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## Overview

Biotechnology leverages biological organisms, processes and systems to develop products and solutions for various applications. It encompasses a wide range of sectors, including medicine, agriculture and environmental science, and it has the potential to enhance human quality of life and transform how we tackle major global challenges. It has been significantly revolutionized by genomics research, which provides a deeper understanding of the genetic basis of life. This knowledge has enabled researchers to manipulate and understand biological systems at a molecular level, driving research, invention and innovation across multiple sectors.

Genome Prairie supports genomics research and commercialization within Saskatchewan and Manitoba and beyond. Genome Prairie is launching the **Genomics Translation and Commercialization (GenTrac) Program** to support public-private innovation in our Region. Each project involves collaboration between academic researchers and industry receptors to address market opportunities or operational needs identified by the private sector. The private sector partner organizations are hereafter referred to as the “Receptors”. **GenTrac** projects help leverage public investment in innovation, encourage industry investment in genomics and biotechnology research in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and generate co-investment in market-driven research and development (R&D). They improve knowledge transfer from public institutions to local Canadian companies to commercialize cutting-edge research and support our innovation value chain. As economic opportunities and sector priorities differ across Canada, **GenTrac** focuses on innovation and economic growth in Saskatchewan and Manitoba by translating cutting-edge research in genomics and biotechnology into market-ready solutions that leverage regional strengths and emerging opportunities.

## Objectives

### **GenTrac** seeks to:

- increase local Canadian private-sector investment in the **commercialization** of innovation in genomics and biotechnology;
- stimulate technological translation and **innovation** through co-operative R&D between researchers and Receptors;
- enable research investments that **de-risk opportunities** and secure follow-on funding from finance institutions, funding agencies, and industry; and
- foster and encourage **participation** in innovation and entrepreneurship by individuals from equity-deserving communities.

## Partnerships

**GenTrac** is designed to support Canadian for-profit enterprises (FPEs) that have an established place of business in either Saskatchewan or Manitoba and that have an economic interest in developing an idea or research into a commercial application.

Each project must be a partnership between a Receptor and a researcher, with optional support from one or more co-investigators and/or collaborators. The project partnership must require the expertise and resources of each partner, and the respective roles and responsibilities of each must be clearly defined in the submission. The Receptor and researcher partners are expected to play active and necessary roles in the project. Refer to the information below and Genome Canada’s [Guidelines for Funding](#).

## Receptor

A Receptor is a Canadian FPE that has operations in or meaningfully expanding its operations into either Saskatchewan or Manitoba with an economic interest in developing an idea or research into a commercial application.

The Receptor must satisfy specific requirements regarding ownership, control, and independence. The requirements are detailed in **Appendix A**.

Receptors must confirm their eligibility when submitting their application.

Projects must include one Receptor Project Leader. This person must be either the owner or an employee of the Receptor.

The Receptor Project Leader is expected to, among other activities, lead the development and execution of the project plan (with the researcher); provide resources, expertise and direction to deliver on project objectives; manage any regulatory or compliance issues; and lead research and/or commercialization efforts.

### **Receptor independence**

A Receptor Project Leader cannot act as the Administrative Project Leader.

Genome Prairie funding can be awarded to individuals affiliated with Canadian companies in addition to the organizations listed in Genome Canada's [Guidelines for Funding](#).

## Researcher

Projects must include one researcher who acts as the Administrative Project Leader.

Researchers must be employed by eligible institutions. These may include:

- Canadian post-secondary institutions
- Research institutes or hospitals
- Not-for-profit organizations with explicit research mandates

The researcher is expected to make substantive contributions to the project that extend beyond the provision of technical services. This includes, among other activities, supporting the development of the project plan in partnership with the Receptor, providing critical resources or scientific and technical expertise and direction where applicable, and administering project funds.

### **Researcher independence**

Researcher leaders can own all, none or part of the Receptor. The researcher's share in the Receptor is included when determining Receptor eligibility (see Appendix A).

If the researcher has a position with the Receptor, the Receptor must have clear decision-making processes that are independent of the researcher.

