

CANADIAN CHLORINE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

1.0 General

The Canadian Chlorine Coordinating Committee (C4) has as its vision "the responsible use of chlorine chemistry resulting in societal benefit recognized by the public". The mission statement and operating principles of C4 are included in Attachment #1.

C4 has a research program with focuses on potential environmental, wildlife and human health effects related to the production, use, and disposal of chlorine and organochlorine compounds. The key research areas are shown in Attachment #2. C4's funding guidelines are shown in Attachment #3.

Research funding is supplied as a grant to the principle investigators. Project expenditures are expected to follow generally accepted financial and accounting practices. Funds must be allocated as outlined in the research proposal. No provision for institutional overhead charges is allowed. Significant changes must receive approval from C4. Brief written progress reports are expected twice a year (generally in January and July), and are to be submitted to the C4 Research Advisor. The C4 policy on intellectual property (patents) is included in Attachment #4. C4's policy on release of information is shown in Attachment #5. Assurance of progress is required to justify ongoing funding of multiyear projects.

Since generation and communication of information is a focus of the research grant process, it is expected that researchers will publish grant-sponsored work in the scientific literature and make presentations at scientific and public meetings. C4 does not require prior approval over any reporting of C4-sponsored research but would appreciate receiving notification and copies of publications and presentations whenever they are made available to the scientific community or general public. Acknowledgement of C4 support is appreciated (See Attachment #3).

2.0 Specific Proposals

C4 requests proposals addressing the key research areas presented in Attachment 2. As well, the research plan of the Research Foundation for Health & Environmental Effects presents a number of research themes plus candidate projects. This research plan was developed with the assistance of a US/Canadian committee of government, academia, and industry representatives convened by the Chlorine Chemistry Council and C4. RFHEE research themes are consistent with the C4 key research areas and the candidate projects represent a consensus on needed chlorine-related research projects. Proposals addressing identified candidate projects may receive priority for funding over general, theme-related proposals.

3.0 Due Date

Starting in 2002 proposals for the current calendar year must be received by May 15. Announcements about funded projects should be made by August 15. Advice and/or comments on draft proposals will continue to be available, subject to adequate lead time prior to the due date.

4.0 Proposal Format

The proposal should have a short overview section describing the proposed research, expected deliverables and outcome, cost, and project duration. Other subjects to be covered in the full proposal include:

- Rationale
- Relevance to Key Research Areas
- Objectives
- Background
- Hypothesis
- Experimental Approach
- Significance of Work
- Outcome/Deliverables
- Project Cost/Budget
- Project Duration
- Project Personnel
- Other Funding Sources

To facilitate delivering C4 support please specify where grant cheques should be sent and which name(s) should appear on the cheques.

5.0 Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated for their effectiveness in advancing the knowledge in C4 and/or RFHEE research areas (Attachment #2) and compliance with C4's principles (Attachment #1). Proposals should fall within the funding criteria shown in Attachment #3. Matching funding from other sources is encouraged but not necessary.

Proposals submitted to C4 will be reviewed by the C4 Project Team and C4 designated reviewers. Input from the RFHEE Science Committee will also be requested. All proposals meeting basic scientific acceptability will be ranked and available funds will be allocated by the ranking priority.

6.0 C4 Project Team:

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Please send proposals to L.S. McCarty, electronic (PDF) copies preferred.

ATTACHMENT 1

CANADIAN CHLORINE COORDINATING COMMITTEE STATEMENT

Vision: The responsible and sustainable use of chlorine chemistry resulting in societal benefit recognized by the public.

Mission: To facilitate dialogue and promote coordinated action in Canada among key stakeholders in order to bring about a balanced view of chlorine chemistry to enable society to make informed, science-based decisions on issues involving chlorine.

Principles: C4 and its members will:

- Acknowledge environmental and health concerns and develop actions to deal with them.
- Adopt a product stewardship approach for all uses of chlorine chemistry
- Phase out uses of chlorine that science shows present unreasonable risks that cannot be otherwise managed, as agreed to at UNCED, and practice responsible management for all uses.
- Promote the use of best available science in risk-based decision making.
- Bring together in dialogue key stakeholders, to the extent possible, concerning issues related to chlorine chemistry.
- Draw on available resources and act as a clearing house to provide for consistent information.
- Be a credible source of information on chlorine issues.
- Communicate in a manner that is open, ongoing, transparent, and leads towards consensus.
- Promote continuing education about the societal benefits and the risks of chlorine chemistry.
- Seek continuous improvement in Environmental, Health and Safety performance.

