

WesternResearch

For Fiscal 2024-2025

Total Funding for 2024-2025: \$1,838,836

Eligible expense category	Institutional performance objective	Indicator	Output	Outcomes reported at YE
Innovation and commercialization activities Funding allocation: \$1,040,134	Expansion of innovation and commercialization presence in Canada and abroad.	Enhanced research partnerships, licensing and commercialization prospects; enhanced domestic & global reputation and impact.	Salary support for Innovation & Strategic Partnerships and for Office of Research Services staff.	The Strategic Partnerships team strengthened Western’s research impact by facilitating successfully funded projects and expanding engagement with industry, government, and community partners through more than 20 campus visits, workshops, and conferences. Relationships with key stakeholders—including NWMO, CNL, Enbridge Gas, the Krembil Foundation, APMA, PowerCo, and General Motors—were deepened through collaborative initiatives that advanced shared research priorities. A landmark partnership with GM launched the Automotive Innovation Challenge, offering experiential learning opportunities for more than 150 students in software-defined vehicle technologies. The team also positioned Western as a national leader in high-profile research collaborations by securing pre-qualified vendor status for APMA’s Project Arrow 2.0 and leading the SAFE-T Project resubmission through the Nuclear Hub, reinforcing Western’s expertise in advanced reactor fuel management.

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Facilities renewal, including deferred maintenance Funding allocation: \$266,896	State-of-the-art sanitization, sterilization, biosafety and euthanasia equipment across animal care and research facilities.	Updated technology available to researchers and support staff.	Equipment installed and operational.	Building systems were upgraded to provide higher quality utilities and improved access, enabling lower-cost preventative maintenance in the future. The project was staged and designed to minimize biosafety impacts and research downtime, ensuring continuity of operations for multiple research groups. Following installation, testing, and commissioning, service calls and equipment downtime were eliminated, resulting in more efficient workflows and reliable sterilization capacity. In addition, one new vented rack system was purchased, installed, and certified to begin the phased replacement of the aging fleet, strengthening Western's long-term research support infrastructure.
Eligible expense category	Institutional performance objective	Indicator	Output	Outcomes reported at YE
Information resources, including digital resources, open access databases Funding allocation: \$236,295	Robust data management and reliable systems for data input, tracking, and research evaluation. Effective tracking, management and analysis of the scholarly output of researchers for the purpose of reporting indicators and informing research strategy.	Maintenance of research administration data system. Readily available bibliometric data and metrics for researchers, senior leadership and research support staff.	Salary support for technical & system support personnel for system maintenance and integration. Salary & platform support for knowledge exchange and bibliometrics activities.	With the hiring of a dedicated Functional Analyst, Western Research established 1.0 FTE focused on the assessment, investigation, and implementation of targeted enhancements to the grants management system. This capacity enabled the successful completion of Tools and one Apps upgrades to the PeopleSoft platform, ensuring improved speed, stability, and compatibility with Western's HR and Finance systems. Nearly 30 system tickets were implemented to strengthen data integrity, introduce new functionality, and reduce administrative burden, including automated notifications and enhanced compliance tracking for controlled goods, Indigenous research, research security, and research activity. In addition, consultations were launched for the development of a comprehensive grants repository and a revitalized funding opportunities website that will integrate directly with the grants management system. Ongoing engagement with university stakeholders continues to guide system improvements, ensuring user needs and pain points inform future design and implementation efforts.

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Equity, Diversity and Faculty renewal (in the context of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) Funding allocation: \$295,511	Research-specific supports for the further development and ongoing implementation of an Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Decolonization research strategy.	Dedicated resources to support embedding Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Decolonization principles and plans in research applications.	Personnel to support Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Decolonization activities.	Western advanced its institutional commitment to Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Decolonization (EDID) in research through the finalization and implementation of the EDID in Research Strategic Plan. Resources were further developed to support researchers in meaningfully integrating EDID and Indigenous Research considerations into funding applications, including guidance on funding requirements, cultural approaches, and evaluation metrics. EDID principles continued to be embedded across research policies, practices, and programming, with dedicated support provided to enhance understanding of Indigenous research methods, data governance, and ethical engagement with Indigenous peoples, communities, and organizations. Ongoing benchmarking of national EDID and Indigenous Research trends informed continuous improvement and monitoring of application success rates. Efforts to identify and remove systemic barriers helped strengthen a culture of inclusion and reconciliation across campus, while events and initiatives celebrating EDID in research continued to foster awareness, belonging, and institutional accountability.

Total Additional IPG Funding for 2024-2025: **\$473,641**

Eligible expense category	Institutional performance objective	Indicator	Output	Outcomes reported at YE
Facilities renewal, including deferred maintenance Funding allocation: \$188,593	Strengthen research infrastructure and compliance by upgrading facilities and equipment to enhance safety, operational efficiency, and sustainability across multiple research spaces.	Number of research spaces brought into regulatory compliance (e.g., rodent housing, CL2+ wet lab) Reduction in equipment downtime and service calls Improved energy efficiency and reduced maintenance costs Enhanced safety and biosafety standards in accordance with public health and animal care requirements	Completion of facility and equipment upgrades, including two compliant lab spaces, new autoclaves, an upgraded biosafety cabinet, and an air quality monitoring system Installation of a dishwasher to improve hygiene, staff efficiency, and safety in nonhuman primate care areas Modernized infrastructure supporting compliance, reliability, and long-term sustainability of research operations	Using IPG funding, Western successfully completed key facility and equipment upgrades that strengthened compliance, safety, and operational efficiency across multiple research spaces. Two laboratory areas were brought into full compliance—one for rodent housing and another as a CL2+ wet lab—while a biosafety cabinet was upgraded and an air quality monitor procured to support ongoing regulatory monitoring. The replacement of two autoclaves in spring 2024 secured a core resource essential to cancer, children’s health, and critical illness research portfolios, mitigating the risk of equipment failure and ensuring alignment with public health biosafety license requirements. These modernized systems have reduced contamination risk, improved energy and resource efficiency, and lowered operating costs. Additionally, the installation of a new dishwasher improved staff efficiency, satisfaction, and safety, while enhancing hygiene standards in animal care facilities. Collectively, these upgrades have strengthened Western’s research infrastructure, supported compliance with biosafety and animal care standards, and ensured reliable, sustainable operations for years to come.

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Eligible expense category	Institutional performance objective	Indicator	Output	Outcomes reported at YE
Information resources, including digital resources, open access databases Funding allocation: \$285,048	Modernize and streamline the Animal Ethics & Care Program (AECPP) through the implementation of Cayuse and Mosaic to enhance compliance, operational efficiency, and user experience.	Implementation of Cayuse and Mosaic systems across AECPP Improved data accuracy, workflow efficiency, and compliance monitoring Training and orientation sessions delivered to staff and researchers	By implementing the systems in 2025, all AECPP processes will transition to the new systems, ensuring compliance and continuity before eSirius support ends.	The implementation of Cayuse and Mosaic continued to modernize and streamline Western's Animal Ethics & Care Program (AECPP), replacing an end-of-life system with integrated tools that enhance compliance with CCAC and OMAFRA regulations. Through these platforms, Western improved operational efficiency, data accuracy, and user experience in managing animal care protocols and facility operations. Key indicators such as transaction processing, turnaround times, census data accuracy, and user feedback are being tracked to guide ongoing optimization. Training and orientation sessions have supported a smooth transition for staff and researchers. Together, Cayuse and Mosaic demonstrate Western's commitment to modern, compliant, and high-quality research infrastructure across all affiliated sites.