

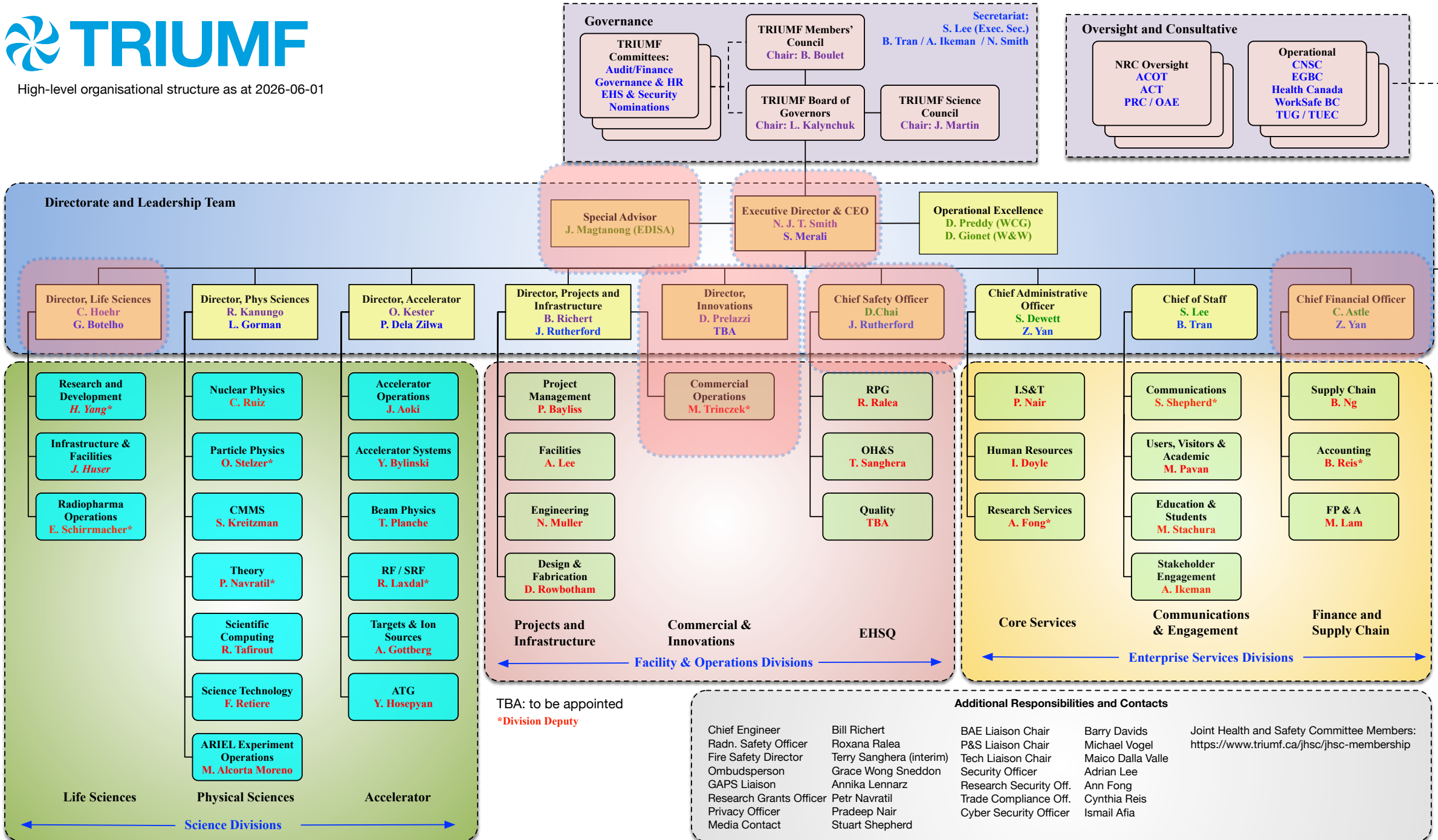


Update on TRIUMF

Nigel Smith,
Executive Director & CEO

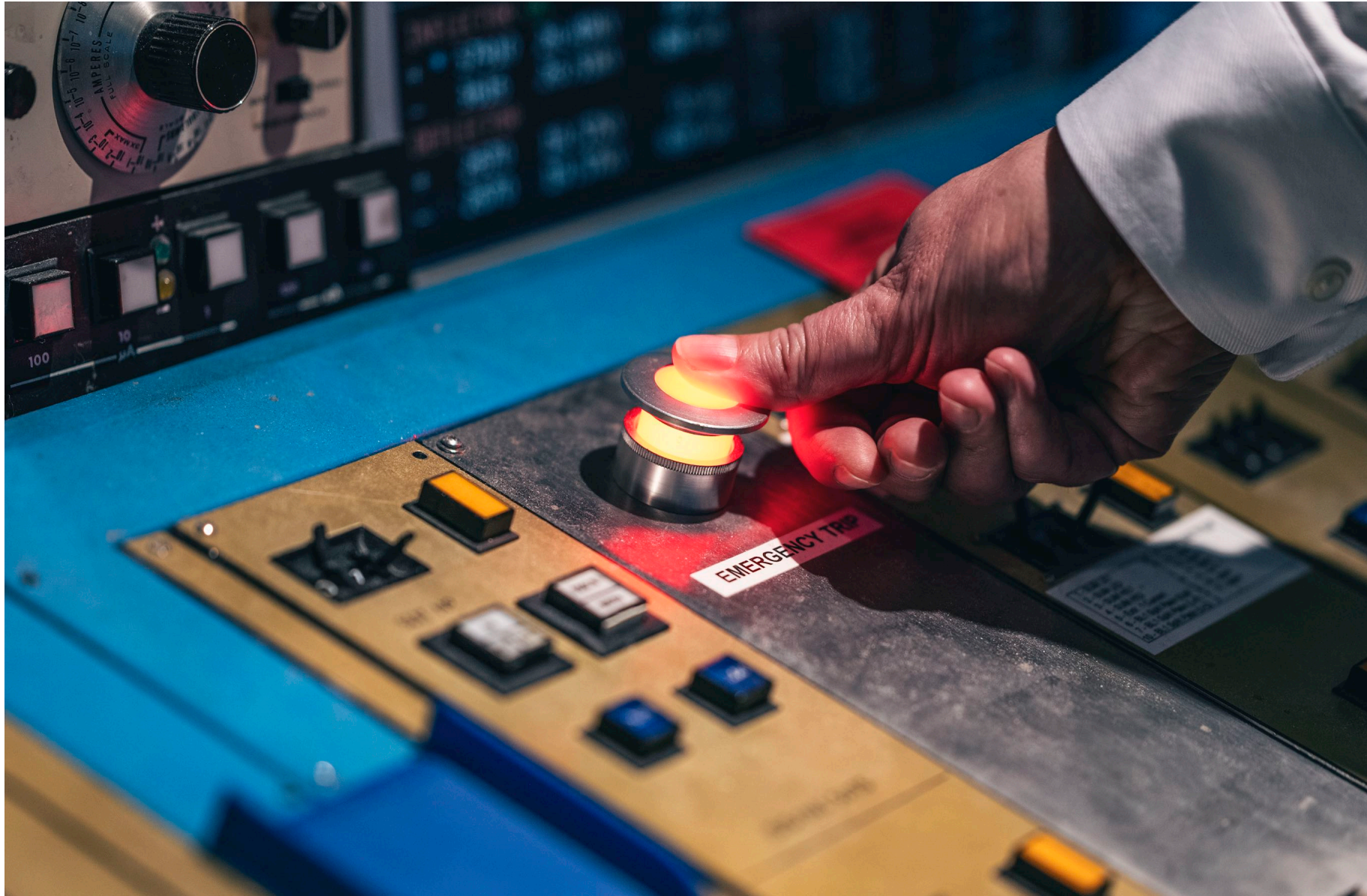
CINP-IPP Joint Session
26-06-26





**TRIUMF Long(ish)
Shutdown 2026**

“Long” Shutdown 2026 is underway



Recently Completed Tasks

- TR24 cyclotron commissioned
- GE cyclotron installed
- All hot and cold laboratories completed including furniture
- Offices and meeting rooms completed



