

Developing Northern Research Collaborations Award

Description

The BC SUPPORT Unit, Northern Centre has dedicated funding to provide the opportunity for researchers, health care providers, decision makers, and patient partners to develop collaborations for person, family, and community centred research. The Developing Northern Research Collaboration Awards are expected to catalyze the development of a patient-oriented team and/or research agenda that aligns with CIHR’s [SPOR Capacity Development Framework](#) and the [SPOR Patient Engagement Framework](#).

The Northern Centre is one of the [BC SUPPORT Units](#) four regional centres. Its goal is to build capacity and provide support for collaborative research in the area served by Northern Health that focuses on a common goal of increased access to high quality health care and improved patient outcomes. The Northern Centre operates as partnership between Northern Health (NH) and the University of Northern BC (UNBC) and aligns with the existing NH-UNBC partnered goals and objectives.

Funds Available and Duration

The total amount available for this competition is \$50,000, enough to fund 5 awards. The maximum amount per award is \$10,000 per year for up to one year starting April 1, 2020. ***Please note that no extensions will be granted for this term. All funds must be spent by March 31, 2021.***

Key Competition Dates

Action	Date
Competition Launch	November 2019
Deadline for submission	February 12, 2020
Notification of Funding Results	March 2020
Funding Term	April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021

Eligibility to Apply

For an application to be eligible, the applying team must include at least the following:

1. University of Northern BC (UNBC) and/or Northern Medical Program (NMP) researchers who hold an academic appointment and is eligible to hold funding at UNBC.
2. A health system knowledge user working in the Northern Health Region:
3. At least one [patient partner](#). A patient partner is a Northern BC based patient and/or person who contributes their lived experience of a health issue or concern to the team.

How to Apply

Applicant Details (1 page maximum) – applicants must provide a cover page that clearly lists the names of the researcher, health system partner, and patient partner as well as their professional title and department.

Proposal (3 pages maximum) – applicants must provide a description of:

- a. The problem/issue in Northern BC the proposed collaboration wants to address.
- b. The goal(s) and corresponding objective(s) of the proposed collaboration.
- c. A timeline of activities that will be carried out to achieve the proposed objectives.
- d. The role and/or contributions of each team member in the proposed activities.
- e. How the project aligns with the guiding principles of the [SPOR Capacity Development Framework](#) and the [SPOR Patient Engagement Framework](#).

Budget (1-page maximum) – applicants must provide a justified budget up to a maximum of \$10,000. Successful applicants funded through this funding opportunity and any other persons working on the project must fully comply with the applicable [CIHR Funding Policies](#). Use of funds from this award shall comply with the requirements set out in the [Use of Grant Funds](#) section of the Tri-Agency (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC) Financial Administration Guide. The guide also includes a complete listing and description of allowable costs and activities.

Team Structure Details - applicants must provide the following documentation from each of the team members:

- a. UNBC/NMP Researchers must provide a CV (preferably in the Common CV format). CVs should include name, primary affiliations, previous research experience, education, peer reviewed publications, etc.
- b. Health System knowledge user must submit an abbreviated CV/Resume including their contact information, affiliation, background and training.
- c. Community, patient group and/or patient partners must provide a signed written statement describing their contribution in the development of the research team, and how they are engaged in planning the research.

Evaluation Criteria

The following evaluation criteria will be used:

1. Collaboration Goals and Objectives
 - a. Project addresses health challenge identified in Northern BC (northern / rural / remote health focus)
 - b. For Knowledge Synthesis proposals, the research question addresses a need identified by knowledge-user(s) on the team
 - c. Overall goal and objectives of project are well-defined and clear
 - d. Rationale of the project idea is sound, logical and valid

2. Team Structure
 - a. Proposal includes outline of team structure, including contributions of each team member and their necessary expertise, time and track record to deliver on the project's objectives
 - b. Clear description on how the patient partner(s) will be engaged during the project.
3. Approach & Feasibility
 - a. The project methods and approach are appropriate to achieve the outlined goals and objectives.
 - b. Degree of meaningful inclusion of patients and other relevant stakeholders and their appropriateness in relation to the goals of the proposal
 - c. Extent to which the project goals and objectives can be accomplished in the proposed timeline
 - d. Proposal identifies potential challenges and suitable mitigation strategies
 - e. Justification of budget is clear and reasonable

Application Format

Except for the appendices, all materials must be presented as follows:

- All materials, except appendices, must be a minimum 12 point size, Arial (regular), single spaced, on one side of a letter-sized (21.25 cm x 27.5 cm / 8.5" x 11") page, with a one-inch margin on all sides of the page.
- All pages consecutively numbered.
- All print must be black, of letter quality and easy to read.
- A title page that clearly lists the names of the researcher, health system partner, and patient partner as well as their professional title, and department
- A header with the project name on the top left-hand corner, and footer with the page number on the lower right-hand corner of each page.
- The proposal must not exceed 5 pages (title page, proposal and budget). This does not include appendices.
- Appendices can include: References and charts, tables, diagrams or surveys/questionnaires to support the application.

Contact and Submission Information

Applications should be sent in a PDF file no later than 11:59pm on February 12, 2020 via email to the Health Research Institute (hri@unbc.ca).