2023 Scholar Competition

Information Session Webinar

Shannon Wagener | Research Competitions Coordinator
November 15, 2022
Webinar Agenda

1. About Michael Smith Health Research BC
2. Program Highlights
3. Insights from a Scholar award recipient
4. Organizations with Scholar Award Holders
5. Award Amount and Duration
6. Eligibility Requirements
7. Changes for 2023
8. Knowledge Translation
9. Partnership Opportunities
10. Mitacs Accelerate Partnership
11. Evaluation Criteria
12. Tips for Developing your application
13. MSFHR ApplyNet
15. Contact Information
16. Q and A session
Overview of the Scholar program
SCHOLAR PROGRAM

An early career researcher within 5 years of their first appointment

A Scholar award provides:
- $90,000 per year for up to 5 years
- 75% of time protected for research

Scholar awards enable researchers to:
- Start + develop new programs of research in BC
- Attract additional funding
- Train new researchers + hire full-time staff
- Create knowledge to inform practice, policy + further research

Benefits to BC:
- Develops BC talent
- Generates new discoveries + evidence to improve health care
- Builds health research capacity
Insights from a Scholar award recipient

Dr. Cheryl Heykoop

2021 Scholar Award Recipient
Associate Professor
School of Leadership Studies
Royal Roads University

Program of Research Title: Transforming Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Care in BC in Partnership with Patients and Cancer Care Allies.
Organizations with Scholar Award Holders

- BC Cancer
- BC Centre for Disease Control
- BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS
- BC Centre on Substance Use
- Centre for Health Evaluation and Outcome Sciences (CHEOS)
- Gender and Sexual Health Initiative
- International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (iCORD)
- James Hogg Research Centre
- Providence Health Care Research Institute

- Royal Roads University
- Simon Fraser University
- Trinity Western University
- University of BC – Okanagan
- University of BC – Point Grey
- University of Northern British Columbia
- University of Victoria
- Vancouver Island University
Award Amount & Duration

Applicant

Research Themes

- Biomedical
- Clinical
- Health Services
- Population Health

$90,000 per year

5 years
Eligibility Requirements

Must have a **PhD** or equivalent.

Commit to a minimum of **75 percent time** conducting research.

Currently hold an **appointment** or have a commitment of an appointment to begin by the award start date of **July 1, 2023** at a BC institution that holds a memorandum of understanding with Health Research BC as a host institution.

Be **within six years from the start of their first university appointment** (at an assistant professor level, or equivalent) **OR be within six years of obtaining a PhD** as of the award start date, **July 1, 2023**, whichever comes last

Research must display clear link to human health research
Integrating Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Considerations in Research

• Department heads are encouraged to use the Department Head Form to describe any concrete practices or resources they will provide to support accessibility, diversity and inclusion in their work environment and in mentoring and professional development.

• A section in the application form will be provided for applicants to describe how they meaningfully and appropriately account for EDI in the design of their research programs, in the analysis and interpretation of the findings, in their KT activities, and in the composition and governance of their research teams.

• Reference letters are no longer required.
Continuing impacts of COVID-19 on early career researchers

- Applicants will continue to have the opportunity to include a COVID-19 impact statement in their application to describe the impact of the pandemic on their research activities.

- To account for COVID-19 research and training disruptions, we will continue to extend the eligibility window for the Scholar competition by one year.

- Peer reviewers will account for COVID-19 impacts in application assessment and scoring.
Knowledge Translation (Pathway to Impact)
The broad range of activities and initiatives used to improve the use of health research evidence in health planning, practice, policy, and further health research.

- A “Pathway to Impact” for health research evidence
- Includes KT Practice and KT Research
Why is Knowledge Translation Important?

- In 2009, Chalmers and Glasziou estimated that globally ~85% of biomedical research investment is wasted\(^1\)

- MacLeod et al. estimated that across all health research this amounted to ~US$200B of wasted funding in 2010\(^2\)

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\(^1\)Chalmers & Glasziou. *Avoidable waste in the production and reporting of research evidence*. The Lancet (2009) 374;9683:86-89

The Impact of Research Waste

• 30% of patients do not get treatments of proven effectiveness

• 25% of patients get care that is not needed or potentially harmful

• Up to 75% of patients do not get enough information to make decisions

• Most programs to address gaps in patient care are not:
  ▪ evidence-based
  ▪ being implemented as intended
  ▪ being evaluated rigorously
  ▪ being sustained.