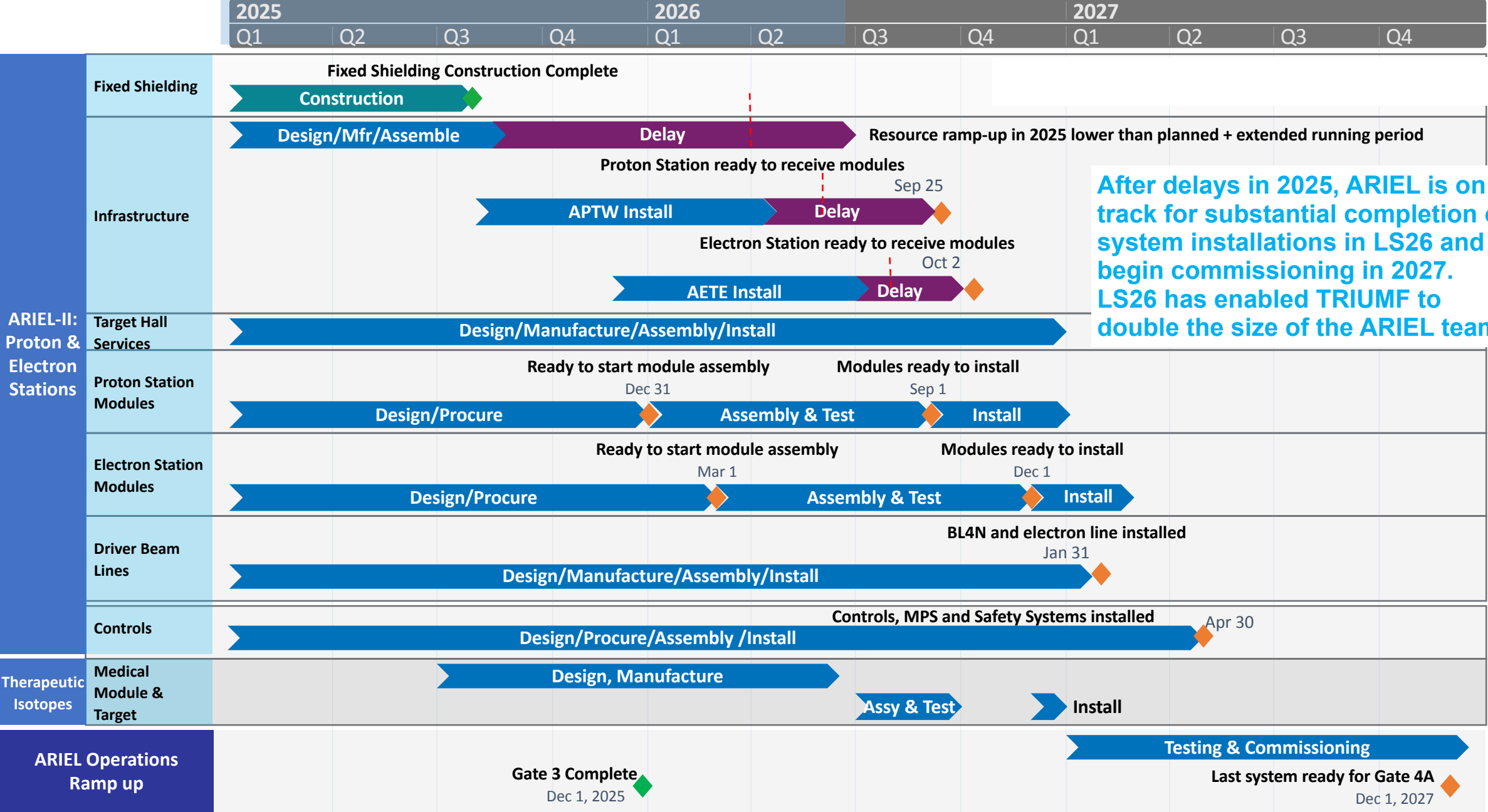
Remaining Tasks to Operations

- Perform shielding verifications on last batch of hotcells (Jul 2026)
- Commission GE cyclotron (tentative Aug/Sep 2026)
- Apply for Operating Licence for TR24 and TRIUMF processing labs (Aug/Sep 2026)
- Install lab equipment (Jul-Sep 2026)
- Close-out documentation and permits



ARIEL LS26 Timeline

Today



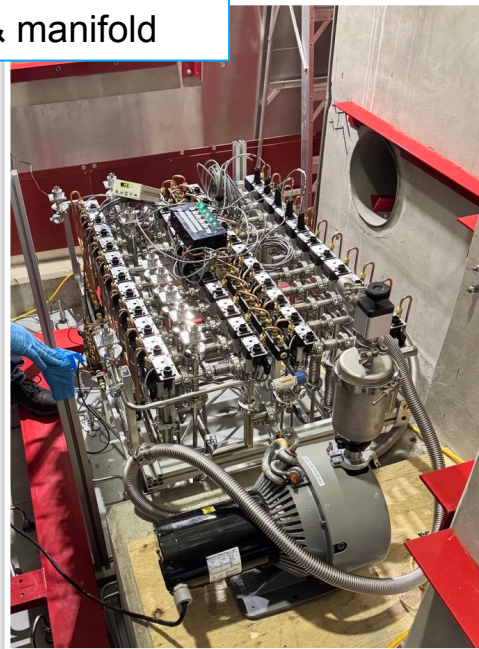
After delays in 2025, ARIEL is on track for substantial completion of system installations in LS26 and begin commissioning in 2027. LS26 has enabled TRIUMF to double the size of the ARIEL team