ATTACHMENT 2

C4 KEY RESEARCH AREAS

- environmental fate and monitoring
- environmental and human exposure and effects, including but not limited to:
 - neurotoxicity and neurobehavioural effects
 - reproductive and developmental effects
 - dose-response relationships for dioxin-like compounds
 - cancer
 - wildlife and human endocrine-related exposure and effects
- chlorine disinfection-related exposure and effects
- use, relevance, and communication of science in public policy decision-making, including but not limited to:
 - probabilistic risk assessment
 - risk communication
 - risk-based cost-benefit analysis
- use, relevance, and communication of science in public policy decision-making

RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS RESEARCH AREAS (see www.rfhee.org for details)

- exposure and sources
- human and ecological effects
- risk assessment
- mixtures of chlorinated chemicals
- product focus: chlorine as a disinfectant

ATTACHMENT 3

C4 RESEARCH FUNDING GUIDELINES

- focus on environmental/human health impacts.
- without duplicating other investigators address areas where information is lacking or existing information is unclear so as to provide scientific support for decision making.
- relatively short-term research (1-3 years) with generally defined deliverables allowing researchers the necessary flexibility in determining specific research topics that would be undertaken under the approved proposal.
- for projects extending beyond 1 year researchers will provide C4 a progress report each year.
- generally consider sole funding for both small (< \$10,000) and medium (\$10,000 to \$50,000) sized research projects
- limit support for large projects (i.e. > \$100,000) to partial funding not to exceed \$50,000 and generally no more than 1 or 2 per year.
- funding for undergraduate/post-graduate/post-doctoral students provide good value for dollars invested.
- preference to proposals that reflect collaborative/networking mechanisms such that research efforts are complementary and supportive.
- risk assessment requires effective risk communication.
- funding support will be considered for academic, private, and government institutions.

Acknowledgement that funding was provided "through the Canadian Chlorine Coordinating Committee and the Canadian Chemical Producers Association" would be appreciated.

ATTACHMENT 4

C4 POLICY ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (PATENTS)

The objectives of this policy are to:

encourage ongoing research relative to chlorine chemistry, and to support science-based decision making, in line with C4's Mission and Principles, communicate research findings in a manner that is open, ongoing and transparent, add clarity regarding the ownership of intellectual property and patents arising from research partially or wholly funded by C4.

Consistent with the objectives above, it is C4's Policy that ownership of intellectual property or patents arising from research funded wholly or partially by grants from C4 shall be assigned in keeping with the policy of the university which performed the research. Consistent with the policy of the National Science and Engineering Council of Canada, where there are multiple sources of funding for a project C4 expects intellectual property access rights to be granted to funding partners in proportion to each partner's contribution to the collaboration.

In a circumstance of other institutions, or when such a policy does not exist, results of C4 sponsored research shall be in the public domain with free access to C4 members and others.

This policy does not apply to research carried out under contract or otherwise by individual C4 members.

Researchers are requested to refer to the research policy which governs their activities in their proposals.

ATTACHMENT 5

C4 POLICY ON RELEASE OF INFORMATION ABOUT PROJECTS

Basic information that may be released publicly by C4 without researcher approval or notice:

Name of researcher and company/university affiliation
(not including address or telephone/fax numbers),

Amount of project funding,

Title of the project.

Short description(s) of overall project objectives and work planned (based on condensation of information in the proposal to C4. Researcher approval of text helpful but not required). Where C4 is a co-funder this would be noted and some or all of the other funders may be identified.

Progress reports submitted to C4 will remain confidential and for internal use only. Brief progress summaries based on submitted progress reports will be prepared by the C4 Research Advisor and submitted for approval for content and timing of release to individual researchers. Such summaries will not discuss data and will review progress in general terms so as to preclude them as being considered prior publication by scientific journals.

Once approved by the researcher these summaries may be released publicly by C4, either separately or in conjunction with basic project information. Public distribution may include, but is not limited to, presentation on the C4 or other Internet sites or newsgroups, inclusion in newsletters or governmental/regulatory submissions, and audiovisual or printed presentation at scientific or public meetings.

After a project is completed C4 may prepare a brief summary of the findings for public distribution. Generally this will be based on published abstract(s), paper(s), and conference presentations by the project researcher and will be submitted for approval to the researcher prior to any public distribution. Public distribution packages would contain the basic information noted above plus the final project summary.

If C4 is contacted by anyone concerning a sponsored project the only information that will be released is that described above. For any further discussion of the project C4 will direct the person to the researcher. At this point C4 may release the mailing address, telephone/fax number, and/or e-mail address of the principal researcher.