# Benefits to the Genome Prairie Region and impacts for Receptors

In general, **GenTrac** projects are intended to deliver both socio-economic benefits to the Prairie Region and commercial benefits to Receptors. Projects should demonstrate how they will contribute to regional economic development and strengthen the innovation ecosystem through meaningful public-private collaboration. Examples of potential benefits sought in **GenTrac** projects include:

- New or improved products for Canadian and Prairie consumers
- Increased regional private-sector R&D investment in genomics and biotechnology
- Increased profitability of Canadian businesses in the Genome Prairie Region
- Increased follow-on investment in the Receptor
- The development of new genomics and biotechnology inventions and innovations
- Business growth and international competitiveness for Canadian businesses operating in Saskatchewan and/or Manitoba
- Technical validation or de-risking of commercial product or service opportunities
- Regional economic development, including job creation
- Regional talent attraction, training and retention
- Increased diversity in regional FPEs and public institutions
- New or expanded innovation ecosystem services, capacity or connectivity
- The development of a sustainable bioeconomy
- Increasing market share for bio-based products and solutions
- Other tangible benefits

## Available funding and term

**GenTrac** applications must respect the following conditions:

- Applicants can request up to **one-third** of the project budget from Genome Prairie.
- The **remaining two-thirds** of the project funding must be secured from other eligible sources.
- An additional requirement is that the private-sector, for-profit **Receptor contribution must be equal to or greater than Genome Prairie's contribution.**
- Genome Prairie's total contribution to an approved project must be at least \$100,000 and its maximum contribution is \$225,000.
- One hundred per cent of the co-funding (received or committed) for the project must be confirmed before funds can be released to the project, unless otherwise specified by Genome Prairie. Genome Prairie reserves the right to withdraw its funding for any approved project that does not meet this requirement or if there is a change in a project's co-funding status.
- Co-funders must provide reasonable documentation to support their financial viability and ability to provide the co-funding (see Genome Canada's [Guidelines for Funding](#)).
  - All co-funders must provide:
    - A letter of co-funding commitment using the template provided in **GenTrac's** Full Proposal package.
  - Receptors and private sector, for-profit partners must provide support for their financial viability and ability to provide the co-funding. This includes audited financial statements (auditor's reports, balance sheets, income statements, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements). **IF** these are not available, one of the below is required, in order of priority:

- Unaudited financial statements (balance sheets, income statements and statement of cash flows); or
  - Any other support to the co-funders ability to fulfill its co-funding commitments, such as:
    - press releases announcing significant new financing;
    - a bank statement from the partner with a letter from the CEO indicating the account is dedicated/reserved for the project.
- Applicants can request up to 20% of Genome Prairie funds to flow to the Receptor (Canadian for-profit enterprise leading commercialization) to fund research, enable Researcher to Receptor tech transfer, accelerate implementation, support IP protection and decrease time to market.
- Projects must begin on or before **January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year following the program application cycle**. All team members required to initiate the project plan must be in place by the project start date.
- All projects must be completed within **one to two years of the start date**, depending on the scope and objectives, and **there is no opportunity for a no-cost extensions**, regardless of the original project length.

## Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for the **GenTrac Program** funding, projects must meet all the following criteria:

- Projects must focus on an innovation or need defined by the lead Receptor.
- The project is a true partnership between a Receptor and researcher (and, optionally, additional partners), with active and necessary roles for all partners (refer to the above section, Partnership).
- The Receptor acts as Project Leader and is a Canadian for-profit enterprise (FPE) operating in or meaningfully expanding its operations into either Saskatchewan or Manitoba and satisfies specific requirements as to ownership, control and independence detailed in **Appendix A**.
- The researcher acts as Administrative Project Leader and is employed by an eligible institution (refer to the above section, Partnership).
- The project supports the invention, development, technology transfer or commercialization and adoption of a genomics-based or -enabled, biotechnological innovation with a clearly articulated market opportunity within Saskatchewan and/or Manitoba. "Genomics" refers to genomics and other related technologies.
- It will result in commercial and/or intellectual property (IP) outcomes that benefit the Receptor.
- It has the potential to generate social benefits and economic impacts (refer to the above section, Benefits to the Genome Prairie Region and Impacts for Receptors).

