

NL SUPPORT– Patient-Oriented Research Grant

Supporting health research projects in Indigenous communities - Mi'kmaq, Inuit, and Innu - in Newfoundland and Labrador

We acknowledge the Indigenous communities who provided valuable input on the development of this Call for Proposals.

Details

Maximum amount: \$75,000
Duration: 1 year (with a possibility for a 1 year extension)
Expression of interest deadline: April 7, 2017
Application deadline: July 31, 2017
Funding start date: October 2017

About NL SUPPORT

The Newfoundland and Labrador Support for People and Patient-Oriented Research and Trials Unit (NL SUPPORT) aims to improve health-care outcomes for everyone within Newfoundland and Labrador. NL SUPPORT works directly with communities around the province to set priorities for health research.

NL SUPPORT is part of the national initiative by The Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR): Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR). NL SUPPORT is a partnership between the Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR), the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Memorial University, IBM and other agencies with a focus on applied health research.

NL SUPPORT offers access to a pool of resources available to any researcher (including community and patient partners) whose interests fall under patient-oriented research. These resources can include: database linkages and data analysis, biostatistical and epidemiological support, project management support, assistance with grant writing and study design, patient and community engagement support, change policy analysis and more.

Description

This Patient-Oriented Research (POR) Grant Program is designed to support community research that aims to improve health and/or wellbeing of Indigenous Peoples of Canada. The program has been developed in consultation with Indigenous communities across Newfoundland and Labrador. NL SUPPORT administers the program. NL SUPPORT will fund up to \$75,000. This could be one project of \$75,000 or a number of smaller proposals up to a total of \$75,000.

How to apply

Step 1: Submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) (Deadline - April 7th, 2017.)

Please submit a brief summary of the research (maximum of 500 words) and the name of the principal applicant as an electronic attachment in Microsoft Word format, to internalgrants@mun.ca with this 'Subject' line: **Surname, First name, Project Grant Application – EOI**. When your e-mail is received, you will receive an e-mail reply within 2 business days acknowledging receipt. If you do not receive this acknowledgment, please call Michelle Butt at 864-8368. Do not send any printed documents by mail.

Essential elements to include in the summary are:

- the research theme being addressed by/with the community
- research question(s) and hypothesis
- the relevance and importance of the project to the community
- any current or planned patient/community engagement activities

EOIs will be screened for adherence to the mandate of NL SUPPORT, patient and community engagement, and quality of research question. Applicants may be offered training or assistance via NL SUPPORT to strengthen their application. EOIs will not be “approved” or “rejected”.

Step 2: Submit a Full Application (Deadline - July 31st, 2017.)

Please fill in the grant application form on your computer using Adobe Acrobat Reader or Acrobat Professional, saving it occasionally to your desktop with a filename in the following structure: **Your Name – NL SUPPORT Research Grant**. When you have finished, save it again and then attach it, and the other documents in this checklist, to an email to internalgrants@mun.ca with this 'Subject' line: **Surname, First name, Project Grant Application**. Do not send any printed documents by mail.

No applications will be accepted if an EOI has not previously been submitted. Documents that arrive after the deadline will not be considered. When your e-mail is received, you will receive an e-mail reply within 2 business days acknowledging receipt. If you do not receive this acknowledgment, please call Michelle Butt at (709) 864-8368.

Objectives

The specific objectives of this funding program are:

- To support new research which addresses the healthcare priorities of the people in Indigenous communities, as supported by the communities;
- To support patient-oriented research that has the potential to improve the health of individuals and families living in Indigenous communities;
- To enhance the role of patients/community members in all levels of the research process from start to implementation of findings;
- To build and sustain a full range of applied health research including the development and utilization of evidence-based decision making in health care, health education, and health policy and administration in Newfoundland and Labrador;
- To assist communities and researchers in establishing their research programs and applying for external funding;

- To encourage partnerships between Indigenous communities, researchers across faculties, schools and disciplines, and collaboration among academic researchers, community-based researchers, and decision-makers.

Eligibility

An eligible team includes a Nominated Principal Applicant, and at least one [Independent Researcher](#) and one [Knowledge User](#). Team members may occupy more than one role, but not all three.

All Indigenous communities across Newfoundland and Labrador and researchers who work directly with Indigenous communities can apply for funding. For your application to be eligible:

1. The applying team must include at least one member of an Indigenous community acting as either a (Nominated) Principal Applicant, Co-Applicant or [Knowledge User](#);
2. The applying team must actively engage at least one individual with a personal experience of the health issue under study (and/or informal caregivers, family and friends), acting as co-applicant, team or advisory member and/or [Knowledge User](#) in various stages of the research process;
3. The applying team must include at least one [independent researcher](#) acting as either a (Nominated) Principal Applicant or Co-Applicant.

