RESEARCH GRANTS UPDATE

OCTOBER 2024

A monthly newsletter brought to you by the Office of Research and Innovation

Note: Applications must be received by the Office of Research and Innovation a minimum of 5 business days in advance of the funding agency deadline unless otherwise stated. Please allow enough time for Chair and Dean approval in ROMEO.

Natural Sciences and Engineering Grants

- **BC Parks Living Lab for Climate Change & Conservation Program** promotes B.C.'s protected areas as places to learn about the effects of climate change, how to mitigate and manage for these effects, and how to share this information among and between academics and practitioners.
  Application deadline: October 11, 2024

- **NSERC-CSE Research Communities Grants** fund Research Communities to conduct unclassified research on cutting-edge technologies in areas of strategic importance to CSE and the Government of Canada. The focus of this funding call is on exploratory analysis for unstructured data.
  Letter of Intent deadline (mandatory): October 16, 2024 **Full application deadline (by invitation only): February 26, 2025**

- **NSERC Discovery Horizons Grants** support investigator-initiated individual and team projects that broadly integrate or transcend disciplines to advance knowledge in the natural sciences and engineering.
  Full application deadline (by invitation only): October 18, 2024 ***Note that a mandatory LOI was previously required**

- **Mass Timber Demonstration Program (MTDP)** is intended to maximize the use of mass timber in British Columbia (B.C.), to support jobs by fostering increased mass timber construction activities, to help position B.C. as a global leader in advanced wood product and system technologies and services, and to support B.C.'s economic development.
  Application deadline: October 21, 2024

- **NSERC Research Tools and Instruments (RTI) Grants Program** provides the primary avenue for university researchers in the natural sciences and engineering to obtain up to $150,000 in support for research tools and instruments with a net cost between $7,001 and $250,000.
  Application deadline: October 25, 2024

- **NSERC Discovery Grants** support ongoing programs of research in the natural sciences and engineering with long-term goals rather than a single short-term project or collection of projects. *Please note that due to the volume of UNBC applications expected, full applications must be submitted to the Office of Research and Innovation at least 10 business days prior to the NSERC deadline.
  Full application deadline: November 1, 2024 ***Note that a mandatory NOI was previously required**

- **Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program** is funded annually by BC Hydro and conserves and enhances fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by BC Hydro dams.
  Full application deadline (all regions): November 1, 2024 ***Note that a mandatory Notice of Intent was previously required for Columbia and Peace region projects**

- **HCTF Caribou Habitat Restoration Fund (CHRF)** is a collaborative effort, supported by contributions from the Province of BC and Environment and Climate Change Canada, which aims to restore high-value habitat for caribou in British Columbia using functional and ecological restoration methods.
  Application deadline: November 1, 2024

- **NSERC Arthur B. McDonald Fellowships** recognize early-stage academic researchers in the natural sciences and engineering and support them to enhance their research capacity, so that they can become leaders in their field and inspire others.
  Application deadline: December 14, 2024

Contact: Jacqueline Dockray—Natural Sciences (jacqueline.dockray@unbc.ca) or Mostafa Sabzevari—Applied Sciences and Engineering (seyedmostafa.sabzevari@unbc.ca)

Social Sciences and Humanities Grants

- **SSHRC Partnership Grants—Stage 2** provide support for large teams of new and existing formal partnerships over four to seven years to advance research, research training and/or knowledge mobilization in the social sciences and humanities.
  Application deadline: October 29, 2024 (by invitation only) ***Note that a mandatory Stage 1 application was previously required**

- **SSHRC Connection Grants** support events and outreach activities geared toward short-term, targeted knowledge mobilization initiatives. Events and outreach activities funded by a Connection Grant can often serve as a first step toward more comprehensive and longer-term projects.
  Application deadline: November 1, 2024

- **SSHRC Partnership Development Grants** provide support for formal partnerships between postsecondary institutions and/or organizations of various types to develop research and/or related activities in the social sciences and humanities or design and test new partnership approaches for research and/or related activities that can result in best practices or models.
  Application deadline: November 15, 2024

- **SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis Grants—Envisioning Governance Systems that Work** will mobilize, examine and synthesize social sciences and humanities research on Envisioning Governance Systems that Work. Note that Knowledge Synthesis Grants are not intended to support original research; rather, they are intended to support the synthesis of existing research knowledge and identify knowledge gaps.
  Application deadline: December 12, 2024

