



Michael Smith

**Health  
Research BC**

# 2025 Scholar & Health Professional-Investigator

## Information Session

### Indigenous health research review panel and Indigenous community engagement top-up fund

Asma-na-hi Antoine PhD Candidate, former Director of Indigenous Relations, Royal Roads  
U.

Sarah Wright Cardinal, Associate Professor, U. Victoria and 2024 Scholar recipient

Kate Wilczak, Manager, Research Competitions

November 6, 2024

As a provincial organization, our work extends across many Indigenous lands and territories throughout British Columbia. We acknowledge with respect and humility that our Vancouver office is located on the traditional and unceded territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əy'əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səłilwətaʔɫ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.



*Capilano canyon, on the unceded territories of the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh  
Photo by Kate*

# Webinar agenda

- Scholar and HP-I program overview
  - Indigenous health research review panel
  - Top-up fund
- Changing how we evaluate Indigenous health research
- Insights from Dr. Sarah Wright Cardinal
- Application process
- Contact information & key dates
- Q & A

# Overview of the Scholar and Health Professional-Investigator programs

# Our commitments

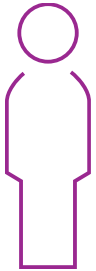
- Health Research BC acknowledges that colonization and systemic racism have critically impacted the past and ongoing health and wellbeing of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples
- We envision a health research system that values Indigenous ways of knowing and research methods that respect Indigenous self-determination

# Our commitments

We are committed to:

- increasing our support for Indigenous health research career development and Indigenous health research
- growing our capacity for appropriate review of Indigenous research applications

# Scholar Program: Supporting early-career health researchers



An early-career researcher within six years of their first appointment

## A Scholar award provides:



**\$90,000** per year for up to five years



**75%** of time protected for research

## Benefits to BC:

- Develops talent whose work generates evidence for new treatments and diagnostic tools that improve health outcomes
- Strengthens the health system's capacity to conduct world-class research



# Health Professional-Investigator (HP-I) Program



A health professional looking to conduct and apply relevant research

## An HP-I award provides:



Up to **\$90,000** per year for five years



**50%** of time protected for research while continuing clinical practice



Research career **advancement**

## Benefits to BC:

- Builds health research capacity
- Connects evidence to patient care
- Improves patient outcomes
- Supports the knowledge economy to inform practice, policy and further research





# Is Scholar or HP-I right for you?

PhD (or equivalent)

Career is research focused

Commit to min. 75% research time

Within first 6 years of first academic appointment (assistant professor or equivalent)

**Scholar**

Health professional licensed to practice in BC

Works in BC health system in a role involving clinical decision-making

Commit to min. 50% research time

Must have research appointment at BC host institution

**Health Professional-Investigator**

# New for 2025 Scholar and HP-I competitions

1. No Canadian Common CV in the application
2. New policy on leave credits for early career researchers
3. Distinct peer review panel for Indigenous-led health research applications
4. Top-up funding of up to \$10K for recipients whose research involves meaningfully engaging Indigenous communities

# Indigenous health research review panel

- Applicants may choose to be reviewed by the Indigenous health research review panel at time of application
- The Indigenous health research panel will review applications with a focus on ***Indigenous-led research***
- Composed of reviewers with living experience, knowledge, and/or expertise in Indigenous health research
- Specific evaluation criteria for Indigenous health research
- Dedicated pool of funds for applicants to this panel.

# BC SUPPORT Unit top-up fund

- **\$10,000 top-up funds** offered to applicants whose research involves meaningfully engaging Indigenous communities. Supports researchers in their ability to:
  - Support active and meaningful partnerships with Indigenous communities, organizations, or leaders.
  - Support a strong relationship in alignment with Indigenous methodologies.
  - Promote cultural safety and OCAP® practices.
  - Support capacity bridging within the Indigenous community to participate in research.
- **Applicants may be from any panel**; their research must include meaningfully engaging Indigenous communities
- Interested Scholar and HP-I applicants submit a budget for up to \$10,000 in eligible expenses while completing their full application.
- Resource: [Indigenous Research Level of Engagement Tool](#)