Tunnel beamline, magnets and services



Rad gas tanks & manifold



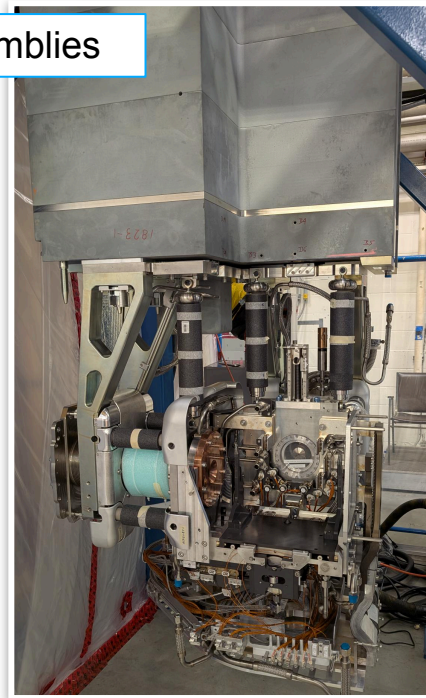
HV Service Chase



Proton Beam line shielding



RIB & Target module assemblies



Target Hall Construction



CER reduction & NRC Contribution Agreement

Comprehensive Expenditure Review

- The Canadian federal government initiated a Comprehensive Expenditure Review as part of Budget 2025 last Fall, which led to an approved \$13B reduction in the federal budget
- Many organisations taking a 15% reduction by 2028, including cuts to ISED and NRC leading to loss of programmes and jobs
- The extra-mural research programmes such as NSERC and CFI were protected in this process to support the IMPACT+ and talent programmes, with reductions limited to 2% rather than 15%.
- Indications were that TRIUMF would be protected from these cuts as we had a five-year Contribution Agreement signed at the start of the fiscal year, and we had been protected in previous reductions
- In January, NRC informed me the full 15% reduction was being applied to the TRIUMF budget, leading to a \$33M loss in the final years of our award.
- Although that would still have left us with historic levels of support, some \$100M more than the previous five-year award, the cuts were implemented after we had already launched our current five-year programme
- Consequently we would have been looking at substantial layoffs, and shuttering major components of the science programmes, limiting the community we could support

Comprehensive Expenditure Review

- This was obviously not an attractive situation, and we started aggressive lobbying at all levels of government (Departmental level - ISED & Finance, CSA, Members of Parliament, and ultimately the Prime Minister's Office
- We have successfully changing the outcome and have reduced the CER impact from 15% down to 5%
- Recently heard detail of numbers, \$11.2M reduction, which we believe is manageable within the normal evolution of our business, and strategies such as delaying recruitments, natural turn-over and the re-configuration of the lab as we move from construction to operations
- PMO/Finance asked us to keep these discussions confidential and so there has been a very small group of people inside and outside of TRIUMF who have been aware of the situation.
- Although any cut is problematic, this as a relatively positive message - getting the government to change its mind on a decision is extremely challenging, and so this is a demonstration of the value that the government ascribes to TRIUMF and our research community.
- As with the Request for Support, much was based on our impact for Canada, and so these will be areas we continue to develop (quantum, AI, medical isotopes, talent, dual-use, etc).

Comprehensive Expenditure Review

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- Final details of the exact cash flow and numbers as a consequence of the 5% reduction are being worked out with NRC, overall \$11.2M reduction over the five years
- However, this is clearly a change to our contribution agreement and there will need to be an adjustment to the deliverables previously agreed
- Accordingly, we will need to have a new contribution agreement signed to accommodate the new numbers **and** a new set of deliverables, as a cut has implication on what we can deliver (even with the intent to manage through natural processes)
 - Core objectives of the long shutdown will not be affected - IAMI initial operations by end of this year, and ARIEL at Gate-4a (project commissioning) in 2027
 - Impact will be on transition to ARIEL operations due to constraints on staff evolution, and scale of beam delivery (ie remove the enumerated target for 2029); and BL1A component replacement due to cost no longer being supported

