

Project Selection Committee / Applicant Interaction Policy

Committee/Applicant Interaction Policy

There are three Project Selection Committees, one for each program stream; ie: Technology Leadership, Capacity Building, and Artificial Intelligence.

Each Committee consists of five members; two Protein Industries Canada senior executives and three independent industry experts, appointed by the Board of Protein Industries Canada.

Each Committee provides independent oversight of the project selection process and has been delegated the authority to make independent, expert evaluations of full project proposals and co-funding decisions in the execution of Protein Industries Canada's mandate.

Unless invited by Protein Industries Canada, at no time should stakeholders, members or applicants be engaging Committee members with regards to projects that have been evaluated, are currently under consideration by the Committee, or have been decided upon. In addition, the Committee will not reach out directly to applicants for information or input regarding projects; these requests will be handled by Protein Industries Canada staff.

Members who fail to comply with this policy could have their membership rights terminated, project funding cancelled and/or current and future projects removed from consideration.

Concerns, comments or questions with regards to Committee operation or decisions should be directed to Protein Industries Canada staff.

Committee members, Protein Industries Canada members and Protein Industries Canada staff all share a responsibility to report any activity in contravention of this policy.

Conflict Resolution Process

Any allegation of improper interaction will be reviewed. The Protein Industries Canada CTO and/or CEO will investigate any reported contravention of this policy. Upon reviewing the facts and interviewing implicated parties, the CTO and/or CEO shall determine if further investigation is warranted or if no further action is necessary.

Should it be determined that further investigation is warranted, an independent investigation committee headed by Protein Industries Canada's CFO and consisting of two additional Independent Directors of the Board shall be convened to review the allegations, seek additional information as required and make a final determination of a contravention of the Committee/Applicant Interaction Policy.

If there has been a contravention of the Policy, the investigation committee shall make a recommendation to the Board on whether consequences such as membership cancellation, cancellation of actively funded project or withdrawal from consideration for current or future projects should be invoked.

The Board will review the findings and recommendations, ratify as appropriate and ensure appropriate actions are taken.

Policy Communication

The Committee / Applicant interaction policy will be:

- Posted in the "Program" section of the Protein Industries Canada website; and

- Referenced in Protein Industries Canada’s Program Guides and other marketing material as deemed appropriate.

In addition, the biographies of the Independent Committee members will be made available along with the Policy.

Independent Industry Expert members of the Committee

The following Independent Industry Experts have been appointed by the Board of Protein Industries Canada.

- [**Project Selection Committee – Technology Leadership**](#)
- [**Project Selection Committee – Capacity Building**](#)
- [**Project Selection Committee – Artificial Intelligence**](#)
- **Project Selection Committee – Alternates** (listed at the bottom of each of the above pages, as applicable)