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BC SUPPORT UNIT

# Insights from a Scholar award recipient



## Dr. Sarah Wright Cardinal

**2024 Scholar Award Recipient**

Associate Professor

School of Public Health and Social Policy

University of Victoria

**Project Title:** Sharing medicine bundles and pathways to community wellness: articulating nation-specific ceremonial, land-based wellness practices

# Sarah's tips

- Self location and relationship to community
- PhD foundation for program of research, scaffold
- Other projects that have informed proposed 5 year program of research
- My approach: Being a Helper where Invited (Wright Cardinal, 2023)
- IRM: Storied research; video outputs; arts-based ceremonial outputs such as regalia, headdresses, canoes, paddles, sweatlodges, medicine picking, fast camps, etc.
- Address Indigenous intellectual property & governance
- Meet with Chair/Director and Dean to introduce your work
- Follow your heart & the communities you are accountable to

# Review process & evaluation criteria

# Evaluation criteria

Criterion	Description	Weighting
<b>Applicant expertise and experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Career timeline</li><li>• Most significant contributions and publication list</li><li>• Acknowledgement of roles, responsibility and privilege that enable the research and KT</li><li>• Extent and quality of the relationships and co-leadership of the research</li></ul>	<b>30%</b>



# Evaluation criteria

Criterion	Description	Weighting
<b>Research program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research program upload<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extent to which research is relevant to the priorities of the people and communities involved</li><li>• Extent and quality of engagement with the people, communities and organization in relation to the research</li></ul></li><li>• Extent to which research design and methods abide by the Tri-Council Policy Statement Chapter 9 and/or Indigenous partnering community ethical guidelines</li><li>• Extent to which Indigenous knowledge processes and ethics are incorporated in the research</li><li>• Knowledge translation and knowledge exchange activities</li></ul>	<b>50%</b>

