvement Initiative* launched by the Government of Canada in the year 2000. Table 3.2 below outlines the key related activities and the planned results of SSHRC service improvement plans.

**Table 3: SSHRC Service Improvement Plans**

Planned Results	Key Related Activities
<p>Increased public awareness of the humanities and social sciences research sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● promote active use of media to draw public attention to SSHRC-supported research and experts;</li> <li>● implement new program - SPARK (Students Promoting Awareness of Research Knowledge), where students write articles based on SSHRC-supported research;</li> <li>● support <i>Breakfast on the Hill Seminar Series</i>, <i>Research Profiles</i> distributed to parliamentarians, media and university community and <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>● promote SSHRC-supported academic Conferences and Congresses.</li> </ul>
<p>A significant, quantifiable improvement in client satisfaction</p>	<p>Establish a Service Improvement Plan and client satisfaction baseline measures and targets, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● participation in the Industry Portfolio Roundtables to explore best practices and innovative service delivery among portfolio members;</li> <li>● development of service standards and service-level;</li> <li>● harmonization of policies and procedures with other granting councils;</li> <li>● creation of an Intranet to provide employees with easy access to Council information.</li> </ul>
<p>Increased interaction between Canadians and SSHRC: to access information, programs and services and to do business electronically</p>	<p>Improve electronic service delivery in relation to the Government On-Line Initiative including a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● search engine query to allow access to SSHRC competition results;</li> <li>● <i>Final Research Report</i> form for researchers to complete after their grant: to enhance performance reporting, program evaluation, promotion of research results and outcomes;</li> <li>● Letter of Intent Pilot Project to reduce burden on applicants and peer review committees;</li> <li>● upgrade of current on-line CV, fellowships and grant application forms in collaboration with other granting Councils where possible;</li> <li>● revised Web site, to improve access to SSHRC applications, award information and research results.</li> </ul> <p>Over the next two years, implement the <i>Common Look and Feel</i> for the internet standards set out by Treasury Board.</p>



*Special Initiatives for 2001-02*

**Profiling the Humanities**

The Working Group on the Future of the Humanities will present its report to Council in March 2001. Based on the deliberations of a major national conference held in October 2000, the Working Group's report will articulate principles to guide the research community in profiling humanities research and education into the next decade and beyond. It will also define the key challenges facing various stakeholders and present specific recommendations to the SSHRC Board. In 2001-02, SSHRC will review and act on these recommendations. In the process it will engage other key organizations, such as the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada (HSSFC) and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). Such additional experience and expertise will ensure that full account is taken of the central role that humanities play in postsecondary education, in national cultures and in civil society.

**Major Consultation**

SSHRC will launch a major consultation with organizations and individuals representative of SSHRC's diverse client base in order to identify new themes for strategic research. The Council will identify themes that have a demonstrable, significant and continuing importance for understanding current, pressing, social and intellectual issues. This exercise in defining priorities

for thematic research will involve all major stakeholders—researchers, universities, governments and users of research in the public, private and community sectors. The consultation will also enable SSHRC to identify potential new partners for funding critical research initiatives under its Joint Initiatives Program.

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

The Data Archive Consultation Working Group—a joint initiative of SSHRC and the National Archives of Canada (NAC)—will continue its work on the development of a national strategy for the management of research data. In the year to come, the Group will define the data archiving needs of the research community and will explore the possibility of creating new research data archiving facilities. This project will bring together all stakeholders to consider, first, the specific requirements of a data archive from a Canadian perspective and second, the type of structure or design that can best fulfil those requirements. Council expects the Working Group's final report in summer 2001.

**Ethics Governance**

Following the important study, *Governance of the Ethical Process for Research Involving Humans*, Council has supported the creation of a Tri-Council Ethics Panel and a Tri-Council Ethics Secretariat. These bodies will oversee the implementation and further

development of the *Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans* and will establish a new working relationship with the National Council on Ethics in Human Research. Transparent, open and accessible, the Tri-Council Ethics Panel and Secretariat will seek to build closer links with the research community. SSHRC also recommended installation of an asymmetric accreditation process to take into account the different needs of the biomedical community and the social sciences and humanities communities.

