



## ***Emerging Issues Policy***

As a result of *Competition I, II, & III, the Genome Espana/Genome Canada Competition and the Applied Genomics and Proteomics Research in Human Health Competition*, Genome Canada has established a solid base of excellent research in Canada. It is now time to develop a more “top-down” approach to further enhance our position as a leader in genomics and proteomics research. This will require being more strategic, as well as being reactive and responsive to emerging issues that prove to be of high importance, both nationally and internationally. Genome Canada will work with the Genome Centres to define the path ahead. Over the next year a number of steps will be taken to develop a strategy, including Board and SIAC retreats, public consultations, engagement with the provinces, preparation of white papers and focussed workshops.

### **PROCESS**

- Guidelines and selection criteria will be established for each type of request
- All requests must be submitted through a Genome Centre
- Requests will be screened by the Genome Canada management team, who will make the initial assessment on whether or not it is truly an emerging issue, that it meets the broad eligibility criteria of the program, and if the team proposing to undertake the work is appropriate.
- Staff will seek advice from SIAC and/or other appropriate experts to assist them in the assessment.
- Those investigators passing the initial screen will be required to submit an application on the appropriate form in which they must address the following:
  1. WHAT is being proposed—a description of the issues?
  2. WHY must this be done?
  3. WHO is to undertake the research and WHY are they the team to do this work?
  4. HOW will it be done—the research protocol?
  5. HOW much will it cost—a budget request?
- The proposal will be reviewed by appropriate members of a “college of expert reviewers”, who will undertake a detailed assessment of the proposal and make a recommendation to the Board of Genome Canada.
- Approval by the Board of Genome Canada

For emerging issues, which are time sensitive (e.g., SARS, *c. difficile*, Avian flu), the entire review process should take no longer than 3 weeks.