The **GenTrac Program** is not intended to fund:

- Commercial launches of already-developed technology.
- Patent enforcement or litigation.
- Projects, project components or service provision (e.g., routine analyses or certain types of clinical trials) that would typically be funded solely by the Receptor.

## Eligible costs

- See the eligible costs described in Genome Canada's **[Guidelines for Funding](#)**.

- Funded project budgets must not include any services offered by the Receptor but can include services offered by others.

## Project Knowledge mobilization and dissemination

Project teams must allocate 5% of the total project budget to support the implementation their knowledge mobilization plan. As part of this requirement, project teams are expected to participate in Genome Prairie’s Annual Genomics Symposium to present project progress and outcomes. Budget allocations should include travel and registration costs for appropriate project representatives to attend and present at this event, as applicable.

Progress on knowledge mobilization activities will be reported through the project’s regular reporting requirements.

## Project management and oversight

The Receptor Lead and Academic Lead are responsible for managing the project, with their roles and responsibilities set out in the Full Proposal. The project must be a true partnership between Receptor and Academic partners, with each partner contributing to the project to meet milestones and deliverables. Examples of contributions from the partners will include:

- project leadership
- contribution of scientific/technical expertise, knowledge and resources,
- execution of specific activities or technical skills
- supplying conceptual, financial or planning advice
- consulting with end-users, potential clients, or customers
- driving the commercial development of the genomics product
- meeting project milestones and deliverables
- management of project finances
- recruitment and management of human resources
- communicating research outcomes to stakeholders and Genome Prairie.

Project reporting will take the form of quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, and a final report following project completion. At Genome Prairie’s discretion, some projects may be required to report more frequently.

Genome Prairie has the ultimate responsibility for the stewardship and success of **GenTrac**. Genome Prairie will provide oversight of the **GenTrac Program** and funded projects through its Programs Team. To manage its governance and oversight effectively, Genome Prairie will:

- Disseminate information about the **GenTrac Program** to potential partners and genomics/biotechnology/life science organizations within the Genome Prairie Region.
- Explore project ideas with project teams and assist them in developing eligible proposals.
- Internally review submitted Letters of Intent (LOIs) and invite suitable projects to submit Full Proposals.
- Conduct an external independent review of the Full Proposals, obtaining recommendations based on commercial, technical, and budgetary feasibility, benefits to the Genome Prairie Region, Inclusion, Diversity, Equality and Accessibility (IDEA) appropriateness, management capabilities and potential for the project to generate IP or follow-on funding.

- Genome Prairie will assess projects based on reviewer recommendations, regional priorities, and financial constraints. Successful teams will be notified of their success
- Develop and execute research agreements with the partners.
- Flow funds to the project through the Academic Lead Organization’s financial management processes.
- Collate financial information, progress toward milestones and deliverables, and progress toward commercialization through quarterly financial and semi-annual technical reporting.
- Monitor project finances throughout the project duration.
- Genome Prairie may also be involved with communications and knowledge translation activities about the project.
- Collate metrics on **GenTrac** projects and share them with funders
- Close out projects.

## Intellectual property

Genome Prairie recognizes a variety of IP forms—including patent applications, patents, trade secrets, designs, processes and proprietary datasets—as IP typically resulting from innovation R&D programs.

**GenTrac** funding is conditional on a legally binding IP agreement between the project partners. The agreement must address, at a minimum:

- The rights to use the “background” IP required for the project.
- The ownership of and rights to license new (“foreground”) IP generated.
- The management of new IP (e.g., filing and prosecution, maintenance and licensing).
- Responsibility and/or liability for patent litigation.

Applicants are advised to contact Genome Prairie for guidance on IP policies and guidelines.

