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**AI Strategic Acceleration Fund**  
General criteria for proposal evaluation  
Oct 2021

**Please note:** A score out of 10 will be given for each category, where 10 is the highest.

1.	The research program presented will substantially advance New Brunswick’s capacity to execute applied AI research projects, and offers the potential to help local industry to implement AI solutions in the future
2.	Quality of the knowledge transfer and/or technology transfer <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How will the research be disseminated – is there a plan to share the knowledge outside of academia?</li><li>• If the knowledge won’t be broadly disseminated, is there an already identified non-academic receiver of the information?</li><li>• How will partner(s) be engaged with the results of the research?</li></ul>
3.	The PI has recognized expertise in applications of artificial intelligence <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evaluation of the CV (peer reviewed articles, previously secured grants)</li><li>• Success of previous projects using applied AI</li></ul>
4.	The PI has engaged industrial partners working in collaborative AI-related projects, and pipeline of additional industrial partners and/or the potential for deeper relationships with existing partners.
5.	The budget and plan presented has the potential to substantially accelerate the PI’s research program in applied AI, and help them attract additional investment
6.	The PI has secured the necessary leverage or is on a path to secure it within the next 3 months. Substantial direct cash contributions from industrial partners will be given additional weight.
7.	The PI has a coherent plan, with back-ups in place, to fully use the requested funding within two years and has instilled a sense of urgency in their work
8.	Research training opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Will there be opportunities for students or junior researchers to be actively engaged in this project?</li><li>• Will the trainees have access to a broader research training experience outside of the PI’s group via this opportunity?</li><li>• Does this project offer a significant experiential learning opportunity?</li></ul>

