

MUHC FOUNDATION / MONTREAL CHEST INSTITUTE RESPIRATORY RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

INNOVATION GRANT PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Objectives and Timeline

Innovation Grants of the MUHC Foundation / Montreal Chest Institute Campaign for Respiratory Research (Dream Big, Breathe Easier) are designed to provide seed funding for new and potentially groundbreaking research that is not yet sufficiently mature for conventional sources of funding. The objective of the Innovation Grant competition is to support preliminary or proof-of-concept studies by a research team that will position them to secure external competitive funding. The primary goals of the project should be attainable within a 12-month period, and focus on an area that is relevant to Respiratory Health.

Eligibility

The Principal Investigator must be a McGill faculty member with an active primary appointment in the Translational Research in Respiratory Diseases (RESP) Program of the RI-MUHC. The inclusion of other McGill community or external investigators is welcome, but the research must be led by and take place at the RI-MUHC, with a major component at the Montreal Chest Institute of the MUHC. An investigator may apply for only one award in the role of Principal Investigator. The objectives of the project must be distinct from any currently held grants by the research team.

Available Funds and Grant Term

The amount of the award shall be up to a maximum of \$40,000. The grant term is for 12 months and is not renewable.

Application Format (single-spaced, 1 inch margins all sides, Times New Roman 12 pt)

- A) PROJECT TITLE
- B) PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR AND OTHER TEAM MEMBERS IF APPLICABLE
- C) LAY ABSTRACT FOR DONORS & FOUNDATION (max 250 words)
- D) SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACT FOR REVIEWERS (max 500 words)
- E) PROJECT DESCRIPTION in the following order (3 pages not including references; 1 page for references):
 - 1) Research concept, novelty and specific aims
 - 2) Background work leading up to the project
 - 3) Experimental protocol
 - 4) Specific research outputs that will be leveraged to form the basis of a future application for external funding
- F) DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH TEAM MEMBERS AND THEIR ROLES (0.5 page)
- G) BUDGET (1 page). Provide details and justify how and where the funds will be spent during the 12-month grant term. Personnel including trainees, consumables, small

- equipment (up to a maximum of \$5000), and appropriately justified services are eligible. There should be no budgetary overlap with existing funds, but other non-overlapping funding can be used to help leverage the project if appropriately justified. Conference fees, travel, accommodations, and meal costs are not eligible. Funds must be held at the RI-MUHC and are subject to 15% overhead, as outlined in the [RI-MUHC overhead policy](#). This 15% overhead should be incorporated into the proposed budget.
- H) EXTERNAL FUNDING PLAN. Provide details about anticipated grant opportunities that will be pursued and the submission dates for these applications.
- I) CV OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR AND TEAM MEMBERS (CIHR Biosketch Format – See Biosketch Instructions at the following link: <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/48437.html>)

Criteria for Funding

Priority will be given to applications that fulfill the following criteria:

- Quality, novelty and feasibility of the project
- Clear description of research outputs that will significantly strengthen a future application for external competitive funding
- Involvement of early career investigators (less than 10 years on faculty)
- Involvement of more than one RESP program investigator
- Creation of new infrastructure that can broadly benefit the RESP program (eg. databases, biobanking, new technologies)
- Alignment with Primary Themes of the RESP program and Strategic Priorities of the RI-MUHC (see below)

Primary Themes of the RESP Program: 1) Chronic Airways Disease; 2) Lung Injury and Infection; 3) Neuromuscular Dysfunction in Respiratory Diseases; 4) Sleep-Disordered Breathing; 5) Lung Cancer.

Strategic Priorities of the RI-MUHC: Precision Health Across the Lifespan – 1) Genetic, molecular and cellular mechanisms of disease; 2) Experimental medicine and clinical research; 3) Population health and epidemiology; 4) Data science, technology and digital health.

Submission Deadline and Review

All submissions will be assessed by a scientific review committee comprising individuals without any conflict of interest. The review process and funding recommendations will be validated by the respiratory research fundraising campaign Executive Committee, consisting of the Directors of the McGill Respiratory Division, the Respiratory Epidemiology and Clinical Research Unit, and the Meakins-Christie Laboratories.

The application submission deadline is Monday January 9, 2023, with expected decisions within 45 days. Please send the completed application as a merged pdf to Inga Murawski by email (inga.murawski@mail.mcgill.ca).