



October 2, 2020

Notice of Intent for BC Ministry of Health COVID-19 Research Priorities

Funding from the BC Ministry of Health has been provided for health research seed grants that will answer research questions identified by the Ministry of Health as research priorities (See below). These seed grants are to encourage inter-institutional research, in priority health-related areas, between researchers at PHCRI, UBC and SFU.

Research conducted from this agreement must be guided by:

1. The BC Ministry of Health Priorities:

https://www.msfhr.org/sites/default/files/Health_System_Priorities.pdf;

2. BC's COVID-19 Strategic Research Framework (with a focus on B.C. specific epidemiology and public health countermeasures to address some of the challenges of long-term care homes, inner city populations, rural communities, Indigenous peoples, and health-care workers).

<https://www.msfhr.org/our-work/covid-19-research-response/strategic-provincial-advisory-committee-srac/bc-covid-19>

3. Ministry of Health identified priority research questions:

- (a) Access to mental health care and substance use supports in the context of COVID-19; general population, marginalized populations, homeless and congregate housed populations
- (b) Impact of COVID-19 on BC's public drug plan (Pharmacare) and evaluation of alterations to drug policy and clinical guidelines
- (c) Psychological health and safety support for healthcare professionals
- (d) Action-research (in real time, with learning applied immediately and ongoing study and adaptation), on:
 - Long term care and hospital interventions
 - Community outbreaks
 - School resumption and outbreaks
 - HHR implications



Funding is available for up to 1 year with a potential for renewal, and will be allocated into two funding streams:

1. Research projects with existing funding may receive \$5,000 – \$10,000; or
2. New, collaborative research projects are eligible for project funding of \$10,000 - \$20,000.

Funds are awarded based on merit of the proposal, team members' research excellence, Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) training, and alignment with the BC Ministry of Health's priorities and BC's COVID-19 Research Framework. A maximum of 10 grants will be awarded, depending on budget size. Funding will commence on **Nov 1st 2020**.

Please submit NOI (template below) to VPResearchSupport@providencehealth.bc.ca.

If you need any further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Knight'.

Dr. Darryl Knight
President, Providence Health Care Research Institute
Vice-President, Research & Academic Affairs, Providence Health Care
Associate Dean, Research, Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia

Notice of Intent for BC Ministry of Health COVID-19 Research Priorities

Researcher/Team:

Proposed Research Title:

Relevant Ministry of Health Research Priority/Question (from above):

Planned Research Project (1 page MAX):

Planned Outcomes (1/2 page MAX)

Budget:

Expertise: