



## Research Office for Administration, Development and Support (ROADS) Funding Opportunities Bulletin

March 19, 2014

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### **Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada, Centre for Drug Research and Development: Developing Drugs for Progressive Multiple Sclerosis**

The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada in partnership with the Centre for Drug Research and Development (CDRD) have announced a request for proposals aimed at accelerating preclinical development of novel therapies for Multiple Sclerosis (MS). The partnership between the MS Society

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of Canada and the CDRD represents an opportunity for researchers at the cutting edge of MS research to move their technologies through preclinical development and facilitate translation to patients.

The partners are interested in the preclinical development of novel therapeutic small molecules or antibodies that will:

- promote remyelination;
- stop or delay the progression of neuronal damage;
- repair accumulated damage to the central nervous system; or
- modify disease progression in other ways.

Also of interest are diagnostic biomarkers and new disease models which have the potential to expedite the preclinical and clinical development of new therapeutics.

Research suitable for funding will have potential for clinical development, yet have some critical outstanding questions that can be answered by collaborative experimental work in both the investigator's laboratory and CDRD.

It is not necessary to have filed a patent application when submitting a Letter of Intent, however, the technology must be unencumbered (i.e., rights in the subject technology can not have been granted or optioned to a third party by the applicant or their host institution).

**Value:**

The grant amount and duration has not been stipulated. CDRD has established multiple Innovation Funds with leading global pharmaceutical companies to support development of projects. Detailed information regarding these funds can be found at [www.cdrd.ca](http://www.cdrd.ca).

The structure of these partnerships provide financial resources for selected projects, and also gives CDRD and principal investigators access to world-class disease and industry expertise to help develop project plans that are optimally directed towards commercialization.

**Application process:**

This funding opportunity has a two-step application process: the Letter of Intent (LOI) and the invited full Application.

If you intend to submit an LOI, please contact Cynthia Belaskie, Senior Advisor, at [belaski@mcmaster.ca](mailto:belaski@mcmaster.ca) or extension 21581, **as soon as possible**.

Letters of Intent must be received electronically to [msrfp@cdrd.ca](mailto:msrfp@cdrd.ca) by March 24, 2014 by 5:00pm PST. Only Letters of Intent that have passed the initial screening process will be invited to submit a full Application by April 15, 2014.

**More information:**

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Additional information regarding the Developing Drugs for Progressive Multiple Sclerosis can be found on the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada website at:

<http://mssociety.ca/en/research/funding-opportunity-translational-research.htm>

### **Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario: How do postsecondary institutions evaluate their economic impact? : A review of principles and methods**

The Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario has announced a Request for Proposals “*How do postsecondary institutions evaluate their economic impact?*” to review the principles and methods postsecondary institutions have used to assess their economic impact.

The successful proposal will review the principles and methodologies employed in these various studies, including a review of what measures have been used to assess economic impact, both within Ontario and Canada and elsewhere. Successful proposals will also compare the various methods used, identify common themes and measures, and suggest best practices for a comprehensive and useful tool by which an institution could, and should, assess its economic impact.

#### **Value:**

The budget proposed is between \$30,000 to \$50,000. The duration of a project is to be determined.

#### **Application process:**

If you intend to submit an application, please contact Pam McIntyre, Senior Advisor, at [mcintyp@mcmaster.ca](mailto:mcintyp@mcmaster.ca) or extension 23713, **as soon as possible**.

Applications must be received by the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario by March 31, 2014 by 3:00pm EST.

#### **More information:**

Additional information regarding the How do postsecondary institutions evaluate their economic impact?: A review of principles and methods can be found on the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario website at: <http://heqco.ca/en-CA/Research/Requests%20for%20Proposals/Pages/Home.aspx>.

### **The Killam Program of the Canada Council for the Arts: 2015 Killam Research Fellowships**

The Killam Program of the Canada Council for the Arts, *Killam Research Fellowships*, provide two full years of release time from teaching and administrative duties to individual scholars who wish to pursue independent research.

The Fellowships are awarded to established scholars of exceptional ability, who are engaged in research projects of broad significance and widespread interest in the humanities, business, social

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sciences, health sciences, natural sciences, engineering, and studies linking any of the disciplines within these fields.

Fellowships are offered to applicants considered outstanding based on qualifications, achievements and experience in areas related to their proposed research project.

Killam Fellows are expected to continue contributing to the Canadian research community after they have completed their fellowship project.

Applicants must be Canadian citizens or have permanent resident status.

Retired researchers are not eligible.

No individual may be awarded a Fellowship from the Killam Program more than once.

**Value:**

Fellowships are valued at \$70,000 per year for 2 years.

