

Weekly WHRI Community Update – October 9, 2020

*Sent on behalf of **Dr. Wyeth Wasserman**, Vice-President Research, BC Children's Hospital; **Dr. Lori Brotto**, Executive Director, Women's Health Research Institute; and **Dr. Jehannine Austin**, Executive Director, BC Mental Health and Substance Use Services Research Institute.*

Dear Colleagues,

Earlier this week, [UBC announced an open call for applications for Stage 3 funding](#) from the federal [Canada Research Continuity Emergency Fund \(CRCEF\)](#).

Investigators interested in applying for Stage 3 CRCEF funding must submit applications themselves at <https://research.ubc.ca/CRCEF/Stage3> by **October 30, 2020**.

Stage 3 CRCEF funding supports direct costs of research that have been incurred to:

1. maintain essential research-related commitments during the COVID-19 pandemic; and/or
2. ramp-up to full research activities as physical distancing measures are eased and research activities can resume.

Only direct costs of research that are **extraordinary and incremental** to those already covered by existing sources of funds and were incurred between March 15 and November 15, 2020 are eligible for reimbursement, up to 75%.

Extraordinary incremental costs are defined as:

- unanticipated additional costs that would not normally have been incurred in the absence of the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- cannot be funded by existing sources of funds.

Costs funded by all funding sources (including government) are eligible. **Salary costs are ineligible.**

Eligible expenses include:

Maintenance costs

Costs incurred within the eligible period and associated with maintaining essential research-related activities during the pandemic that are exceptional and incremental to those already covered by existing sources of funds, funded at up to 75%. This includes:

- animal and specimen care through the crisis period;
- maintenance of equipment, software, cohorts, and datasets, including warranties, licenses and service contracts;
- technological equipment for remote access to maintain assets; and,
- safety equipment for personnel dedicated to maintenance.

Ramp-up costs

Costs incurred within the eligible period and associated with full ramp-up of research activities, as physical distancing measures are eased and research activities can resume. Only costs that are exceptional and incremental to those already covered by existing sources of funds will be

supported, at up to 75% of expenses. Eligible expenses include those incurred at the project level and associated with:

- re-organizing the research environment and activities;
- additional costs to bring the research back to its pre-pandemic level, including experiments, or related to the restart of collections and datasets (e.g., population-based, environmental);
- user fees charged by shared platforms to researchers to restart research activities (e.g., animal-care facilities, digital labs);
- re-scheduling and restarting human and clinical trials;
- exceptional costs to access special facilities, shared platforms and resources, knowledge transfer meetings and workshops;
- restarting, reassembling and safety checks of equipment and facilities;
- reacquiring lost and donated laboratory and field supplies and equipment, reagents, perishable materials, laboratory animal and other living specimens; and,
- personal protective equipment and related items for research personnel.

In Stage 3 of the CRCEF, UBC's Research Finance team and the Oak Street campus Research Institutes will not be contacting PIs to identify those eligible for funding, as they did in Stages 1 and 2 of the CRCEF. Stage 3 is an open call for applications and PIs must submit their own claims. **The deadline for submission is 11:59 p.m. on October 30, 2020.**

For PIs who hold eligible costs both in UBC and PHSA accounts, please clearly indicate on the application form where the funding is held.

For more information about the application process and form, go to <https://research.ubc.ca/CRCEF/Stage3>.

Sincerely,
Wyeth, Lori and Jehannine

Updates from October 3rd to 10th

OAK STREET CAMPUS STAGE 2 RESUMPTION OF ONSITE RESEARCH

The intake process to resume onsite work has been streamlined in Stage 2. In this stage, assuming the activities fit within the Stage 2 criteria and cannot be done offsite, PIs will determine the scope of their research activities and who on their team should resume onsite work.

If you applied to resume onsite work during Stage 1, you do not need to apply again. Please email Todd Jacques at tjacques@bcchr.ca with any updates to your onsite personnel and research team safety plans.

If your team includes any new personnel or existing personnel who require training on new tasks, you are also required to create a written training plan for these staff. This could include detailing whether

training will happen virtually or in person and the types of PPE that will be used to protect all those taking part.

For **new research activities**, please submit a request through the [Oak Street Campus Research Institutes Return to Onsite Research Intake Form](#).

