



# FAQ

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- **How will the plan be used?**
  - The plan will be advisory to the Mathematics and Statistics Evaluation Group during their grant competition meetings, presumably much in the way re-allocations submissions were.
  - The plan also gives us an exceptional opportunity to showcase statistical and mathematical sciences in Canada ; to describe current successes and ideas for the future
  - This in turn can be used for efforts to raise the profile of mathematical and statistical sciences in many different venues.
- **How will the plan be written?**
  - A writing sub-committee will be established to prepare the draft and then final document.
  - Discussion documents solicited from the community will inform the plan.
  - The societies and institutes will also submit discussion documents.
- **What about the NSERC Liaison committee?**
  - This committee continues to exist, and to interact with NSERC regularly; good contacts are Gail Ivanoff and Walter Craig.
  - The Liaison committee's role is to address current operational issues; the LRP's role is to work towards the longer term.
- **Why isn't there representation from \_\_\_\_\_ on the steering committee?**
  - It was important to keep the committee small enough to function effectively, and there are many different aspects to try to balance. Everyone on the committee wears several hats!
  - Because the committee is limited in size, it is very important that we get input from \_\_\_\_\_ , ideally in the form of discussion papers, but comments to the committee via the website are also welcome.
- **Why are mathematics and statistics being lumped together?**
  - The new structure at NSERC means that mathematics and statistics share a single budgetary envelope now.
  - Note that the reviews in both the UK and the US currently underway also include statistics and mathematics (and in the UK, operations research).
- **How can we get more funding?**
  - NSERC has asked the Council of Canadian Academies to prepare a report on performance indicators. Our understanding is that this report will be used to inform re-allocation of funds across evaluation groups. The expert panel will be chaired by Rita Colwell: see <http://www.scienceadvice.ca/en/assessments/in-progress/science-performance/expert-panel.aspx>