### **Implementation of the New Accountability Framework**

SSHRC will work on the implementation of its new accountability framework. More specifically, it will work on the development of the measurement and evaluation tools that are needed to answer fundamental questions about the outcomes and impacts of the research it funds.

#### **Longer-Term Goals**

Over the next period, SSHRC hopes to:

- complete the process of moving the Community-University Research Alliances (CURA) program from a pilot project to a fully-implemented part of Council's strategy for supporting indispensable research alliances;
  - further develop research promotion and knowledge management activities;
  - provide support for 50 per cent of the new applicants who compete for SSHRC funds.
- 
- introduce a new Masters Scholarship program to expand the range of training it supports and to help supply the labour market with well-qualified social scientists and humanists;
  - increase the value and the number of doctoral fellowships to meet the objective of supporting 15 per cent of full-time Canadian graduate students in the social sciences and humanities;

## Section IV: Joint Initiatives

### 4.1. HORIZONTAL INITIATIVES

The joint NSERC/SSHRC Task Force on Northern Research released its final report in September 2000. The Task Force urges Canada to rebuild its university-based northern research capacity in order to help Northerners address the unprecedented social, physical, economic and environmental challenges currently facing this vast region. The report calls for new partnerships between universities and northern communities and the direct involvement of Northerners in research and training.

The SSHRC Board approved in principle the Task Force's recommendations for a new program to: establish Northern Research Chairs, support strategic research, build new partnerships between universities and Northern communities, provide supplements to doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships and fund equipment and infrastructure. Although SSHRC is fully committed to this initiative, given its current budget situation, it is unable at this time to join NSERC in its effort to launch the Northern research program. It will do so as additional funds become available.

Through the Interdepartmental Committee on Northern S&T, SSHRC is also involved in the federal effort to develop a co-ordinated Northern Science and Technology (S&T) strategy. The Committee's members include: Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), the

Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Environment Canada, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND), the Department of National Defence (DND), Health Canada, Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), Transport Canada, Industry Canada and NSERC. The Interdepartmental Committee is moving toward the development of a co-ordinated northern S&T strategy. Its first report, entitled *Northern S&T in Canada: Federal Framework and Research Plan, April 1, 2000 - March 31, 2002*, was published in May 2000. In the coming year, NSERC and SSHRC will continue to work with the Interdepartmental Committee on a plan to increase federal support for Northern research in Canada.

### 4.2. COLLECTIVE INITIATIVES

Since 1989, SSHRC's Joint Initiatives program has provided a framework for Council to enter into partnerships and co-funding agreements with organizations in the public, private and community sectors. To date, Council has co-created 28 programs within this framework. As the following table shows, SSHRC Joint Initiatives have already generated some \$40 million in additional funding for social sciences and humanities research.

TABLE 4: ONGOING COLLECTIVE INITIATIVES AT SSHRC

Collective Initiative/ Program	Key Results Commitments	Partner(s)	Funds Allocated by Partner(s)	Planned Results
<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 institutes	Canadian Forest Service (CFS)	\$45,000 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)	\$127,000 for 2000-01  (Varies annually)	Better informed policy decisions, regulations and practices in forestry management and resource sustainability
<b>Canadian Tobacco Research Initiative</b>	To support targeted research on tobacco control and develop a closer relationship between researchers program/policy stakeholders	National Cancer Institute, Canadian Cancer Society, Health Canada, Heart and Stroke Foundation	\$1.3 M over 5 years	Increased amount of research relevant to program and policy to better inform tobacco control programs and policies
<b>Chairs in the Management of Technological Change</b>	To increase technological entrepreneurship and collaboration with the private sector in key areas of technological change  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: ONGOING COLLECTIVE INITIATIVES AT SSHRC (CONT'D)

