

2025-26 – Research Security Outcomes Report

Project Title	Performance Objective	Performance Indicator	Actual Results/Outcomes/Impacts
<p>Advancing Research Security and Resilience at TMU</p>	<p>Deepen the institutional integration of research security risk management frameworks and expand operational capacity across TMU's research enterprise</p>	<p>Number of internal and external consultations</p> <p>Number of risk assessments conducted</p> <p>Number of training sessions/presentations delivered</p> <p>Uptake rate of research security self-assessment tools among researchers</p> <p>Number of national/international research security policy engagements</p>	<p>During the 2025–2026 reporting period, TMU significantly advanced the integration of research security risk management frameworks and expanded operational capacity across the university’s research enterprise. Research Security funding supported major enhancements to institutional governance, due diligence, outreach, training, and enterprise-wide coordination activities aligned with evolving federal and provincial safeguarding requirements.</p> <p>TMU established and operationalized formalized due diligence and mitigation review processes for research agreements, procurement activities, NDAs, international partnerships, and high-risk collaborations. Dedicated research security review processes were also implemented for Procurement and Bridging Divides activities, embedding safeguarding assessments into institutional workflows and approval processes. Over the reporting period, the Research Security Office conducted and/or supported more than 80 tailored consultations, enhanced due diligence reviews, and risk assessments involving sensitive research partnerships, travel, procurement, and funding activities.</p> <p>Research Security funding also supported the expansion and institutional use of the Strider intelligence platform to strengthen institutional due diligence and risk-informed decision-making. During the reporting period, TMU conducted more than 150 people searches and over 225 organizational due diligence searches in support of grant compliance, sanctions screening, partnership assessments, procurement reviews, export control considerations, and broader institutional risk mitigation activities.</p>

			<p>Institutional capacity was further strengthened through the successful onboarding and integration of an additional Research Security Advisor, who received specialized due diligence training and participated in an international research security conference in the United States. This significantly enhanced TMU's operational resilience, consultation capacity, post-award compliance support, and responsiveness to evolving safeguarding requirements.</p> <p>TMU also expanded institutional education and awareness efforts through workshops, outreach presentations, briefings, and tailored consultations. An estimated 125+ faculty members, research administrators, and institutional stakeholders received research security training and awareness support related to safeguarding requirements, foreign interference risks, sanctions/export controls, due diligence, and compliance obligations. TMU also developed a new online research security self-assessment tool, to be implemented institutionally, and published new guidance materials related to the National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships (NSGRP) Risk Assessment Form to strengthen researcher awareness and compliance readiness.</p> <p>Externally, TMU strengthened its national and international research security leadership profile through active participation in policy dialogues, conferences, and community of practice initiatives. TMU hosted a regional research security roundtable and participated in four additional regional and national engagements related to Ontario's SMA4 framework, safeguarding implementation, and evolving governance practices. TMU also attended and presented at the 2025 Canadian Research Security Conference in Vancouver and the 2026 ASCE Conference in Texas. In addition, TMU played a leading role in organizing the 2026 Canadian Research Security Conference in partnership with the University of Manitoba. The conference</p>
--	--	--	---

			<p>successfully secured two significant government grants through the SSHRC Connection Grant and Global Affairs Canada's Grants and Contributions in Aid of Academic Relations program, while also establishing the first formal bilateral exchange initiative between Team Canada and the UK Higher Education Research Security Association (HERSA) to support international peer learning and collaboration.</p> <p>Collectively, these activities significantly strengthened TMU's institutional readiness, governance maturity, due diligence capacity, and ability to proactively identify and mitigate research security risks while supporting secure global research collaboration.</p>
--	--	--	---