



## SUMMER 2019 FUNDING BULLETIN

### Hello Everyone!

I hope that you are all enjoying this beautiful Alberta summer – so green with so much rain! With the Alberta Budget coming down in October, government departments have been provided interim financing and this has had impact on Alberta's innovation funding program initiatives, and, importantly on the economic multiplier effect that encourages business growth and job creation. The ERA programs and CCITF programs are on hold, and, as of last week the Alberta Innovates' funding programs are on hold.

When governments change prior to finalizing the annual budget, they provide interim financing to run the government ministries/departments. With the Alberta budget expiring Mar 31<sup>st</sup>, Premier Notley passed a special 'cabinet warrant' for \$11.4B "to cover the essentials for the next quarter" to June 30<sup>th</sup>. The UCP government followed through for the summer / fall as per the Throne Speech "estimates for the interim supply of public services will be presented in an Appropriation Act, to be followed by a full Budget this fall."

Alberta Economic Development and Trade funds Alberta Innovates. What an interim budget means in everyday terms is that it's a budget that is enough to get by on but not enough to move forward on. This is the closest to what I can describe as the reason for the Alberta Innovates portal not accepting any more funding applications. Alberta Innovates is being fiscally prudent given limited funds to operate.

With funding now becoming a quiet landscape, it is very worthwhile for all of us to have a look at industry initiatives. CRIN, the Clean Resource Innovation Network, received \$450,684 in funding from Western Diversification – on top of the \$100M secured through the Strategic Innovation Fund. This may be a harbinger for more funding sources opening up for CRIN and/or more partnerships to achieve specific ends that bode well for the energy sector and impact positively on the advancement of green technology to increase the efficiencies and productivity of the energy sector.

Minister Sohi, Minister of Natural Resources' comment was particularly poignant: "Canadians understand that a clean environment and a strong economy go hand in hand. This is why our government is bringing together Canada's research expertise and innovative businesses as we transition to a clean growth economy."

Our total investment of more than \$100 million in the CRIN will help develop new technology and clean solutions through collaboration."

Added to this is the tremendous work that PTAC does supported by industry funding. What PTAC accomplished in 2018 can only really be appreciated by reading the President's AGM speech. It is the same information as in the Annual Report but when it comes directly from President Soheil Asgarpour it is indeed inspiring. Click here for [WHAT 8 PEOPLE CAN DO & DID DO!](#)

The new Technology Innovation and Emissions Reduction (TIER) program to replace the current large emitter tax will be coming in the fall. The first \$100 million of TIER would fund new technologies to reduce carbon emissions (the party cited improved oilsands extraction technology and carbon capture as examples). For now, funding via CCITF and ERA is on hold until we learn more via the carbon levy review and the fall provincial budget. The [SUMMER OVERVIEW](#)

What could impact economic growth is countered by the tremendous steps forward via CRIN, PTAC and the energy sector. With the energy sector's drive to go green and to get lean with increased efficiencies and productivity – the economic multiplier of these initiatives is intact – more prosperity, more jobs.

What could impact economic growth is that we in the technology community and all businesses in Alberta continue to move our businesses forward by executing on our plans. If your goal is to secure grant funding, start the preparation now as Alberta Innovates is not going anywhere - at least to my knowledge! And, given your schedule, it takes 3 to 4 weeks to prepare a 'first' submission. Your time is well spent over the summer versus when the busy times come once again in September when everyone is back from holiday. Same with preparation on your strategies, plans, marketing, sales and financing objectives.

With the new T.E.I.R in place, this may also bring good news for Albertans – it's about the economic multiplier effect – more projects, more revenues, more new hires. The Premier's recent announcement to eliminate Alberta's trade barriers may be very much an economic multiplier for this Province.

### Events Coming Up! Energy Disruptors!

Best Regards and Happy Summer!

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(I will take holidays the last 2 weeks of August and be back September 3rd. If there is anything that you need in the meantime, give me a call.)

## HOW IS YOUR TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS BEING FUNDED?

Having difficulty deciphering which innovation funding programs are right for your company? There are 3 execution strategies that you need to know about that will maximize your chances of securing innovation funding. **Strategic Timelines assists your company prepare submissions (and the supporting business / marketing documents) with compelling strategies to significantly increase the chances of securing funding, financing and/or investment. Call today for insight into these 'how to' strategies.**

**DON'T MISS OUT ON RECEIVING OUR EMAILS!** On July 1st, 2014, the CASL law was implemented - we need to know if you would like to receive bulletins and newsletters. If not, please email.