The Fellowships are awarded to individuals, however, the funds are paid to and administered by universities or research institutes.

Award recipients must obtain support for research and laboratory costs from other sources.

**Application process:**

If you intend to submit an application, please contact Sherisse Webb, Assistant Director, Development, at [webbsh@mcmaster.ca](mailto:webbsh@mcmaster.ca) or extension 26946 by **April 2, 2014**.

All applications require Department and Faculty endorsement. Once ROADS has received approval from your Department Chair and Associate Dean Research, a Senior Advisor will be assigned to assist you with development of your proposal.

Applications and supporting documents must be submitted to the Canada Council for the Arts by May 15, 2014.

**More information:**

Additional information regarding the 2015 Killam Research Fellowships can be found on the Canada Council for the Arts website at:

<http://www.canadacouncil.ca/~media/files/grants%20prizes%20-%20en/endow%20and%20prizes/killam%20research%20fellowships/prg16be12-13.pdf?mw=1382>.

**Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP): 2015 HFSP Nakasone Award for Frontier Research**

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The **HFSP Nakasone Award** honours scientists who have undertaken frontier-moving research in biology encompassing conceptual, experimental or technological breakthroughs.

Nominators should take into account the following points when choosing nominees:

- The award is given on the basis of excellence in research in fields of the life sciences supported by HFSP - specifically, research focused on the complex mechanisms of living organisms. Areas have traditionally ranged from molecular and cellular approaches to biological functions to systems neuroscience, including cognitive functions. All levels of complexity involving mechanisms of biological phenomena or the interactions between organisms will be considered.
- The research field must be within HFSP's scope of funding in basic research.
- The award is given for a clearly defined breakthrough identifiable by specific publications, not for a life-time achievement.
- Over time the scope of the awards is expected to represent the broad range of topics typical of HFSP funding.
- Priority will be given to recent breakthroughs by younger scientists in cases where more than one excellent candidate is under consideration.
- Co-authors on breakthrough papers may be jointly nominated, however, separate nominations for the same breakthrough will not be considered.

Self-nominations are not accepted.

The prize is open to all scientists, not only those who have received funding within the HFSP. Senior and junior scientists are eligible. Peer-recognised excellence is the major criterion for selection.

**Value:**

Awardees receive an unrestricted research grant of \$10,000 USD, a commemorative medal, a personalised certificate and are expected to deliver a plenary lecture at the 2015 HFSP Awardees Meeting.

**Application process:**

If you intend to nominate a McMaster researcher, please contact Grace Kim, Senior Advisor, at [kimps@mcmaster.ca](mailto:kimps@mcmaster.ca) or extension 24765, **as soon as possible**.

Nominations and supporting material must be received by the HFSP by April 4, 2014.

**More information:**

Additional information regarding the 2015 HFSP Nakasone Award for Frontier Research can be found on the Human Frontier Science Program website at: <http://www.hfsp.org/awardees/hfsp-nakasone-award>.

**University of Louisville, Grawemeyer Awards: The Grawemeyer Award in Education**

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The University of Louisville, *Grawemeyer Award in Education*, aims to stimulate the dissemination, public scrutiny, and implementation of ideas that have potential to bring about significant improvement in educational practice and advances in educational attainment. The award is intended not only to reward the individuals responsible, but also to draw attention to their ideas, proposals or recent achievements.

Ideas eligible for nomination may have an individual author or authors. Consideration will be given to printed books, articles appearing in scholarly journals, technological advances, software, research reports, conference presentations or other widely and publicly disseminated forms.

Professional educators, educational institutions and organizations, publishers and editors of educational books and journals may make nominations. Nominations are judged on the basis of originality, creativity, feasibility, accessibility, evidence and research, and scope of potential applicability.

Self-nominations are not accepted.

**Value:**

The prize is \$100,000 payable in 5 annual installments.

**Application process:**

If you intend to nominate a McMaster researcher, please contact Pamela McIntyre, Senior Advisor, at [mcintyp@mcmaster.ca](mailto:mcintyp@mcmaster.ca) or extension 23713, **as soon as possible**.

Nomination letters must be received by the University of Louisville by April 30, 2014 and all supporting materials for the nomination must reach the University by May 31, 2014.

**More information:**

Additional information regarding the Grawemeyer Award in Education can be found on the University of Louisville website at: <http://www.grawemeyer.org/education/>.

**The W. Garfield Weston Foundation: 2014 Transformational Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases of Aging**

The W. Garfield Weston Foundation has announced the launch of the *2014 Transformational Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases of Aging* grant program. The goal of the program is to provide funding to high potential, translational research that will have transformational impact in neurodegenerative diseases of aging that include:

- Alzheimer's disease;
- Parkinson's disease;
- amyotrophic lateral sclerosis;

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- dementia with Lewy bodies;
- frontotemporal dementia;
- multiple system atrophy;
- progressive supranuclear palsy; and
- mild cognitive impairment as prodromal to one of these diseases.