Pathway to Impact

**KT Practice:** the use of KT models, frameworks, and/or theories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Synthesis</strong></th>
<th><strong>Dissemination</strong></th>
<th><strong>Exchange</strong></th>
<th><strong>Implementation</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>The contextualization and integration of research findings of individual research studies within the larger body of knowledge on the topic.</td>
<td>The active, purposive distribution of research findings tailored to the unique needs of appropriate audiences with the intent to spread information.</td>
<td>The giving and receiving of knowledge between researchers and research users throughout the research cycle resulting in mutual learning.</td>
<td>The use of strategies to adopt and integrate evidence-based interventions and to change practice within specific settings.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

KT activities are dynamic and interrelated; they can occur at multiple points in the research cycle.

**KT Science/Research:** the study of KT practices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Science of Knowledge Synthesis</strong></th>
<th><strong>Science of Knowledge Dissemination</strong></th>
<th><strong>Science of Exchanging Knowledge</strong></th>
<th><strong>Implementation Science</strong></th>
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<td>The scientific study of the methods used to synthesize individual research findings within the larger body of knowledge on the topic.</td>
<td>The scientific study of processes and variables that determine and/or influence the spread of knowledge to various stakeholders.</td>
<td>The scientific study of the methods used to exchange knowledge between researchers and research users that results in mutual learning.</td>
<td>The scientific study of methods that promote the systematic uptake of research findings and other evidence-based practices in clinical, organizational or policy contexts.</td>
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KT practice and research are interrelated; they can inform the work of the other and take place within the same research study.
KT Practice and KT Research

- KT Practice activities are the steps in your “pathway to impact”
  - What steps do you need to take?
  - Talk with other researchers to see what KT activities they’ve used

- KT Practice activities are evidence-based
  - Look at KT models, frameworks, and theories to inform your KT plan development

- KT Practice is not the same as KT Research
  - But KT Research proposals should include KT Practice activities

- KT Practice activities should be included in all pillars (i.e., biomedical, clinical, population health, health system), as appropriate to the type of research, expected findings, and research users
  - e.g., KT in bench research will look different than for population health research, and that’s okay!
End-of-Grant KT vs. Integrated KT

**End-of-Grant (Project) KT**

The research team develops and implements a plan for making potential research users aware of the knowledge that is gained from a project.

- Dissemination, +/- implementation
- Researcher-driven
- Typically, not planned early
Integrated KT (iKT)

Research users are engaged as equal partners alongside research team.

• Involved with most, if not the entire, research process
• Team-driven
• Pre-planned prior to undertaking research
Participant Involvement in Research

- **Inform**: Researchers provide information and services to Knowledge Users.
- **Consult**: Knowledge Users provide information and feedback to Researchers.
- **Involve**: Researchers invite Knowledge Users to participate on specific issues.
- **Collaborate**: Researchers and Knowledge Users collaborate on each aspect of the project from development to completion.
- **Shared Leadership**: Researchers and Knowledge Users form strong partnerships, share decision-making, and co-create knowledge through a project.

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Balaz & Morello-Frosch. *The three R's: How community based participatory research strengthens the rigor, relevance and reach of science*. Environmental Justice, (2013) 6:1

Types of Research Users

- Patients
- The "public" / specific community representatives
- Clinicians / health care practitioners
- Health care administrators
- Government employees / public policy makers or analysts / educators
- Representatives from non-government organizations / advocacy groups
- Research funders
- Industry
- Other researchers
KT Pathways is an assessment tool for anyone who creates, uses or communicates research evidence. It is designed to help you assess your current knowledge translation (KT) skill level and to provide a framework for learning to support the use of research in practice, policy and further research.

https://ktpathways.ca
Partnership Opportunities
Partnership Opportunities

Health Research BC partners with leading organizations to grow BC’s health research talent.

Process:
Applicants interested in being funded through a partnered award are encouraged to Complete the Potential Co-Funding Partners tab in their Full Application in ApplyNet.

