Knowledge Mobilization Definitions

- Knowledge mobilization (KMb) includes the products, processes and relationships among knowledge creators, users, and mediators (individuals or intermediary organizations that support knowledge brokering). KMb—knowledge is moved “into active service for the broadest possible common good.” Mobilization is conducted by increasing “connectivity” or the multidirectional pathways for knowledge discovery, exchange and uptake (Hawkins/ICES).

- A suite of services that enhances the two-way connection between researchers and research users so that research and evidence can inform decisions about public policy and professional practice. Knowledge mobilization encompasses methods of knowledge transfer, translation and exchange and extends them to the co-production of knowledge. Knowledge mobilization turns research into action (Research Impact).

- The term Knowledge Mobilization (KMb) refers to moving available knowledge (often from formal research) into active use. It involves efforts to bridge the gap between research, policy and practice in order to improve outcomes in various organizations or sectors. KMb involves knowledge sharing between research producers (e.g. university researchers) and research users (including professionals or others whose work can benefit from research findings), often with the help of third parties or intermediaries. (Knowledge Mobilization Institute)

- Research knowledge flows in multiple directions—across disciplines, sectors and national borders—as well as among specialists and the general public. Success in the knowledge-based society and economy requires increased access to and use of research skills, expertise and results in order to enhance quality of life. “Knowledge mobilization” refers to a range of processes that help move research results into society, as well as bring new ideas into the world of research. From knowledge-brokering and outreach, to more effective dissemination through new technologies, to the “co-creation” of knowledge, these processes help ensure that public investments in social sciences and humanities research have the greatest possible impact—intellectually, socially and economically.

A knowledge mobilization strategy focuses on connecting research to Canadian society. SSHRC 2010-2012