Proposed projects must be translational research (i.e., applied research towards developing therapeutics for the prevention and/or treatment of human disease) and fall in to one of the two categories:

1. Preclinical development of a therapeutic. The Foundation's definition of a therapeutic is a pharmacological approach (including small molecules, biologics, cell therapies and vaccines including drug repositioning and repurposing), medical device, surgical intervention or magnetic or electrical brain stimulation. Therapeutics can be for symptomatic relief, disease modification or prevention.
2. Development of tools that help accelerate development of therapeutics (e.g., animal models, imaging techniques or reagents, biomarkers, diagnostics and clinical assessment instruments).

**Value:**

The Foundation will commit \$500,000 per year up to 3 years per project. Up to 35 percent of the funds can be used to bring unique international resources into Canadian-led work.

**Application process:**

This funding opportunity has a two-step application process: the Letter of Intent (LOI) and the invited full Application.

If you intend to submit an LOI, please contact Grace Kim, Senior Advisor, at [kimps@mcmaster.ca](mailto:kimps@mcmaster.ca) or extension 24765, **as soon as possible**.

Letters of Intent must be received by the Foundation by May 2, 2014 by 2:00pm EST. Only Letters of Intent that have passed the initial screening process will be invited to submit a full Application by September 16, 2014.

**More information:**

Additional information regarding the 2014 Transformational Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases of Aging can be found on The W. Garfield Weston Foundation website at: <http://www.westonfoundation.org/Pages/neurotransform2014.aspx>.

**Tinker Foundation Incorporated: The Martha T. Muse Prize for Science and Policy in Antarctica**

The Tinker Foundation Incorporated, *Martha T. Muse Prize for Science and Policy in Antarctica*, is

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presented to an individual who has demonstrated excellence in Antarctic science or policy and shows clear potential for sustained, major and significant contributions that will enhance the understanding and preservation of Antarctica.

The goal of the prize is to recognize the leaders of tomorrow and to enhance the impact and scope of their leadership in the future. Exemplar activities in which a Martha Muse Prize winner might show promise of future leadership include but are not limited to the following areas:

- studying the agreements, instruments and conventions among nations that foster international cooperation, promote shared governance and protect the environment of Antarctica;
- advancing cross-disciplinary efforts to better understand Antarctica;
- conducting investigations that advance our understanding of Antarctic systems and living resources as key components of the earth system;
- studying the unique characteristics and adaptations of Antarctic organisms;
- defining the role of humans in change in the Antarctic environment and improving our ability to predict future outcomes, promote environmental stewardship and inform management of the region;
- studying the critical linkages between Antarctica and the planet as a whole;
- addressing one or more of the themes embodied in the International Polar Year (IPY 2007–2008) found at <http://www.ipy.org/>;
- contributing to public understanding and appreciation of Antarctica, its value and its role in our lives.

The award is given to honour someone in the early to mid-stages of their career.

The categories used for evaluation of the nominee are as follows:

#### **Scientific/Policy Background and Professional Accomplishments**

1. Career initiative and experience
2. Outputs and achievements and trends over time (e.g., publications, presentations, policy initiatives, awards)
3. Support and/or grants for research and policy proposals and their trend over time

#### **Leadership and Potential**

1. Demonstrated leadership and organizational skills
2. Collaborative and team-building skills
3. Potential for further development

#### **Communication and Outreach Skills and Achievements**

1. Communication and outreach
2. Evidence of working with diverse groups

#### **International Collaboration and Engagement**

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1. Demonstrated commitment to serve the world-wide community
2. Commitment to globalization of Antarctic science

Detailed information regarding each category can be found at [http://museprize.org/userfiles/MM\\_Prize\\_Category\\_descript.pdf](http://museprize.org/userfiles/MM_Prize_Category_descript.pdf).

Individuals are nominated for recognition by members of the Antarctic community of scientists and policy makers.

**Value:**

The prize is an unrestricted award of \$100,000 USD.

**Application process:**

If you intend to nominate a McMaster researcher, please contact Cynthia Belaskie, Senior Advisor, at [belaski@mcmaster.ca](mailto:belaski@mcmaster.ca) or extension 21581, **as soon as possible**.

Nominations and supporting material must be received by the Tinker Foundation by May 22, 2014.

**More information:**

Additional information regarding The Martha T. Muse Prize for Science and Policy in Antarctica can be found on the Tinker Foundation Incorporated website at: <http://museprize.org/muse-prize.html>.

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