Collective Initiative/ Program	Key Results Commitments	Partner(s)	Funds Allocated by Partner(s)	Planned Results
<b>Canadian Initiative on Social Statistics (CISS): Data Training Schools</b>	To increase awareness and use of currently available Statistics Canada data and surveys  To build statistical expertise that focuses on Canadian issues and Canadian data  To aid in the identification of those policy issues, which can be illuminated through quantitative research	Statistics Canada	\$141,630 over 2 years	Increased capacity and expertise in quantitative social research will strengthen evidenced-based decision-making
<b>CURAs on Housing in Sustainable Communities and Aboriginal Housing in Canada</b>	To support community-based research to promote healthy, adequate, affordable housing that meets both goals of sustainability and special Aboriginal needs	Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)	\$750,000 over 3 years	Better housing for Aboriginal populations and sustainable communities
<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, 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, Canada Heritage, Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC), Status of Women, Solicitor General, CHMC, Statistics Canada	\$5 M over 5 years	Increased research capacity and knowledge will aid in formulating public policy and in improving services related to immigration and integration

**TABLE 4: ONGOING COLLECTIVE INITIATIVES AT SSHRC (CONT'D)**

Collective Initiative/ Program	Key Results Commitments	Partner(s)	Funds Allocated by Partner(s)	Planned Results
<b>Innovation Systems Research Networks (ISRN)</b>	To better understand how the social and political activities and interactions of various public and private institutions affect the application of innovations	National Research Council, NSERC	\$456,000 over 3 years	Will assist policy making with a better understanding of how science, technology and economic policy affect economic development
<b>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	\$783,500 over 3 years	A developing body of knowledge on the sector at large
<b>Ocean Management National Research Network Initiative</b>	To accelerate, through research, the application of critical thinking and best practices to enhance sustainable oceans management	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Up to \$540,800 over 3 years	An expert core of ocean management researchers, a broad comparative context for developing the national Oceans Management Strategy, and the transfer and utilization of research results to governments, communities and other stakeholders
<b>Relationships in Transition</b>	To improve understanding of political and other forces that drive transitions in four research theme areas: economic, personal social and governance relationships	Law Commission of Canada	\$400,000 over 4 years	Increased knowledge and research and creation of multidisciplinary research partnerships
and				
<b>Virtual Scholar in Residence</b>	To fund, annually, one individual researcher to work within one of the LCC's four research theme areas.	Law Commission of Canada	\$100,000 over 4 years	Major reports on legal policy and law reform issues

TABLE 4: ONGOING COLLECTIVE INITIATIVES AT SSHRC (CONT'D)

Collective Initiative/ Program	Key Results Commitments	Partner(s)	Funds Allocated by Partner(s)	Planned Results
<b>Society, Culture and the Health of Canadians II</b>	To encourage and support interdisciplinary team research and training focused on issues related to society, culture and the health of Canadians	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) National Health Research and Development Program	\$5.4 M over 3 years	Increased research capacity and knowledge through an interdisciplinary perspective
<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: Financial Information

Table 5: Summary of Transfer Payments

(\$ millions)	Forecast Spending 2000-2001*	<b>Planned Spending 2001-2002</b>	Planned Spending 2002-2003	Planned Spending 2003-2004
<b>Grants</b>				
Support of Research and Scholarship	135.3	<b>166.9</b>	173.2	183.2
<b>Total Grants</b>	135.3	<b>166.9</b>	173.2	183.2
<b>Contributions</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Other Transfer Payments</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Grants, Contributions and Other Transfer Payments</b>	135.3	<b>166.9</b>	173.2	183.2

**Note:** Planned spending 2003-04 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 2000-2001*	<b>Planned Revenue 2001-2002</b>	Planned Revenue 2002-2003	Planned Revenue 2003-2004
<b>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council</b>				
Support of 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 planned spending until the end of the fiscal year

Table 7: Net Cost of Program for 2000-2001

(\$ millions)	Total
<b>Planned Spending (Budgetary and Non-Budgetary Main Estimates Plus Adjustments)</b>	<b>180.8</b>
Plus: Services Received Without Charge	
• Accommodation provided by Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC)	1.3
• Contributions covering employers' share of employees' insurance premiums and expenditures paid by TBS	0.5
• Workman's compensation coverage provided by Human Resources Development Canada	-
• Salary and associated expenditures of legal services provided by Justice Canada	-
	<b>1.8</b>
Less: Non-Respendable Revenue	0.4
	<b>0.4</b>
<b>2001-02 Net Cost of Program</b>	<b>182.2</b>

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