Partnerships with academic researchers, clinicians, decision-makers and health authorities are encouraged. Researchers employed at institutions elsewhere in Canada may apply, but the work performed must include a focus on Indigenous communities in Newfoundland and Labrador and include local applicants.

The Principal Applicant is the person who will take primary responsibility for the intellectual direction of the research and assume administrative responsibility for the funds. The Principal Applicant can only submit one application in the competition.

Allowable funds

Patient-Oriented Research Grants may be used for the following:

- Fees related to access to, or storage and analysis of data
- Payment for clerical/secretarial support, research assistants and/or consultants necessary to the project
- General office expenses and supplies necessary to carry out the research reimbursement for use of hospital equipment or personnel
- Medical procedures that are necessary to the research project and not reimbursed by the health service or system
- Compensation for reasonable expenses incurred by research subjects to participate in research
- Technical advice of an unusually complex nature and/or requiring a considerable time commitment that goes beyond what could be expected in a collegial relationship
- Field travel for research purposes, at standard expense rates allowed at the host institution
- Cost of printing, photocopying, postage, telephone and fax services, computing services and supplies
- Costs of obtaining copyright releases and payments under copyright agreements

- Costs for translation for community documentation including summaries of findings and all materials for dissemination
- Other expenses as deemed appropriate by the review panel and permissible under CIHR financial regulations (more information can be found in the [NSERC guidelines](#))

POR grant funds are not intended to supplement the salary of the Principal Applicant or Co-Applicants, or graduate students doing their thesis or other research under the Applicant's research program.

Review process and evaluation

A review committee will evaluate the full applications. The committee will be created specifically for this funding opportunity. The committee will include representatives from Indigenous communities. Committee members will be selected based on suggestions from Indigenous community members and institutions. The review process will be discussed with the reviewers. Representatives from Indigenous communities may be excluded from reviewing applications from their own community.

All studies which involve human subjects must follow the Tri Council Policy Statement (Chapter 9) guidelines and be approved by the appropriate Indigenous/Health Authority Research and/or Ethics Review Committee(s). Proof of approval must either accompany the application or be submitted prior to the commencement of funding.

Selection criteria

Applications for POR Grants will be judged according to the following selection criteria:

- Relevance of the proposed research to the needs of Indigenous communities;
- Incorporation of patients/community members as partners rather than subjects throughout the project's lifecycle;
- Expertise and research experience; and past contributions to Indigenous communities based research and related fields on the part of the applicants;
- Quality of the proposal, based on: quality and clarity of research question; originality; potential contribution to patient-oriented research; relevance to health-related decision-making, systems improvement or positive patient impacts; value to the healthcare system;
- Clarity of presentation and appropriateness of design and research plan; feasibility of the proposed work; and appropriateness and justification of the budget.

Performance measurement

If successful:

- The Nominated Principal Applicant will be required to attend a future NL SUPPORT event and present the results of their funded project (attendance can be face-to-face or by tele-conference).
- Within six months of the end of the grant's term, the Nominated Principal Applicant will be required to submit a Final Report, summarizing the outcomes and providing receipted evidence how the grant funds were used.
- The Nominated Principal Applicant will be required to contribute to the monitoring of NL SUPPORT'S programs.

Host Institutions

Institutions that employ holders of NL SUPPORT research grants are called host institutions. Signatures are required from host institution representatives on all grant applications. By signing, host institutions agree to accept the responsibilities outlined below on behalf of their grant-holding employees:

- Acceptance of the terms and conditions as outlined in Awards Guide and Letter of Agreement;
- The financial administration of the grants;
- Reporting to NL SUPPORT any change in the funding recipient's status that may affect the fulfillment of their research commitment, for example resignation or termination;
- Submission of an annual financial statement ([Statement of Account Form 300](#)), with back up documentation (receipts etc.), covering the period from April 1 to March 31 for each award or grant; the statement(s) are due no later than May 1 of each year.

Contact information

For questions about the application process contact:

Eva Vat, Training and Capacity lead, NL SUPPORT
Phone: 709 864-6654
Email: eva.vat@med.mun.ca

Newfoundland and Labrador Support for People and Patient-Oriented Research and Trials
Unit Craig L. Dobbin Genetics Research Centre, Suite 3M114
Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University
St. John's, NL | A1B 3V6 Website: www.nlsupport.ca

For NL SUPPORT Policy, Additional
Information:

Dr. Brendan Barrett, Scientific Lead
Phone: (709) 864-6660
Email: bbarrett@mun.ca

OR

Catherine Street, NL SUPPORT Director
Phone: (709) 864-6432
Email: catherine.street@med.mun.ca