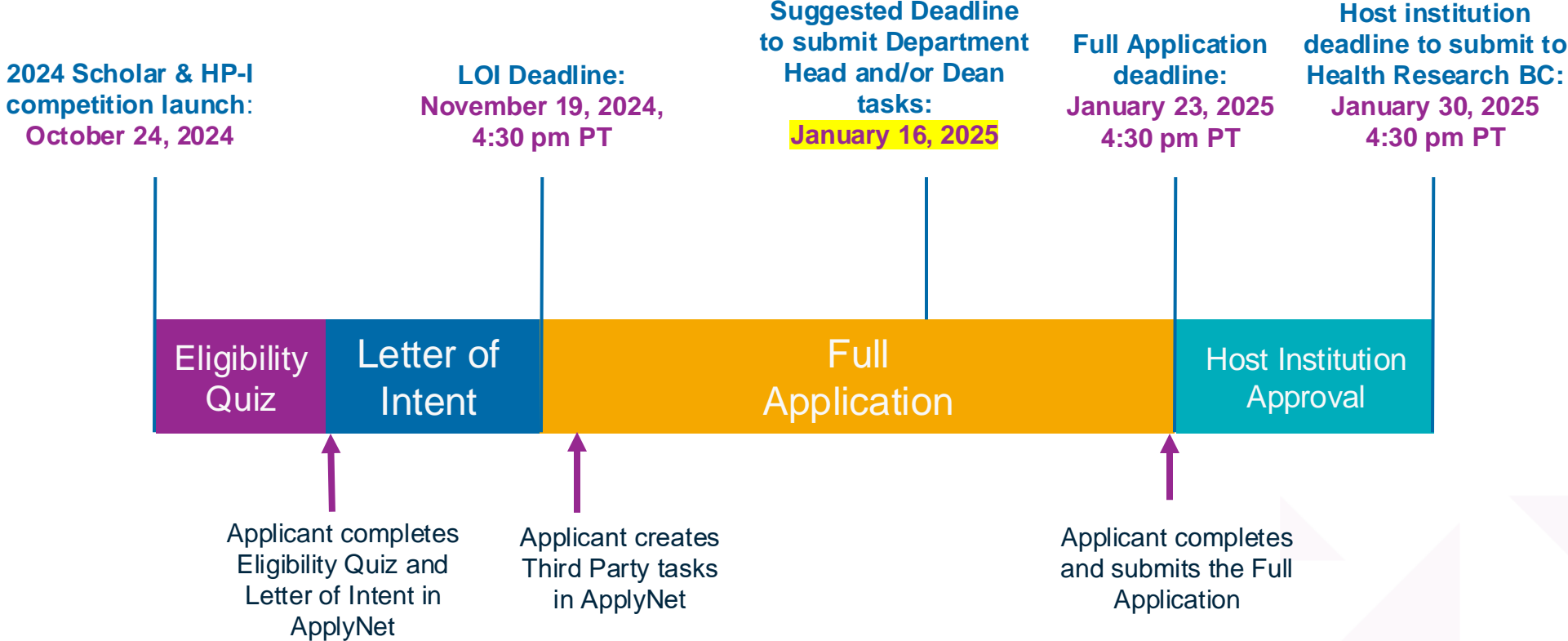
# Evaluation criteria

Criterion	Description	Weighting
<b>Environment and support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research support statement</li><li>• Budget statement</li><li>• Department Head and/or Dean Forms</li><li>• Letter(s) of collaboration (optional)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Quality and extent of the applicant's plans to work with people, communities and organizations, and the adequacy of supports provided to support research and KE activities</li></ul></li></ul>	20%

# Peer review

Scholar	Health Professional-Investigator
Separate peer review pools for junior faculty: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Within <b>three years</b> of first appointment</li><li>• Between <b>4-6 years</b> from first appointment</li></ul>	Separate peer review pools for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Physician</b> applicants</li><li>• <b>Allied Health</b> applicants</li></ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Both programs:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Peer review panels by theme</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Biomedical   Clinical   Health Services   Population Health   Indigenous Health Research</b></p>	

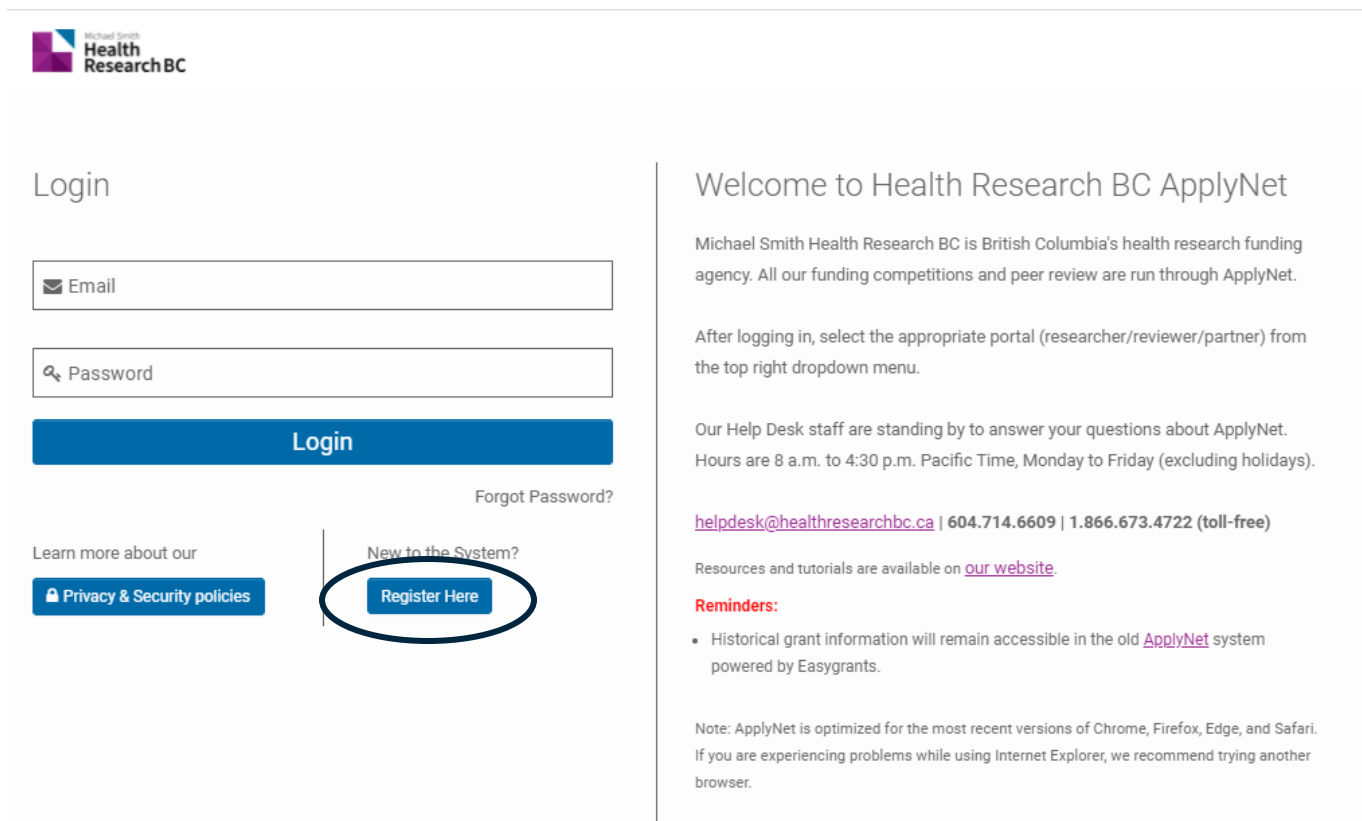
# Scholar and HP-I application process flow