- **SSHRC Partnership Engage Grants** provide short-term and timely support for partnered research activities that will inform decision-making at a single partner organization from the public, private or not-for-profit sector.
  Application deadline: December 15, 2024

Contact: Sharleen Balogh (sharleen.balogh@unbc.ca)

Health Sciences Grants

- **CIHR Operating Grants: Data Analysis Using Existing CDN Databases and Cohorts** support projects that use data from existing Canadian-based cohorts, databases, cohort catalogues, and data platforms, and are relevant to human development, child and/or youth health with the goal to inform improved patient, population, and system outcomes.
  Full application deadline: October 3, 2024 ***Note that a mandatory registration was previously required**

- **CIHR Catalyst Grants: Moving Upstream: Structural Determinants of Health** support robust interdisciplinary research to analyze, contextualize and/or evaluate how structural or "system-level" drivers (e.g., legislation and policies, governance structures, ecological and commercial determinants, etc.) can create, maintain or exacerbate health (in)equity and population health across sub-groups, regions, contexts and settings.
  Full application deadline: October 9, 2024 ***Note that a mandatory registration was previously required**

- **CIHR Catalyst Grants: Biomedical Research for HIV/AIDS and STBBI (Innovative Technologies and Next Generation Interventions for Biomedical Research in HIV/AIDS and STBBI)** aim to catalyze and strengthen the innovation landscape of HIV/AIDS and STBBI biomedical research in Canada in order to address the most pressing and persistent biomedical challenges to effective treatment of key populations disproportionately affected by STBBI.
  Application deadline: October 23, 2024

- **CIHR Catalyst Grant: Analysis of Canadian Longitudinal Study in Aging (CLSA) Data** aims to catalyze and support research efforts of Canadian researchers to use the available CLSA data in order to better understand how biological, medical, psychological, social, lifestyle and/or economic aspects of people's lives have an impact on both maintaining health and the development of disease and disability as people age.
  Full application deadline: October 30, 2024 ***Note that a mandatory registration was previously required.**

- **CIHR Team Grant: Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging (CCNA) Phase III: Research Teams** is open to the diverse neurodegenerative diseases research community to carry out research projects that align with the National Dementia Strategy and the three CCNA research themes (primary prevention, secondary prevention and treatment, quality of life).
  Registration deadline: November 6, 2024 **Full application deadline: December 11, 2024**

- **CIHR Operating Grant: Healthy Cities Research Initiative (HCRI) - Data Analysis Using Existing Databases and Cohorts** aims to use existing cohorts, data platforms and/or administrative datasets to advance healthy cities intervention research and implementation science specifically by addressing one or more of several specific objectives (see funding description).
  Application deadline: November 7, 2024

- **Michael Smith Health Research BC-Mitacs industry-based program** supports graduate students and postdoctoral fellows across British Columbia to gain experience working within BC's life sciences sector.
  Letter of Intent deadline (mandatory): Continuous intake until December 1, 2024 **Full application deadline: December 20, 2024**

- **CIHR Catalyst Grant: Digital Health** will catalyze discovery in digital health, advance pivotal research, and inform applications or interventions relevant to CIHR's Institute of Musculoskeletal Heath and Arthritis's broad mandate areas.
  Application deadline: December 3, 2024

- **CIHR Team Grant: Healthy Youth** aims to support research teams that bring evidence to at least two of the six youth-identified priorities of Canada's Youth Policy to inform meaningful change that improves youth health and well-being.
  Registration deadline: December 10, 2024 **Full application deadline: February 4, 2024**

Contact: Crystal Carpenter (crystal.carpenter@unbc.ca)

Other Grants and Scholarships

- **New Frontiers in Research Fund—Exploration Stream** funds high-risk, high-reward and interdisciplinary research projects that bring disciplines together beyond traditional disciplinary or common interdisciplinary approaches by research teams with the capacity to explore something new that might fail, but that has the potential for significant impact.
  Full application deadline: November 5, 2024 ***Note that a mandatory NOI was previously required**

Contact: See funding description

Internal Grants

- **UNBC Green Grants** are accepted from any member of the UNBC community, including students, staff, faculty and campus based organizations, and provide one-time seed funding for research, education and civic engagement projects that promote sustainability at UNBC.
  Application deadlines: twice per year in February and October

- **UNBC Green Travel Grants** are accepted from any member of the UNBC community, including students, staff, and faculty, and provide financial support for travel and registration fees for conferences, training sessions, etc. that add to the sustainability knowledge and skills base at UNBC, or communicate the UNBC experience to a broader audience.
  Application deadline: Continuous intake