## Data release and resource sharing policies

Each **GenTrac** applicant must provide a data management plan as part of its full application. Genome Prairie recognizes the importance of maintaining the confidentiality of commercially valuable information and strives to strike a balance between openness and the protection of Canadian economic interests. Therefore, **GenTrac** funding is conditional upon Receptor Project Leaders agreeing to comply with Genome Canada’s policies regarding data release, resource sharing, and access to research publications (see Genome Canada’s [Data Release and Resource Sharing Policy](#)).

Applicants may request an exemption from data-sharing requirements. Exemptions will normally be confirmed early in the application process upon mutual understanding of the nature of the data and information in question.

## Diversity and inclusivity

Genome Prairie encourages partners to increase the inclusion and advancement of equity-deserving, underrepresented communities in the region’s innovation economy. These groups can include Indigenous Peoples, members of other racialized groups, women, persons with disabilities, members of 2SLGBTQ+ communities, and early-career researchers. Additionally, Genome Prairie is committed to creating an inclusive environment and ensuring equitable participation by individuals with diverse visual, motor, auditory, learning, and

cognitive abilities. We are acting on the evidence that achieving a more equitable, diverse and inclusive innovation value chain is essential to creating the inventions, companies, jobs and investment opportunities required for a prosperous society.

Genome Prairie is also committed to Indigenous truth, reconciliation, and engagement, as well as the right to self-determination, as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). This commitment is reflected in our support for Indigenous data governance principles that are people- and purpose-oriented and that recognize the crucial role of data in advancing Indigenous innovation and self-determination.

The research should be conducted in accordance with the [Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans](#) and the [First Nations principles of ownership, control, access and possession \(OCAP®\)](#). Additionally, projects involving Métis people, communities, data, land, or knowledge, etc., should consider the research in the context of ownership, control, access, and stewardship (OCAS).

## Application process

**GenTrac** applications have two stages: a Letter of Intent and a full proposal. Both LOIs and Full Applications will be assessed as outlined in **Appendix B**.

### Letter of intent

The Letter of Intent (LOI) must be completed and **submitted by email to Genome Prairie** at [applications@genomeprairie.ca](mailto:applications@genomeprairie.ca). It should summarize the proposed project, its value proposition, and describe the innovation, market opportunity, and proposed path to commercialization. It must clearly articulate whether and how genomics is involved, as well as the proposed innovation.

Depending on the nature of the proposed innovation and its target market, applicants are urged to present a high-level business case in which teams address the following key questions:

1. What is the biotechnology innovation that is based on or enabled by genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics, or metagenomics?
2. What is the eventual commercial product or service that will result from the innovation?
3. What is the market opportunity of the commercial product or service?
4. Describe how you plan to move your product or service from its current stage to being sold or used in the market.
5. What is the work plan for your proposed **GenTrac** project, including the key approaches and methods that will be used to achieve the project's milestones and deliverables?
6. How will the commercialization of the innovation benefit the Receptor?
7. Describe how the project will provide benefits to the Saskatchewan and/or Manitoba Region.
8. Explain why investors should be confident that the team will deliver on project objectives. Describe how the partnership is structured and how it leverages the resources and expertise of the partners.

Projects must also confirm that they meet the **GenTrac Program's** eligibility criteria, particularly the definition of an eligible Receptor (see **Appendix A**). If they do not yet meet the criteria, they must clearly demonstrate and provide an overview of how they intend to do so by the start date of the project.

## Full proposal

The full proposal must be completed and **submitted by email to Genome Prairie at [applications@genomeprairie.ca](mailto:applications@genomeprairie.ca)**. It should provide a detailed explanation of the project's innovation, commercialization plan, IP strategy, management team, project plan (with timeline and milestones), and budget.

Full proposals must describe the project's innovation and path to realization, including the:

- Market-driven opportunity requiring a public-private research partnership.
- Objectives and key results.
- Feasibility of the technical plan, objectives, milestones and timelines.
- Feasibility of the commercial plan.
- Commercial impact on partners.
- Benefits to the Genome Prairie Region.

