

Ecosystem Services Map

Sponsored Research Group, Innovation UBC (SRG)

What they do: SRG negotiates research contracts with industry, government, and not-for-profit partners. These agreements protect UBC's legal, financial, and intellectual property interests while enabling academic freedom, research integrity, and timely project execution.

How they do it:

- Collaborative research agreements
- Clinical research contracts
- Service agreements
- Associated amendments
- Material transfer agreements
- Confidentiality agreements

Office of Research Services (ORS)

What they do: ORS manages grants and awards from federal, provincial, and international agencies including Tri-Agency, foreign agencies (NIH, Horizon), and UBC internal awards. ORS supports the full life cycle of these competitively awarded, peer-reviewed funding programs to ensure compliance, eligibility, and successful implementation.

How they do it:

- Proposal development support
- Eligibility verification
- Compliance management
- Institutional approvals
- Award acceptance
- Negotiation of sub-awards to and from other institutions

Institutional Programs Office (IPO)

What they do: IPO implements major research funding programs including Canada First Research Excellence Fund, Canada Research Chairs, Canada Foundation for Innovation, Pacifican, and other institutional awards that require centralized governance and reporting.

How they do it:

- Centralized program administration
- Governance oversight
- Compliance management
- Coordinated reporting to funding agencies

Who Does What: UBC Unit Guide

Procurement (VPFO)

What they do: Procurement ensures UBC obtains goods and services through compliant, cost-effective contracts that support university operations, teaching, research, and capital projects.

How they do it:

- Supplier and vendor contracts
- Software purchases
- Professional services/consulting agreements

Office of the University Counsel (OUC)

What they do: OUC negotiates complex, high-risk institutional agreements that fall outside research and procurement contracting. OUC also provides legal advice across the university to protect UBC's interests and ensure legal compliance.

How they do it:

- Major commercial and real estate transactions
- Affiliation and partnership agreements
- Governance and policy instruments
- Litigation and dispute resolution
- Agreements involving significant legal, financial, reputational, or regulatory exposure

Research Finance (VPRI)

What they do: Research Finance ensures financial stewardship and compliance of externally funded research across the university.

How they do it:

- Opening and administering research accounts
- Monitoring expenditures for sponsor and institutional policy compliance
- Forecasting
- Audit services