

February 1, 2022

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Report to Senate
February 9, 2022

1. Release of the Ontario Commercialization Mandate Policy Framework

On January 14, the Ontario provincial government released its Commercialization Mandate Policy Framework (included as Appendix to this report).

Among other things, this framework requires all Ontario universities to create and to publicly post, by April 29, 2022, a Commercialization Policy satisfying six major requirements:

- i. A commitment to the management and protection of IP in a manner that maximizes commercialization opportunities, protects Ontario interests and strengthens the Ontario economy.
- ii. Defined roles and responsibilities for relevant stakeholders within the institution to achieve that commitment.
- iii. A commitment to increase IP capacity through programming and related activities including the provision of access to IP Education and Awareness resources for all relevant stakeholders within the institution.
- iv. An invention disclosure policy such that the Technology Transfer Office [TTO], or equivalent institutional body, is made aware of, and can provide advice regarding, IP protection and commercialization opportunities.
- v. Guidance for relevant stakeholders regarding the commercialization of IP generated with the institution's resources in a manner that seeks to provide a net benefit to Ontarians. This could include advice regarding the prioritization of domestic industry partnerships, where possible, and support for the negotiation of global industry partnerships and/or licensing agreements.
- vi. Guidance for relevant stakeholders regarding institutional engagement with the innovation ecosystem (e.g., companies, incubators and accelerators, research institutes, market facilitators and intermediaries, etc.) to expand institutional capacity to achieve the goals of this Policy Framework.

The framework also requires that all universities post an annual Commercialization Plan by December 15, 2022, and by November 30 of each subsequent year.

While the intended scope and status of required document is still being assessed, it is anticipated that the requirements and initial draft of the Commercialization Policy will be undertaken by the Brock Innovation team in the Office of Research Services. I anticipate that this process will include coordination and consultation with Tech Transfer Offices at

other Ontario universities, as well as local innovation ecosystem partners, in addition to all internal stakeholders. The draft policy will be brought to Research and Scholarship Policy Committee for its input before being finalized.

2. Research Infosource Report 2021

The recently released [Research Infosource report](#) on Canadian universities notes several respects in which Brock University research has performed well relative to counterparts, including ranking first in its cohort for growth in corporate research funding over the past year, third in 20-year research publications growth, and fifth for growth in publications based on cross-sector collaborations.

3. Pivot research funding service

Brock University is renewing its subscription to [Pivot](#), a service that shares information about research funding opportunities from many sources. It can be tailored to reflect researchers' personal expertise and disciplines, and will send a regular email digest of available grants that fit a researcher's profile.

[APPENDIX: Commercialization Mandate Policy Framework]

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