Full proposals must present a well-informed, reasonable market opportunity. Where possible, the opportunity should be justified by:

- A techno-economic feasibility assessment of the innovation.
- A validated analysis of the market opportunity being addressed.
- An assessment and risk-mitigation plan for likely barriers to project success (e.g., technical, social, market, competition, policy, regulatory, supply chain, etc.).
- Letters of support and/or co-funding commitment letters from real or potential partners, customers, investors or other relevant stakeholders.

The project team should exhibit characteristics that are linked to innovation outcomes, such as:

- Diverse leadership, with representation from a variety of skillsets, experience levels, and identities.
- A record of developing and protecting economically or strategically valuable IP.
- A record of founding, fundraising and exiting an FPE.

## Contacts

All documentation and information related to proposal submissions and follow-up must be submitted to Genome Prairie. Contact Genome Prairie at [applications@genomeprairie.ca](mailto:applications@genomeprairie.ca) with questions about the application process.



**Saskatoon Office** 214-111 Research Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 3R2  
**Winnipeg Office** 200-135 Innovation Drive, Winnipeg, MB R3T 6A8

[applications@genomeprairie.ca](mailto:applications@genomeprairie.ca)

[GENOMEPRAIRIE.CA](http://GENOMEPRAIRIE.CA)

[X@GENOMEPRAIRIE](https://twitter.com/GENOMEPRAIRIE)

[in GENOME-PRAIRIE](https://www.linkedin.com/company/genome-prairie)

## Appendix A. Receptor eligibility

Applicants will be required to attest that the following eligibility requirements have been met.

### Receptor ownership

#### **Private, for-profit enterprises**

A Receptor that is a private FPE must be majority-owned by Canadians, defined as direct ownership of stock or equity in the Receptor on a fully diluted basis (i.e., total shares or equity outstanding if all possible sources of conversion were to be exercised). This includes, but is not limited to, outstanding stock or equity (both common and preferred), warrants, options or other convertible securities.

The majority (more than 50 per cent) of the Receptor's equity must be directly owned by one of the following:

1. One or more individuals who are citizens or permanent residents of Canada
2. Other FPEs directly owned and controlled by individuals who are citizens or permanent residents of Canada.
3. Other publicly traded FPEs residing in Canada.
4. Any combination of the above.

Examples of different ownership structures and eligibility outcomes are in Table A1.

#### **Public for-profit enterprises**

Publicly traded Receptor FPEs must be based in Canada.

A publicly traded Receptor company is resident in the country where its central management and control are exercised.

A company can be resident in Canada without having been incorporated in Canada, provided its real business is carried on in Canada.

### Receptor control

Receptor control must be exercised in Canada. Control is defined as the authority to make decisions regarding the Receptor's management and policies.

A Receptor that is a private FPE must be more than 50 per cent controlled by one of the following:

- One Canadian citizen or permanent resident.
- More than one Canadian citizen or permanent resident.
- One other FPE that is directly owned and controlled by Canadian citizens or permanent residents.
- More than one FPE, each of which is directly owned and controlled by Canadian citizens or permanent residents.
- Any combination of the above.

A wholly owned subsidiary of a foreign public corporation is eligible, provided that the subsidiary is incorporated in Canada and its control is exercised in Canada.

**Table A1: Examples of ownership share as a percentage of stock in a Receptor that is a privately held FPE to determine eligibility for the GenTrac Program funding**

| Example | Individuals <sup>i</sup> | Canadian <sup>ii</sup><br>FPE #1 | Canadian <sup>ii</sup><br>FPE #2 | Canadian<br>public<br>institution <sup>iii</sup> | Foreign <sup>iv</sup><br>individuals or<br>FPEs | % Canadian<br>ownership | Eligible? |
|---------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| 1       | 100                      |                                  |                                  |                                                  |                                                 | 100%                    | Yes       |
| 2       | 50                       | 50                               |                                  |                                                  |                                                 | 100%                    | Yes       |
| 3       | 35                       | 60                               |                                  | 5                                                |                                                 | 95%                     | Yes       |
| 4       | 10                       | 40                               | 20                               | 10                                               | 20                                              | 70%                     | Yes       |
| 5       |                          | 30                               | 30                               | 10                                               | 30                                              | 60%                     | Yes       |
| 6       |                          | 40                               |                                  |                                                  | 60                                              | 40%                     | No        |
| 7       |                          | 45                               |                                  | 10                                               | 45                                              | 45%                     | No        |
| 8       |                          | 50                               |                                  |                                                  | 50                                              | 50%                     | No        |
| 9       | 25                       |                                  |                                  | 25                                               | 50                                              | 25%                     | No        |
| 10      |                          |                                  |                                  |                                                  | 100                                             | 0%                      | No        |