If you have any questions, please email KDewar@cw.bc.ca

FUNDING AGENCY UPDATES and OPPORTUNITIES

COVID-19 Grants Update 10.9.2020

New and updated [COVID-19 WHRI Funding Updates](#)

Follow our webpage for all the latest news, COVID-19 funding opportunities, latest updates for deadlines and official statements from funding agencies regarding grant programs.

[For updated list of funding opportunities and deadline changes, click here](#)

[I am available every Tuesday from 8am-4pm for virtual office hour meetings with WHRI researchers, or by appointment. For any questions regarding grant applications or grant writing assistance, reach out to Eric Lussier, \[eric.ducharmelussier@cw.bc.ca\]\(mailto:eric.ducharmelussier@cw.bc.ca\).](#)

NEWS

[Equity, Diversity And Inclusion In CIHR Funding Programs](#)

In 2018, CIHR and other federal funding agencies, launched a Tri-Agency self-identification Equity and Diversity Questionnaire for applicants to all funding competitions. The CIHR is sharing an overview of self-identification data for the 2018 and 2019 Spring and Fall Project Grant competitions. While these limited data points do not allow for analyses of trends over time, the CIHR is committed to closely monitoring new data moving forward and working with the community to find solutions to address identified inequities.

COVID-19 FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Public Health Agency of Canada** – [Dementia Community Investment: Impacts of COVID-19](#) – **10/22**
- **WorkSafeBC** - [Specific Priorities Grants: Impacts of COVID-19](#) - **10/31**
- **Ferring Pharmaceuticals** – [COVID-19 Grants in Reprod. Medicine and Mat. Health](#) – **Ongoing 10/31**
- **Veteran Affairs Canada** – [Literature review on the impacts of COVID-19 on well-being](#) – **Full 11/2**
- **CIHR** – [Indigenous COVID-19 Rapid Research Funding Opportunity](#) – **LOI 11/10, Full 12/8**

UPDATES (10/3 – 10/9) TO COMPETITION DEADLINES

- **CIHR – Catalyst Grant : Cannabis and Mental Health** – **NOI 10/22; Full 11/19**
- **CIHR – SPOR SUPPORT Unit Phase II** – **Full 11/24**
- **CIHR – Training Grant : SPOR National Training Entity** – **LOI (already passed); Full 12/8**
- **CIHR – Team Grant : Personalized Health** – **LOI (already passed); Full 12/10**

STAFF RESOURCES

PHSA UPDATES

Flu clinics are here – book your appointment now!

- Flu season is upon us and PHSA has you covered with [staff flu clinics](#) now starting.

- This year, it's more important than ever to protect yourself from the flu. You can help reduce the burden on the health care system this fall and winter as we simultaneously manage COVID-19 in the community.
- Check the [flu clinic schedule](#) on POD and [book an appointment](#) for your vaccine. All clinics are **by appointment only – no drop-ins**.
 - BC Emergency Health Services paramedics may drop in to any clinic using appropriate ID.
 - You can also visit your local pharmacy, family physician or a [PHSA pharmacy partner](#).
- Don't forget to self-report! All PHSA employees, including medical staff and contractors, **must self-report** at www.influenzareporting.org. Please note you must include “**www**” when navigating to this site.
- Questions? Get in touch at flu@phsa.ca or visit the [Flu Prevention page on POD](#).

REMINDER - COVID-19 learning modules

New Knowledge and Innovation has developed learning modules related to COVID-19 for all staff and students (employees, medical staff, residents, fellows and trainees, healthcare professionals, researchers, and students) to complete. The three courses provide a current overview of the COVID-19 pandemic, including policies that all staff need to review prior to returning to the workplace and for those staff already working at the C&W campus. It is available on the [Learning Hub](#) and will take about two hours to complete.

Stay up-to-date on PHSA staff updates via their staff resources page:

- Visit phsa.ca/covid19staff for COVID-19 staff guidelines and updates.
- Visit [POD](#) for stories about our workforce and supporting resources.
- Learn about [health and wellness resources](#) to support you.

Women's Health Research Cluster (WHRC) hosts a virtual conference series on Women's Brain Health

From September 2020 – June 2021 the WHRC will bring you [monthly events](#) featuring world renowned speakers to discuss and share information about a variety of brain health issues that women face. Come connect with like-minded peers at one of our workshops, symposia, networking sessions or trainee/mentor events.

You can register for the [full series](#), or [pick and choose](#) which event you want to go to. Full series registration grants you access to all post-event recordings. [Click here to learn more](#).