- **Research Strategic Initiatives Grants (RSIG)** welcome requests from all UNBC faculty, research organizations, graduate and undergraduate student groups engaged in research. Funds are directed toward research activities for which other sources of funding are not available.
  There are four application deadlines per year: January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1

- **Graduate Student Travel Award** provides financial support for graduate students participating in knowledge dissemination activities, such as workshops, seminars, scholarly conferences, community engagement events, and other knowledge transfer activities.
  There are four application deadlines per year: January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1

Contact: See funding description

A Look Ahead / Continuous Intake Grants

- Health Research BC and Mitacs Health-System Focused Funding LOI deadline: June 30, 2025
- Horizon Europe Funding Calls Deadlines vary, see link for details
- Environment and Climate Change Canada Funding Programs Deadlines vary, see link for details
- Mitacs Accelerate (Continuous Intake)
- Mitacs Globalink Research Award (Continuous Intake)
- NSERC Alliance Advantage Grants (Continuous Intake)
- NSERC Alliance Society Grants (Continuous Intake)
- NSERC Alliance International Grants (Continuous Intake)
- Mitacs Elevate Postdoctoral Fellowship (Continuous Intake)
- SERNbc Seed Grants (Continuous Intake)
- Project Learning Tree—Green Jobs (Continuous Intake)
- Rio Tinto Aluminum Canada Fund (Continuous Intake)
- Pacific Salmon Foundation—Partnered Initiatives (Continuous Intake)
- Science Horizons Youth Internship Program (Continuous Intake)
- Lotte & John Hecht Memorial Foundation—Innovative Medical Research & Practices (Continuous Intake)
- FHSS Scholarly Book Awards (Continuous Intake)

Workshops and Webinars

- Meet and Greet—Meet the ORI Research Administration Team
  October 8, 2024; 2:00–3:00 pm
  CJMH Atrium

- Research at UNBC—an Orientation
  October 17, 2024; 10:00 am–11:00 am
  Online via Zoom

- SSHRC Webinars and Q&As
  - *Knowledge Synthesis Grants: Envisioning Governance Systems that Work*
    October 8, 2024; 8:00 am–9:00 am PT
  - *Partnership Grants—Stage 1*
    October 15, 2024; 10:00 am–11:30 am PT
  - *Partnership Engage Grants*
    October 23, 2024; 10:00 am–11:00 am PT
  - *Connection Grants*
    November 27, 2024; 8:00 am–10:00 am PT

- CIHR Applicant Webinars
  - *Catalyst Grant: Digital Health*
    October 7, 2024; 10:00 am PT

Common Grant Writing Mistakes

There are a few critical grant writing mistakes that will reduce the chance of your grant application receiving funding. Some of the most common are outlined below:

- ◊ **Leaving it to the last minute.** Quality grant writing takes time, to allow time to write and revise again and again. Leaving it to the last minute ensures that the final product will be rushed and will not be your best work. You also need to leave time for internal review from the Office of Research and Innovation to ensure that you meet all the criteria and requirements of the funding agency. If UNBC contributions or letters of support are needed, you will need to leave time to request these well in advance of the deadline.
- ◊ **Applying to the wrong funder and/or funding opportunity.** Even the best application will not be funded if it does not fit with the funder's mandate and/or does not address the aims of the particular funding call.
- ◊ **Not following instructions.** A call for proposals is a request for information. Your application needs to answer these questions in the way that the funder has asked. Applications that don't follow the required format or are missing information can be declined by the funder without even being considered.
- ◊ **Lacking clarity in the proposal.** Your proposal needs to tell a story about why your project needs to be done and why you are the best person (or people) to do it. If your proposal is unclear, the funder is likely to miss what you are trying to say. Avoid use of jargon and acronyms so that your proposal is understandable to a non-specialist reader.
- ◊ **Making mistakes in the budget.** Errors in the budget reflect poorly on your application as a whole. If there are addition errors, or obviously inflated or underestimated expenses, the reviewers may question what else in your application is also wrong.
- ◊ **Not proofreading.** An application with spelling and/or grammatical errors will look sloppy and unprofessional and will reduce your chances of receiving funding. Ensure that you leave time to proofread, or better yet, proofread it and ask someone else to read it proofread it as well.

Reminder: all grant and contract applications **must** be received by the Office of Research and Innovation via ROMEO a minimum of 5 business days in advance of the agency deadline. Please allow enough time for Chair and Dean approval prior to the internal deadline.

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