

Saskatchewan – Mitacs Research and Innovation Partnership

Backgrounder

November 2022

In 2022-23, Saskatchewan's Ministry of Advanced Education will provide \$1.15 million to Mitacs, a \$600,000 increase over 2021-22. This funding supports internships and fellowships through seven Mitacs programs and multiple partnerships between Saskatchewan industries, businesses, non-profit organizations and post-secondary institutions.

Post-Secondary Institution Partnerships with Mitacs

Mitacs furthers Canadian research through partnerships with academic leaders. In Saskatchewan, Mitacs partners with the University of Regina, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Polytechnic and Parkland College.

Mitacs

Mitacs is a national not-for-profit that facilitates collaboration between the private and post-secondary sectors, driving impactful innovation, enabling valuable research and development activity, and deploying highly skilled post-secondary talent into the economy. Mitacs connects businesses and academic institutions through unique work-integrated learning programs.

These programs provide top post-secondary students with opportunities to expand their skills, gain real-world experience in their fields, and establish their professional networks locally, helping to attract and retain highly educated post-secondary students, postdoctoral fellows, and recent graduates.

Mitacs programming also enables organizations to tap into academic knowledge networks and highly skilled talent flexibly and affordably, so they can develop cutting-edge technologies, increase productivity, solve complex challenges, and design new or improved products or services.

Mitacs Programs in Saskatchewan

The *Accelerate* Program

- 125 research and development internships in Saskatchewan industries that enable students to apply research and technology expertise to improve the productivity and innovation of Saskatchewan organizations.
- Interns are placed with Saskatchewan employers and gain valuable industry experience, networks and skills for high-quality jobs.

The *Globalink Research Awards* Program

- Enables placement of five Saskatchewan students in international universities and companies to gain international research and work experience.
- Canadian university faculty strengthen existing international research collaborations and connect with colleagues around the world. Student recipients develop research skills, cultural fluency and professional networks, becoming part of Canada's generation of global innovators.

The Globalink Research Internship Program

- 80 international student internships that enable Saskatchewan to recruit top international students and researchers from rapidly developing countries to work with Saskatchewan researchers.
- Strengthens research ties and promotes Saskatchewan as a top research and education destination, while creating pathways for innovators and entrepreneurs to settle here.

Business Strategy Internships

- New program with 25 student internships that benefit Saskatchewan businesses by strengthening their innovation capabilities.
- Includes streamlining processes, commercializing technology, developing new business models, improving public services addressing social or environmental issues.

Mitacs Elevate

- New program with 10 post-doctoral fellowship internship units with an exclusive professional development curriculum component and hosted by an industry partner.
- Fellows divide time between a research project and professional development over the two-year fellowship, developing high-level research expertise and the skills to be leaders.

Indigenous Pathways Initiative

- New program that provides 15 Indigenous student internships.
- Mitacs collaborates with Indigenous businesses and organizations by matching them with interns and resources to achieve their innovation goals.
- One of the three internship parties must be Indigenous and Saskatchewan-based.

Globalink Graduate Fellowship

- New program for 2022-23 with five internship units that targets alumni of the *Globalink Research Internship* to enhance post-graduate experience and attract international students to Saskatchewan.

Clean Energy Technologies Research Institute (CETRI)

The Clean Energy Technologies Research Institute is the University of Regina's low-carbon and clean energy research hub focusing on decarbonization and zero-emission hydrogen technologies, carbon capture and utilization (CCS), and waste-to-renewable fuels and chemicals. CETRI has one of the only hydrogen and carbon capture research pilot plants in Canada, which enables studies into efficient, cost-effective clean energy production and utilization.

CETRI has benefited from over two decades of research and development activities made possible by research grants from funding agencies like Mitacs and the Government of Saskatchewan. Numerous Mitacs-funded projects are conducted in the labs, assisting in ongoing research on hydrogen production and waste to renewable fuels.