

CPRC Update

CHANGES TO FUNDING PROCESS CONTINUE

CPRC made a significant change to its funding process in 2012 by moving to a two stage system. The new system included an initial call for Letters of Intent (LOI) followed by a full proposal from a short list of projects drawn from the LOIs. This change allows CPRC to better tailor the research it supports to industry-identified priorities as laid out in the *National Research Strategy for Canada's Poultry Sector* (the Strategy) available from the Research page of CPRC's website www.cp-rc.ca. CPRC is now able to provide feedback to researchers prior to the full proposal stage on LOIs that are of interest but that may not fully address priority issues. This allows the researchers and CPRC to discuss changes in the objectives and/or work plan to more closely align the project with industry priorities.

CPRC's call for LOIs was cancelled in 2013 so that funds allocated for research for that year could be directed to the new Poultry Science Cluster. The 2014 call for LOIs was issued in April with submissions due June 1st. This year's call also included some additional changes to better align the LOI calls with industry priorities.

CPRC has used the following five research categories for funding calls for many years:

- Avian Gut Microbiology
- Environment
- Food Safety and Poultry Health
- Poultry Welfare and Behaviour
- Novel Feedstuffs

CPRC also funds projects that are of significance to the Canadian poultry industry, but may not fit into the broad research programs listed above. Researchers may apply for funding for this category of research at any time throughout the year according to the CPRC policy on *ad hoc* proposals.

While the categories have suited CPRC's purpose, they do not encompass all those identified in the Strategy that CPRC and industry put so much effort into developing. The nine Strategy research categories are:

- Economic viability
- Genetics
- Food safety
- Animal Health Products
- Poultry health
- Poultry welfare
- Environment
- Functional and innovative products
- Poultry feedstuffs

The CPRC Board of Directors decided, at its March, meeting to align its categories with those in the Strategy. CPRC will now issue calls for LOIs based on individual categories or groupings of the Strategy categories. Groupings will be of similar types of research and some will closely reflect the categories that CPRC used through 2012. This year's call for LOIs was for two category groups:

1. Food Safety and Animal Health Products
2. Genetics, Poultry Health and Poultry Welfare

LOIs do not have to address all aspects of each group but can target one or all of the priorities within the group. CPRC's Board will review this approach at its July meeting as well as set the research categories

that will be used for the next several years. This information will be posted on the CPRC website. The *ad hoc* category will be retained.

Another Change

Many researchers and industry stakeholders have dealt with CPRC through Gord Speksnijder. Gord attended his first CPRC Board meeting in October 2003 and took over as Executive Director from Dave Nodwell a year later. Gord moved into the Research Coordinator role with CPRC in mid-2011 when operations were relocated to Ottawa. Gord has decided to step back from CPRC into an advisory role because of increased demands on his time from the family farm and a growing family. The CPRC Board, member staff associated with CPRC and CPRC staff are sorry to lose the regular input and exceptional advice that Gord has brought to the organization. His unique ability to view research from the point of view of a trained researcher and active farmer has been an asset that will be sorely missed. We wish Gord and his family all the best in their future endeavours.

CPRC Board

The CPRC Board of Directors is appointed each year by its Member Organizations and consists of one representative from each of the five members. The 2014 CPRC Board was reappointed without change at the Annual General Meeting in March. Information on Board members and CPRC activities is available in its 2013 Annual Report posted on the website.

For more details on any CPRC activities, please contact The Canadian Poultry Research Council, 350 Sparks Street, Suite 1007, Ottawa, Ontario K1R 7S8, phone: (613) 566-5916, fax: (613) 241-5999, email: info@cp-rc.ca, or visit us at www.cp-rc.ca.

The membership of the CPRC consists of Chicken Farmers of Canada, Canadian Hatching Egg Producers, Turkey Farmers of Canada, Egg Farmers of Canada and the Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors' Council. CPRC's mission is to address its members' needs through dynamic leadership in the creation and implementation of programs for poultry research in Canada, which may also include societal concerns.