

Our Ref. 59633
60310-70/MITACS

March 21, 2007

Mr. Arvind Gupta
Chief Executive Officer
and Scientific Director
MITACS
TASC 2, Room 9904
Simon Fraser University
8888 University Dr
Burnaby BC V5A 1S6

Dear Mr. Gupta:

I am pleased to inform you that the Ministry of Advanced Education (AVED) will provide the Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems (MITACS) Inc. with a one-time discretionary grant of \$10,000,000 to support graduate student internships under the British Columbia Graduate Industrial Internships Program. This funding will be transferred to your organization by cheque shortly.

In accordance with the proposal submitted to AVED, the grant will be put towards internships offered by MITACS.

In order to ensure accountability for the funds, please report on the expenditures and results of the MITACS internship program at the end of each fiscal year. AVED staff will contact MITACS staff at a later date to discuss the report.

As a condition of assistance, recipients are required to acknowledge the Ministry's assistance on any written materials relating to this grant. The following acknowledgment may be used:

"We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Advanced Education."

... /2

Please have your staff contact Ms. Jennifer McCrea of our Public Affairs Bureau at (250) 952-6508 to arrange for an opportunity to publicly announce funding for this project. AVED feels cooperative efforts around public communications will maximize the benefits to your organization and the program. I respectfully request that you defer any media releases until our joint efforts can be formalized.

The Ministry of Advanced Education would like to thank you for your contribution to graduate student education in British Columbia and for supporting government's research and innovation agenda.

Sincerely,

Original signed by...

Murray Coell
Minister

pc: Dr. Moura Quayle
Deputy Minister

Mr. Joseph Thompson, Executive Director
Funding and Analysis Branch

Mr. Marcus Barthropp, Director
Financial Services and Administration Branch

Ms. Deborah Hull, Director
Universities and Institutes Branch

Mr. Ken Armour, Director
Research Initiatives Branch

Ms. Jennifer McCrea, Director
Advanced Education Communications



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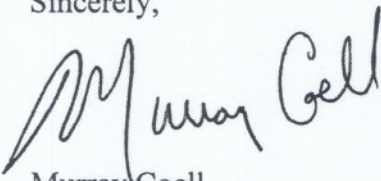
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Advanced Education Communications



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60310-70/MITACS

March 26, 2007

Mr. Arvind Gupta
Chief Executive Officer
and Scientific Director
MITACS

TASC 2, Room 9904
Simon Fraser University
8888 University Dr
Burnaby BC V5A 1S6

Dear Mr. Gupta:

I am writing further to the letter from the Minister of Advanced Education informing you that the Ministry of Advanced Education (AVED) will provide the Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems (MITACS) Inc. with a one-time discretionary grant of \$10,000,000 to support graduate student internships.

As you know, the grant has been provided as a result of your proposal to AVED, which indicates that you will put the funding towards graduate student internships offered by MITACS over the next four years. The management of the funds and the program are the responsibility of MITACS; however, as we have discussed, AVED would like to maintain ongoing communications with MITACS as to the progress and outcomes of the program.

My understanding is that the total number of internships is expected to be at least 650, and that support per student will vary, depending on the educational level of the student (Masters, Doctoral or Post-Doctoral).

In addition, as per our discussions, you have agreed that it would be advantageous to everyone involved in furthering graduate student opportunities for MITACS to explore further opportunities for graduate students in British Columbia with the Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences and the Westlink Innovation Network.

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Ministry of
Advanced Education

Research and Innovation Branch
2nd Floor, 835 Humboldt Street
PO Box 9876, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9T6

Telephone: (250) 387-6189
Facsimile: (250) 952-6110

As noted in the letter from the Minister, AVED would appreciate receiving regular reports on the expenditures and results of the MITACS internship program, preferably at the end of each fiscal year. I suggest that financial statements on the status of expenditures of the \$10,000,000 and information related to government's objectives for research and innovation expenditures would provide information useful to AVED. Government's objectives are listed in the attachment to this letter along with several performance measures for the program, which you have indicated you are planning to use to assess the success of the program. AVED appreciates your willingness to provide this information as it will greatly assist our continuing efforts to increase support for graduate students.

In addition to the annual reports, I would like to request MITACS's assistance in helping AVED in efforts to communicate the advantages of supporting research and innovation, particularly in terms of graduate student supports. As you are aware, I have already contacted you for some MITACS internship "success stories" that can be used in public documents created by AVED.

As noted in the Minister's letter, please have your staff contact Ms. Jennifer McCrea of our Public Affairs Bureau at (250) 952-6508 to arrange for an opportunity to publicly announce funding for this project. AVED feels cooperative efforts around public communications will maximize the benefits to your organization and the program. I respectfully request that you defer any media releases until our joint efforts can be formalized. I understand that your communications staff have already been in touch with Jennifer McCrea and her staff.

Thank you again for your efforts to further the success of graduate students in British Columbia.

Sincerely,



Ken Armour

Attachment

pc: Ms. Deborah Hull, Director
Universities and Institutes Branch

British Columbia Graduate Industrial Internship Program

Government Objectives

1. Leverage funding from industry and the federal government.
2. Enhance industry competitiveness.
3. Increase commercialization of research.
4. Support British Columbia's Research and Innovation priorities by expanding the number of graduate students in the following key sectors of the province's economy:
 - Life Sciences (health and biotechnology);
 - Technology (information and communication, new media and wireless);
 - Clean Technology (alternative energy and sustainable technologies); and,
 - Natural Resources (forestry, agriculture, fishing, mining, oil and gas).
5. Contribute to government's Asia-Pacific Gateway Strategy (e.g., Pacific Studies, Asian Languages, etc.).
6. Increase university-industry linkages.
7. Increase the retention of highly qualified personnel in British Columbia.

Performance Indicators for the Program

1. Number of interns (MSc, PhD, PDF).
2. Ratio of female and male interns.
3. Ratio of Canadian and foreign interns.
4. Retention of MITACS interns in British Columbia (two years after the end of internship).
5. Number of different sponsor organizations.
6. Summary of internships by disciplines and by sector of economy.
7. List of participating post-secondary institutions and departments.
8. Total of internship grants sent to individual post-secondary institutions.
9. Total of funds spent on intern's stipends.
10. Additional funding leveraged by internship partner contributions (industrial, federal).
11. Satisfaction rate of sponsor organizations.
12. Satisfaction rate of interns.
13. Number of soft skill and technical skill workshops.
14. Number of students trained in soft skills and technical skill workshops.

