

## SUCCESSFUL RESEARCH PROPOSALS: START TO FINISH

### Workshop Facilitator: Dr Dawn McArthur

This workshop is appropriate for both beginners and more experienced applicants in any area of research and scholarship. It is designed to help participants acquire strategies, approaches and tools to address the challenging “Start to Finish” of successful research and project proposals.

The workshop addresses key issues of competitive proposal funding, including essential aspects of thinking about research and projects; understanding an RFA and its funding culture; developing fundable ideas, plans and budgets; and crafting an outstanding proposal.

Major topics will include:

- Planning to Apply (Laying the groundwork)
- Mapping the Proposal (Finding the framework)
- Drafting the Proposal (Crafting the style)
- Refining the Proposal (Reviewing, revising, finalizing)

*Note: this workshop focuses on applications for grants and on developing and articulating excellent ideas and plans; language and style are addressed, but the workshop is not about writing per se.*

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#### **Dr Dawn McArthur**

Dr McArthur has 25 years of university research and teaching experience. She obtained her BSc (Hons 1<sup>st</sup>) and MSc (Zoology) at the University of British Columbia and her PhD (Zoology) at the University of Alberta. Following postdoctoral training (U Alberta and Simon Fraser University), Dr McArthur was hired in 1999 as one of two Senior University Grants Facilitators at SFU. In this role, she worked with researchers from all departments and faculties to obtain funding from many agencies.

In 2003, Dr McArthur was recruited to implement and head the Research & Technology Development Office at the UBC-affiliated Child & Family Research Institute (CFRI). At CFRI, Dr McArthur’s mandate is to enhance research capacity, excellence and competitiveness of the Institute’s multidisciplinary health research community. Her group has helped the CFRI to double its external funding, bringing in more than \$350 million since 2004 to support child and family health research.

Dr McArthur has worked with researchers from all fields, has an excellent record for funding success and extensive knowledge of the mandates of provincial, national and international funding agencies. In addition to a national series of college-focused proposal workshops for the Canadian Council on Learning, she has given seminars and workshops across Canada and internationally on several topics related to research development and funding.

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### ONE-DAY WORKSHOP AGENDA

09:00 – 09:15 h	Welcome & Introductions	
09:15 – 09:45 h	Overview	Research scope, RFAs, proposals
09:45 – 10:30 h	Planning to Apply	Approaching the task Finding funding Understanding the request
10:30 – 10:45 h	<i>Break</i>	
10:45 – 11:15 h	Planning to Apply	Exercise #1
11:15 – 12:00 h	Mapping the Proposal	Focusing on the plan Developing the budget Exercise #2
12:00 – 12:45 h	<i>Lunch</i>	
12:45 – 14:15 h	Mapping the Proposal	Exercise #2, continued
14:15 – 14:45 h	Drafting the Proposal	Finding the framework Crafting the style
14:45 – 15:00 h	<i>Break</i>	
15:00 – 16:15 h	Refining the Proposal	Reviewing, revising, finalizing Exercise #3
16:15 – 16:30 h	Discussion & Wrap-Up	