<sup>i</sup> Individuals are citizens or permanent residents of Canada.

<sup>ii</sup> A Canadian FPE is a business, other than the Receptor, that is directly owned and controlled by one or more individuals who are citizens or permanent residents of Canada.

<sup>iii</sup> A Canadian public institution is a publicly funded, non-profit organization. Typically, it is a university that takes an equity position in a start-up company.

<sup>iv</sup> Foreign individuals are neither citizens nor permanent residents of Canada. Foreign FPEs are businesses that are not domiciled in Canada and/or not directly owned and controlled by one or more individuals who are citizens or permanent residents of Canada.

## Appendix B. Review criteria

Genome Prairie uses a rigorous, independent peer review process to assess the merit of proposals and their potential for impacts and benefits for Canada and to ensure that sound management and financial practices are implemented.

All reviewers engaged by Genome Prairie sign confidentiality and conflict of interest agreements to ensure that information is kept in strict confidence and that reviewers are not biased by conflicting professional obligations or financial considerations.

### Letter of intent review criteria

The LOI will undergo an eligibility check by Genome Prairie based on the criteria outlined in this **GenTrac** funding guideline.

LOI Criteria Include:

#### 1. Innovation and Commercial Plan

- The innovation is based on or enabled by genomics or other “omics”
- There is a clear and compelling value proposition for the innovation, and all, if any, claims of an unmet need or opportunity have been supported.
- Sufficient consideration has been given to the target market potential of the innovation (quantitatively, if possible), identified paying customers, alternatives and competitors (if any).
- The pathway to commercializing the innovation is clear, realistic, and accounts for any likely adoption hurdles (legal, regulatory, social, economic, logistical, etc.).
- There are no significant IP or regulatory barriers to developing and commercializing the innovation.
- **Work Plan**
- The project objectives, milestones, and deliverables are clear, quantifiable, and achievable within the proposed timeline.
- The work plan is sufficiently detailed and logical, with well-defined go/no-go milestones that recognize and mitigate technical risks.
- There are measurable performance targets
- **Benefits to Receptor and the Saskatchewan/Manitoba Region**
- The potential (direct and indirect) benefits of the project to the Receptor are quantifiable, significant and likely to be realized. Examples include revenue generated, jobs created, Highly Qualified Personnel trained, capacity built, funding leveraged, etc.
- The innovation will provide benefits to the Receptor and contribute to their technological advancement.
- The potential (direct and indirect) benefits of the project to the Genome Prairie Region stakeholders and/or economy are quantifiable, significant and likely to be realized.

#### 2. Project Leadership and Management

- The project team have the technical expertise and ability to carry out the work proposed.
- The receptor and researcher have a true partnership, with each having appropriate and necessary roles and responsibilities in the project, including involvement in project leadership, contribution of specific knowledge and resources, and execution of certain activities.

- Whenever possible, the composition of the team considers equity, diversity and inclusion.

### **3. Finances and Co-funding**

- The proposed total project size appears reasonable, given the anticipated level of effort and the expected deliverables.
- In-kind contributions are appropriately valued and clearly reflect the fair market value of the resources provided in support of project activities

Genome Prairie will notify applicants of the decision within 10 business days of the submission deadline.

## **Full proposal review criteria**

The full proposal will undergo a review by a small panel of diverse, independent experts with expertise in research, invention, innovation, commercialization, entrepreneurship and finance. The panel will assess the technology and adoption readiness of each qualified project, taking into account the partnership's capacity to complete its stated deliverables. The review will be completed as an independent, at-home exercise.