TRIUMF Strategy and MRF Development

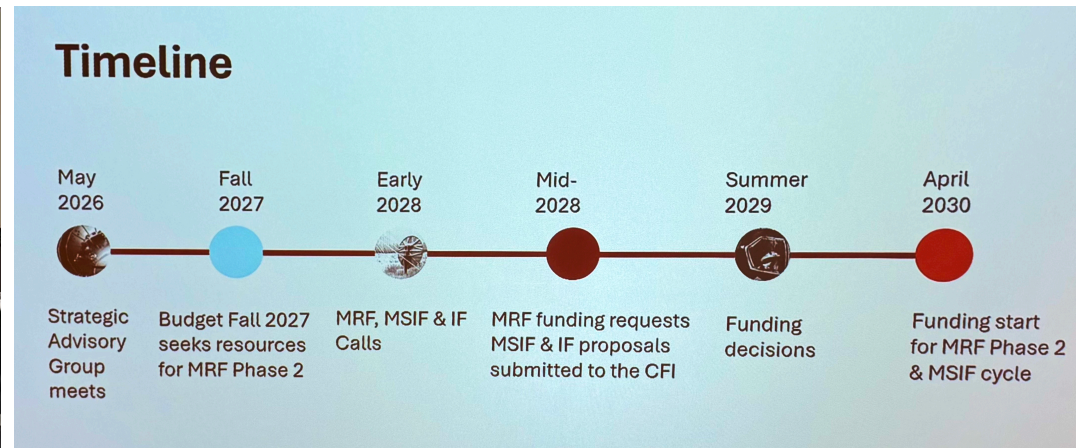
Major Research Facility Framework Process

- MRF Phase 1 is the work needed prior to 2030 (the six MSI have been extended for one year to align with the TRIUMF funding cycle) - creation of a framework for the six large MSI, which relaxes some of the egregious issues with current MSI programme
 - Formal approval on the MRF framework and process is still pending from ISED; notwithstanding, CFI continues
- Timing is such that CFI will probably be requesting funds in Fall 2027 for the 2030+ MRF funding. The six MSI have been asked for 15 year forward look under three scenarios (including SNOLAB, ONC and CLS)
 - Scenarios reviewed by each MSI expert committee, will be used to frame CFI ask
 - A new Strategic Advisory Group on National Research facilities has been struck, met in May
 - TRIUMF has not been asked for forward look (over any timescale), which is problematic as we are the scale of all six MSI combined, and we need to avoid sticker-shock
- Anticipate that TRIUMF will need to submit proposal under a similar process as previous years, ie direct to Finance through ISED/NRC. Assume NRC will be undertaking usual review in 2027/8
- MRF Phase 2 confirmed to have a twin track approach, TRIUMF will be adjacent to the six MSI, and will need to bring its own money into the framework - but will have different criteria applied (and we assume will be under CFI oversight)

MRF Process Update

- CFI is still operating within the constraints of its defined operating model: funding opportunity, proposal-driven, external committee peer reviewed competition against a fixed fund.
 - Potential for improvement through connection to Capstone, ISED, etc.
 - Changes will be essential to fulfil potential of the MRF programme - ie how is strategy delivered?
- TRIUMF will not fully merge until at least 2036, assuming standard CFI 6-year cycle for MSI
- Working assumption is now that we will propose a six-year funding request in Fall 2028 for April 2030 start, through ISED/NRC to Finance