Additional partners will sometimes come on board during or after the full application phase and are therefore listed only on our website. If you'd like to be considered for an award co-funded by any of these additional partners, please let us know by emailing partnerships@healthresearchbc.ca.

Health Research BC uses the details captured in your full application and keywords provided by partners to identify applications that may be relevant to and align with partners’ area of interest.
More information about partners interested in co-funding the 2023 competition will be available in the full application form and at https://healthresearchbc.ca/funding/partnered-awards/
Mitacs Accelerate Partnership

• Introduced in 2019 – expedited application process for Mitacs Accelerate funding for Scholar applicants. Not mandatory.
• Mitacs Accelerate funding supports experiential training internships for Master’s, PhD students, and post-doctoral fellows who are supporting your research.
• Applicants indicate interest at letter of intent.
• Separate application form outside of ApplyNet system. Form to be uploaded to Full Application.
• Contact a Mitacs business development representative for more information and to obtain an Accelerate Proposal application.
Application and Review Process
## Evaluation Criteria

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<td>Environment and Support</td>
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**Applicant Expertise and Experience**
- Health Research BC Full CCV
- Publication list
- Most significant contributions

**Program of Research**
- Program of research upload
- Appendices upload
- Letters of collaboration (optional)

**Environment and Support**
- Department Head and/or Dean Forms in which reviewers look for clear commitment and support by applicant’s host institution.
Evaluation Criteria

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**Continuing for 2023**
Separate peer review pools for junior faculty:
- Within three years of first appointment
- Between 4-6 years from first appointment
Tips for developing your application

• Seek support from your organization’s **grant facilitation office** for development, editing, and revision of your application.

• Have your application critically reviewed by **colleagues**.

• Review the competition’s **evaluation criteria** and make sure they are addressed in your application.

• Pay attention to **grantsmanship** — cohesive flow of information allows reviewers to read the application without having to flip back and forth between pages.

• Format the program of research to be **easy to read**. Use **headings** to show a logical progression and break up the text into **paragraphs**. Don't be afraid of white space.
Tips for developing your application

• Reviewers do not have the time to look up information on your behalf — if it is important, make it explicit in the application.

• If you have pilot data, mention it.

• You will have 8 additional pages for your appendices, which may include references, tables, charts, figures, and photographs. However, if the data is important to your research proposal, please include it within the Program of Research document.

• If you were not able to capture important information about your activities and contributions in the CCV, you can add it to the Most Significant Contributions section.

• The sample application on our website provides some tips for the application.
Applications are submitted through our online grants management system, ApplyNet, https://healthresearchbc.smartsimple.ca/
From the home page, click Apply.

The next page will display a list of competitions available for application.

Click View Details to see competition information and to launch an eligibility quiz. A successful completion of the quiz will open the Letter of Intent.
2023 Scholar competition launch: November 9, 2022

LOI Deadline: December 5, 2022

Deadline to submit Department Head and/or Dean tasks: January 23, 2023

Full Application deadline: January 30, 2023

Host institution deadline to submit to Health Research BC: February 6, 2023

Eligibility Quiz

Letter of Intent

Full Application

Host Institution Approval

Applicant completes Eligibility Quiz and Letter of Intent in ApplyNet

Applicant creates Third Party tasks in ApplyNet

Applicant completes and submits the Full Application

* Third Parties: Department Head and/or Dean
For questions regarding the application and submission process, please contact:

**Andrew Biagtan**
Coordinator, Research Competitions
604.714.6602
scholar@healthresearchbc.ca

For technical support with ApplyNet, please contact:

**Health Research BC Help Desk**
604.714.6609
helpdesk@healthresearchbc.ca
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<th>Stages in Competition Cycle</th>
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<tr>
<td>Letter of Intent Deadline</td>
<td>December 5, 2022 4:30 p.m. PT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Application Deadline</td>
<td>January 30, 2023 4:30 p.m. PT</td>
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<td>Peer Review Panel Meetings</td>
<td>April – May 2023</td>
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<td>Funding Announcement</td>
<td>June 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholar Award Start Date</td>
<td>July 1, 2023</td>
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