

CIHR UD Meeting (Webcast) January 9, 2020

Hello everyone,

The January CIHR-UD meeting was held by webcast on January 9, 2020. Here are the highlights.

CIHR Updates (Adrian Mota/Kelly Taylor)

CIHR extended welcome to two new University Delegates for the Ontario Technical University and for Simon Fraser University.

New Frontiers in Research Fund Update

The 2019 Exploration program is at the stage of assigning peer reviewers to application. The 2020 Transformation program is opening to receive NOIs by the deadline of February 18. Webinars for this program will be conducted on January 21, and potential applicants are encouraged to register in groups to attend. This program is expecting project, not program, proposals. Interdisciplinarity is determined at the NOI and LOI stage by universal specialization codes. However, assessment of LOIs and of full applications will look for interdisciplinarity in the peer review, which is expected to be across tri-agency mandates. At the NOI stage, 5 participants must be confirmed and have registered through the portal. However, the participants can be changed at later stages in the application process. EDI and ECI investigators are expected to be part of the program, but it is not necessary that the named 5 participants address this requirement. There is an expectation that the participant list will evolve to embrace these groups through the LOI and full application stages. The final program of NFRF, International, is expected to roll out in the next few months. [Updates will be posted here.](#)

Update on the Canadian Common CV

CIHR has published a response to the community petition to eliminate the CCV. Staff have indicated that the CCV cannot be abandoned as it is integrated into the complete peer review and grant management system. A series of improvements are in progress. In addition, a request for proposals for a tri-agency grant management system (TGMS) has been issued. The [response letter is here](#) and the TGMS is considered further below.

EDI in Action Webpage

CIHR has a page devoted to activities that are underway to address equity, diversity and inclusion. [Link is here.](#)

Research Data Management Update

The research data management plan is approaching the implementation phase with expectations that plans for RDM will be requested in upcoming grant proposals. [The consultation documents and policy guidelines are here.](#)

At Dalhousie, the library is responsible for assisting researchers to meet the requirements for RDM as [they are implemented.](#)

CIHR Health Research Summit

Approximately 200 participants from the research community participated in the Summit in Ottawa on December 13, 2019. The summary of the meeting is being prepared and considered at Governing Council prior to broad distribution. The plan is still on target for June 2020 launch of the new strategic plan.

Program Updates

Project Grants

Fall 2019 competition assessment is now complete with Notice of Decision release on January 22, 2020.

Spring 2020 competition will open for registration on January 15, 2020. Deadline for registration is February 5, 2020 and application deadline is March 4, 2020.

Priority Funding Decisions

Team Grant: Transnational Cardiovascular Research Projects (201904TCR)

3/8 applications funded (\$895k invested over 4 years)

Team Grant: Human Immunology: Research Teams (201906HIT)

1/8 applications funded (\$1.6M invested over 5 years)

Team Grant: Pathways Implementation Research Teams –Component 3 (201909PRT)

2/6 applications funded (\$3M invested over 6 years)

Team Grant: Canadian Microbiome Initiative 2: Research Teams (201909MRT)

5/19 applications funded (\$10M invested over 6 years)

Team Grant: Indigenous Component of Healthy Life Trajectories (I-HeLTI) (201908IHL)

1/5 applications funded (\$3M invested over 3 years)

Operating Grant: Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance (201906AMR)

5/12 applications funded (\$1.86M invested over 5 years)

Knowledge Synthesis Grant: Socio-Economic Burden of Inherited Disease (201909SBI)

2/2 applications funded (\$200k invested over 1 year)

Hacking AMR 2019 -Using the digital world to fight Antimicrobial Resistance (201910HAR)

6/6 applications funded (\$18k invested over 1 year)

Priority Funding Opportunities

[Current opportunities are available here.](#)

Update on the Tri-Agency Grants Management Solution (TGMS)(Adrian Mota)

TGMS will be a large technology upgrade to address seriously outdated infrastructure supporting government programs. The new solution will be built to serve the applicants and reviewers.

CIHR will be working with the research community to evaluate needs and functionality. A website will be used to capture community input and to identify those who want to participate in the decision-making process. Industry has been engaged to start to build the new system. Stay tuned for updates!

The San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)(Amanda Crupi)

Amanda Crupi presented the principles of DORA to the UD group. CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC, among other agencies have signed on to the DORA charter. The goal of the initiative is to

support the development and promotion of best practices in assessment of scholarly research. It aims to address the negative consequences of unintended overuse of journal publication as a primary indicator of quality for research output. [The complete charter can be found here.](#)

Impacts of the Federal Elections on CIHR (Jean-Michel Levesque)

M. Levesque presented the CIHR perspective on the outcome of the federal election. There is an expectation, based on previous experiences, that the current minority government may last between 6 months to 2.5 years. The new ministerial appointments and changes in the ministerial mandates were discussed, identifying those that will be important in guiding the work of CIHR. Several high-level goals were included in the throne speech and it is anticipated that programs to support these goals will be forthcoming. Budget implications are not yet clear.

Next CIHR-UD meeting is on February 6, 2020. Bye for now!

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