\* Third Parties: Department Head and/or Dean

# Health Research BC ApplyNet

Applications are submitted through our online grants management system, ApplyNet, <https://healthresearchbc.smartsimple.ca/>



**Michael Smith Health Research BC**

## Login

Email

Password

Login

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New to the System? [Register Here](#)

## Welcome to Health Research BC ApplyNet

Michael Smith Health Research BC is British Columbia's health research funding agency. All our funding competitions and peer review are run through ApplyNet.

After logging in, select the appropriate portal (researcher/reviewer/partner) from the top right dropdown menu.

Our Help Desk staff are standing by to answer your questions about ApplyNet. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday to Friday (excluding holidays).

[helpdesk@healthresearchbc.ca](mailto:helpdesk@healthresearchbc.ca) | 604.714.6609 | 1.866.673.4722 (toll-free)

Resources and tutorials are available on [our website](#).

**Reminders:**

- Historical grant information will remain accessible in the old [ApplyNet](#) system powered by Easygrants.

Note: ApplyNet is optimized for the most recent versions of Chrome, Firefox, Edge, and Safari. If you are experiencing problems while using Internet Explorer, we recommend trying another browser.

# Health Research BC ApplyNet

From your ApplyNet home page, **click “Apply.”**  
This will take you to a page displaying currently open competitions.



Home **Apply** Health Research BC Help Desk

Welcome to your ApplyNet home page

Then **click “View Details”** next to the Scholar or HPI competition to begin a Letter of Intent.

## Open Competitions

2025 Health Professional-Investigator Competition

LOI Deadline: 11/19/2024 4:30 PM  
Full Application Deadline: 01/23/2025 4:30 PM

[View Details](#)

2025 Scholar Competition

LOI Deadline: 11/19/2024 4:30 PM  
Full Application Deadline: 01/23/2025 4:30 PM

[View Details](#)

# Contact info

For questions regarding the application and submission process, please contact:

[scholar@healthresearchbc.ca](mailto:scholar@healthresearchbc.ca), [hpi@healthresearchbc.ca](mailto:hpi@healthresearchbc.ca)

You can also reach out to Kate Wilczak at

[kwilczak@healthresearchbc.ca](mailto:kwilczak@healthresearchbc.ca)

For technical support with ApplyNet, please contact:

**Health Research BC Help Desk**

604.714.6609 | 1.866.673.4722

[helpdesk@healthresearchbc.ca](mailto:helpdesk@healthresearchbc.ca)

Visit [www.healthresearchbc.ca/funding](http://www.healthresearchbc.ca/funding) to view competition guidelines, sample application PDFs, and evaluation criteria.

# Questions?

Stages in Competition Cycle	Date
Letter of Intent Deadline	November 19, 2024 4:30 p.m. PT
Full Application Deadline	January 23, 2025 4:30 p.m. PT
Host Institution Deadline	January 30, 2025 4:30 p.m. PT
Peer Review Panel Meetings	April-May 2025
Anticipated Start of Funding	July 1, 2025