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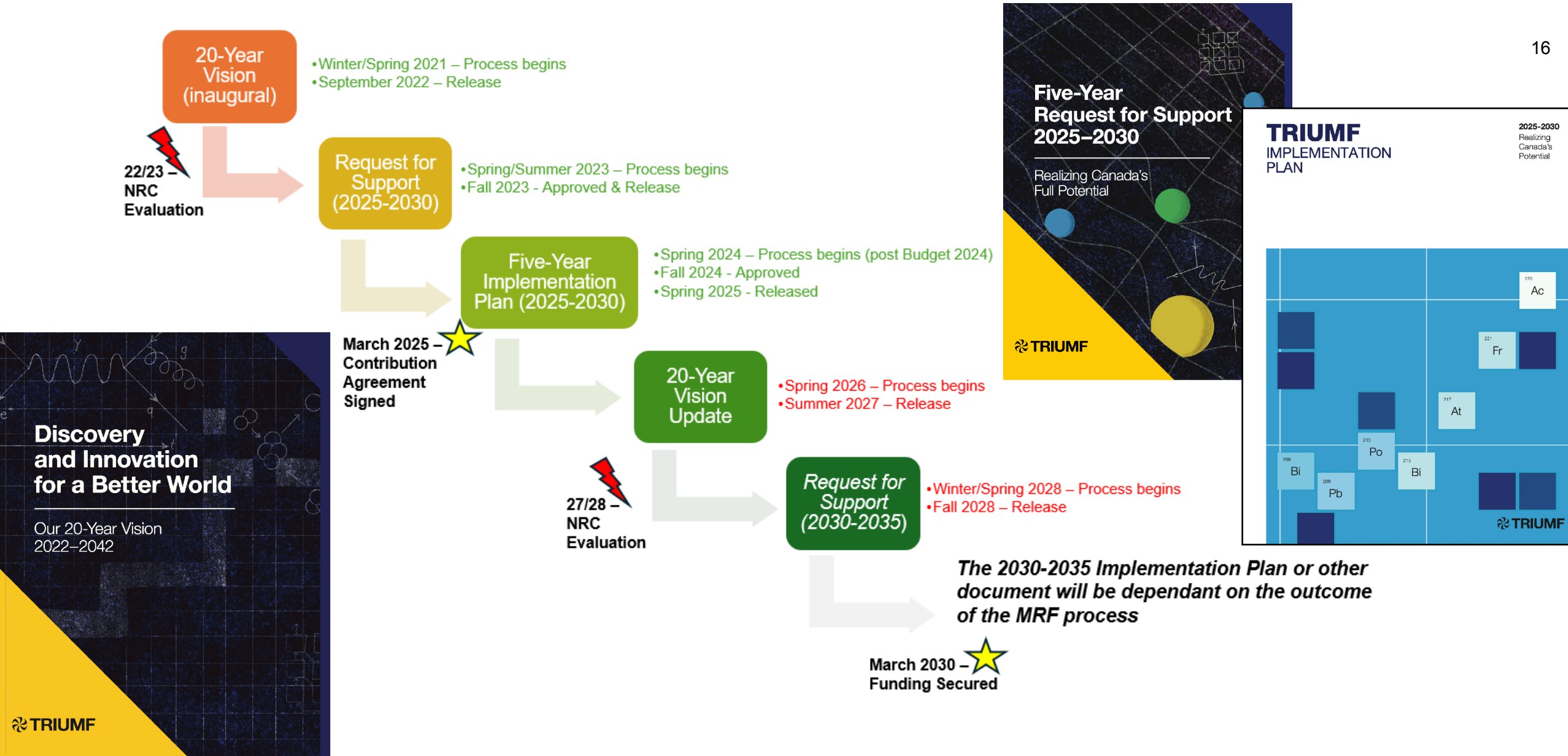
Parliamentary Secretary Bardeesy at the CFI MSI Workshop, and timeline presented by CFI

TRIUMF Strategic Planning - next steps

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- With CER communication behind us, now looking to focus on strategic planning for the next funding request
- Continue to use the cycle of 20-year Vision, Request for Support, and Implementation Plan on award of funds.
- Next phase is to develop an update to the 20-year Vision
 - Expectation is that this is a rebuild, **not** a refresh as initially planned, due to the changes within the world and the Canadian research environment over the last 16 months
 - Will need to articulate a more Canada impact—driven approach to the TRIUMF programme
 - Implications of this are being evaluated wrt our research programme and the balance between new research threads and mission driven projects, whilst keeping fundamental science and talent as core themes
- Internal discussions underway within TRIUMF leadership to develop process for the 20-year Vision update, hope to launch later this summer

TRIUMF Strategic Planning Cycle



How did we change government's mind?

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- Key messages that resonated during initial Request for Support are still relevant, and important for the LRP (primarily for the adjacent political document)
 - National resilience and sovereignty: continues to be a key driver; development of talent, intellectual capability, SAP as an engine for national innovation
 - Mission-driven: linking the work we do naturally to the broader mission pillars the government is implementing (isotopes, AI, quantum, nuclear energy, defence)
 - Industry and economic impact, connecting Canadian companies to opportunity
 - International, multidisciplinary research: cementing Canada in the international research ecosystem
- As always, in discussions with government, the science is presumed to be world-class (as you got through their door) - it is not a selling point...

THANK YOU
MERCI
HAY CẸ:P QƏ

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