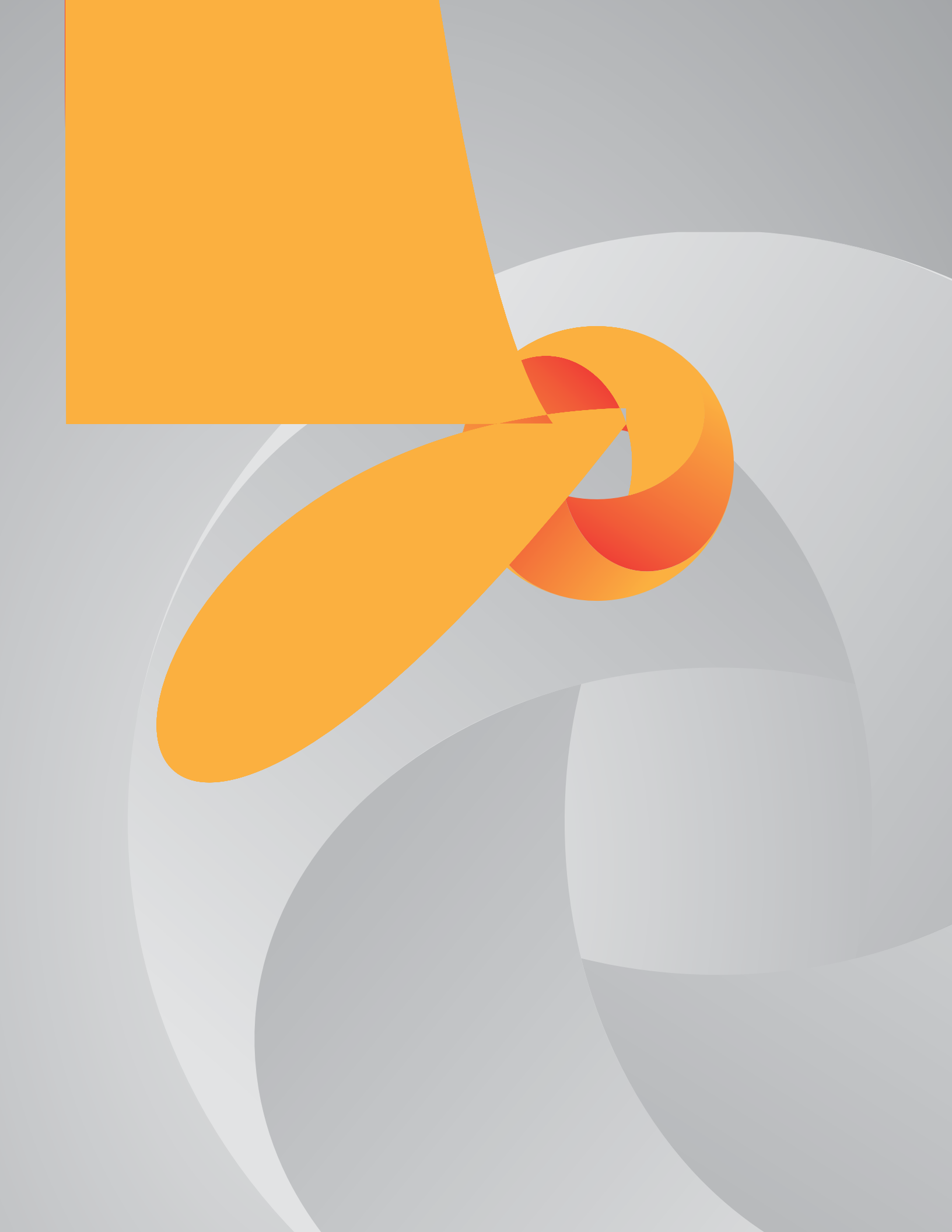

Innovation + Partnerships (I+P)

1. INTRODUCTION

The quest for knowledge is, for many academics and researchers, an almost fundamental urge.

It is a passion that unites researchers from all disciplines and fields. However, for certain types of inquiry, there comes a time when it is necessary to move beyond pure knowledge. The value of many great innovations is often only realized when they benefit a large number of people. And achieving benefits outside of university walls is accomplished through a process known as Technology Transfer. Once an idea has been conceived, tested, and proven to work, often the next step is to put that idea into successful practice. This can be done in many ways, including free release into the public domain, partnering with a commercial entity, or starting a company. Each approach has its benefits and drawbacks.

This guide is to help McGill researchers who have developed an idea or an invention, and who are wondering how they can best realize its potential. This guide explains the various steps in the invention declaration process, how to control the Intellectual Property that the invention represents, and how to find partners who can help bring this invention to fruition.

This guide has been prepared by the McGill Office of Innovation + Partnerships (I+P), which has the mandate of creating viable routes for transforming research and discoveries into products, processes, and services that benefit society. Our team of specialists, many of whom are patent holders and inventors, is ready to help you bring your concept from the drawing board to use in society.