University Delegates (UD) Meeting Minutes – July 6, 2023

1. **From CIHR**

The Canadian Research Information System will be deactivated by August 31, 2023.
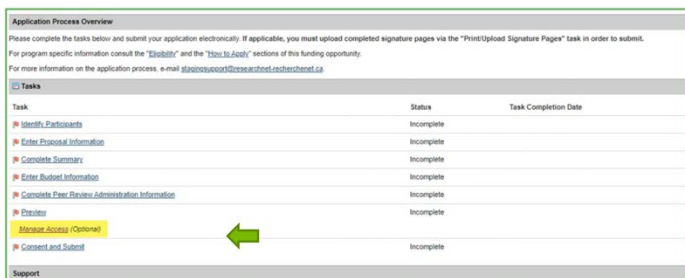Other sources of CIHR funding decisions can be found at
Open Government
CIHR Funding Decisions Database

2. **New optional *Manage Access Task* in ResearchNet**

CIHR is committed to safeguarding our systems and protecting our users' privacy

New optional *Manage Access* task allowing NPA to delegate access to an application, to a maximum of 5 individuals

Individuals with delegated access:

✔ Can support the completion of eSubmission tasks in collaboration with others
✔ Will require their own ResearchNet account
✘ Will not require a CIHR PIN
✘ Cannot access or view any participant Self-Identification Questionnaire Information
✘ Cannot access NPA Current/Completed or Inactive activities in which they are not delegated
✘ Cannot submit the application

3. Consultation of Clinical Trials Fund

Building CIHR's Clinical Trials Program

Priority E: Integrate Evidence in Health Decisions
- E.3.3 Enhance Canada's capacity to fund, conduct and use clinical trials by strengthening highly qualified personnel, clinical trials environments and research investments

☑ **Implement the Clinical Trials Fund**
- An initial investment, time-limited funding
- Part of broader GoC strategy with a specific focus

» **Develop and implement a long-term clinical trials strategy**
- Engagement, consultation, partnerships, policy

What we heard about development of a long-term clinical trials strategy

Looking ahead to the development of a sustainable and long-term clinical trials strategy, CIHR sought feedback on what key elements should be included and several themes emerged:

- Integration of clinical trials within the health care system with infrastructure support for clinical trial programs and highly qualified personnel
- **National coordination of clinical trial start-up activities (ethics, contracts), data sharing mechanisms, and research transparency (standardized application templates, minimal consent guidelines, agreement templates etc.)**
- Enabling the inclusion of all Canadians in clinical research
- Importance of meaningful patient engagement when establishing research priorities and developing clinical trial protocols so that the outcome of the research meets the needs of patients
- Leadership in clinical trials at a national and international level
- Building long-term funding streams with predictable cycles of grant calls and sufficient time to develop strong applications
- Increasing the capacity of highly qualified personnel to perform clinical trials by providing training programs in trial design and biostatistics, regulatory compliance, quality assurance and clinical research administration

4. The University Delegates discussed the need for increased funding for all CIHR programs.

The University delegates discussed the need for investment in health research in Canada. Each University Delegate has been asked to communicate to the local community how we can collectively urge the federal government to consider increasing CIHR budgets to be closer to levels for other G20 countries. MRDO will be communicating an opportunity for people who want express their support for investment in health research as a critical part of Canada's health and economic wellness to Members of Parliament, Ministers and Senators.

5. Reviewer in Training Updates
Important Dates Application period opens: **July 11** Application deadline: **August 8, 2023**

There will be two categories of RiT in Fall 2023:
Mentee and **ECR Reviewer**.

Look for details in Research Net after July 11, 2023.

6. **Project Grant Competition Update** Spring and Fall 2023 Project Grant Competition

Anticipated Notice of Decision (NOD):	**July 20, 2022**
Funding Start Date:	**October 1, 2022**
Fall competition Registration	**August 17, 2023**
Fall Application Deadline	Mid **September, 2023**

Reminder: ResearchNet keeps a list of current funding opportunities and Priority Areas.