

Memorandum

Date: July 5, 2006

To: Members of the Subatomic Physics community

From: Samir Boughaba
Team Leader - Physics, Astronomy, Major Resources Support

Subject: Major Resources Support Program

Dear members:

The Major Facilities Access (MFA) program has been replaced by the Major Resources Support (MRS) program. The MRS program builds on the MFA program, with the objective to facilitate the effective access of Canadian researchers to **major** regional, national, or international (based in Canada) experimental **and** thematic research resources by financially assisting these resources to remain in a state of readiness for researchers to use. The MRS program also aims to assist Canadian researchers, who come together as consortia, in accessing major resources located abroad and whose equivalent is **not available** in Canada. You are invited to carefully review the MRS program description, the selection criteria that must be met, the expenses that are eligible, the duration of the grants, as well as the conditions associated with the payments, as they all apply to the subatomic physics community. This information is available at the following address: www.nserc.gc.ca/professors_e.asp?nav=profnave&lbi=d2.

In the case of the Subatomic Physics (SAP) community, the MRS program replaces the MFA program **inside** the envelope that is allocated to the Grant Selection Committee (GSC 19). Nothing changes with respect to the structure of the SAP envelope. As it has been the case since the creation of the envelope, GSC 19 will continue to review individual, group, project, equipment, and major resource support applications. The difference is that resources now include both experimental research facilities and thematic research organizations.

If you intend to apply for an MRS grant, you must first submit a **Form 181**, *Notification of Intent to Apply for a Major Resources Support Grant*. You will find this form on NSERC's web site at the following address: www.nserc.gc.ca/forms/pdf/f181_e.pdf. For the 2007 competition, the deadline for submitting Form 181 is **August 15, 2006**. It is a requirement to use Form 181 and **not** Form 180. The deadline for submitting an MRS grant application is **October 1, 2006**.

This memorandum is available in French