The independent reviews will be used by Genome Prairie, in part, to assess whether the applications meet the objectives of the **GenTrac Program**. Genome Prairie may adjust its evaluation processes if warranted by the number or complexity of proposals received or other relevant factors. Genome Prairie will communicate any changes to the applicant teams.

Recognizing that each innovation is a unique interaction of invention and market opportunity, the expert reviewers will consider the following five categories individually and in aggregate when assessing projects at the full proposal stage.

### **1. Innovation and commercial plan**

- There is a clear and compelling value proposition for the innovation.
- Any claims of an unmet need or opportunity have been supported.
- The pathway to commercializing the innovation is clear, realistic and accounts for any likely adoption hurdles (legal, regulatory, social, economic, logistical, etc.).
- Sufficient consideration has been given to the target market potential of the innovation (quantitatively, if possible), alternatives and competitors (if any).
- There are no significant IP barriers to developing and commercializing the innovation, and there is a clear plan to protect newly generated IP.
- The plan for sharing data and resources within the project and externally is appropriate and complies with Genome Canada's Data Release and Resource Sharing Plan (see Genome Canada's **[Data Release and Resource Sharing Policy](#)**).

### **2. Work plan**

- The project objectives, milestones, and deliverables are clear, quantifiable and achievable within the proposed timeline.
- The project plan is sufficiently detailed and logical, with well-defined go/no-go milestones that recognize and mitigate technical risks.
- The plan contains a clear scientific rationale for the proposed approach, defines the innovation's target performance, and outlines the desired outcomes, supported by previous work, data, literature or other credible references.

- The major tools and methods to be employed in the project are appropriate and reasonably well-established in the field.
- Equity, diversity and inclusion are reflected in the research design and practices and include participation by underrepresented groups, as appropriate.
- The team has the technical expertise and ability to carry out the work proposed.
- The facilities, equipment and services to be employed in the project are appropriate for the proposed activities.

### **3. Benefits to the Genome Prairie Region and economy**

- The potential (direct and indirect) benefits of the project to the Receptor are quantifiable, significant and likely to be realized. Examples include revenue generated, jobs created, Highly Qualified Personnel trained, capacity built, funding leveraged, etc.
- The potential (direct and indirect) benefits of the project to the researcher and/or the broader, publicly funded Eastern Prairie Region research and innovation ecosystem are quantifiable, significant and likely to be realized.
- The potential (both direct and indirect) benefits of the project to Saskatchewan and/or Manitoba stakeholders and/or economies are quantifiable, significant and likely to be realized.
- IP generated will provide benefits to Manitoba and/or Saskatchewan and contribute to their economic, social and technological advancement.
- The steps and conditions required to realize the potential benefits of the innovation are well-defined and realistic.

### **4. Project leadership and management**

- The Receptor has the capacity to lead the project and generates value by contributing resources, commercial and technical knowledge, as well as, technical leadership and support. The eventual commercialization of the innovation is the primary motivation for Receptor involvement in the project.
- The Receptor and researcher have a true partnership, with each having appropriate and necessary roles in the project, including involvement in project leadership, contribution of specific knowledge and resources, and execution of certain activities.
- The researcher, Receptor and key personnel are well-qualified and experienced in the project field, based on their credentials, past projects, publications and other considerations.
- The composition of the team and recruiting strategies consider equity, diversity and inclusion whenever possible.
- Both the Receptor and researcher continue to satisfy the relevant eligibility criteria.

### **5. Financial aspects**

- The proposed budget appears reasonable, given the anticipated level of effort, the expected deliverables, and the typical costs for the proposed expense categories and activities.
- The proposal provides sufficient assurance that expenditures from a funded project will be closely and critically monitored.
- The proposed co-funding plan is well-documented, reasonably valued, and feasible.
- The proposed co-funding is integrated with and directly supports the objectives of the project.
- It is expected that all co-funding will be secured when Genome Prairie funds are released.
- The valuation of the in-kind contributions appears reasonable.