



Michael Smith  
**Health  
Research BC**

# **2022 Health Professional-Investigator Competition**

## **Information Session Webinar**

**Shannon Tolleson | Research Competitions Coordinator**

**Gayle Scarrow | Director, Knowledge Translation**

**Lynne Feehan | Knowledge Translation Lead, BC SUPPORT Unit**

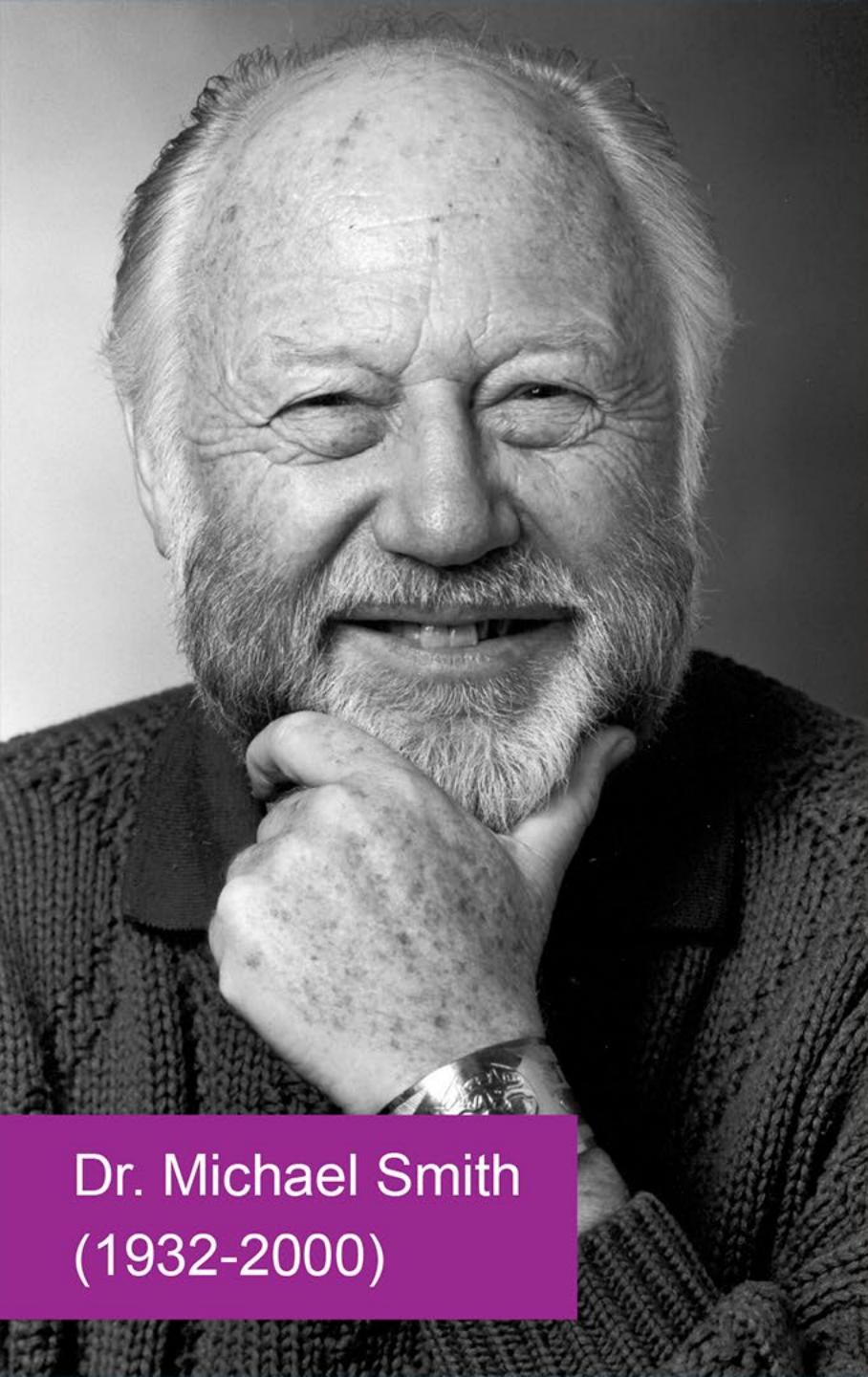
**Kristi Coldwell | Senior Advisor for Research Advocacy, Transplant  
Research Foundation of BC**

**March 23, 2022**



# Webinar Agenda

1. About Michael Smith Health Research BC
2. Program highlights
3. Insights from an HP-I award recipient
4. Organizations with HP-I award Holders
5. Award amount and duration
6. Eligibility requirements
7. Changes for 2022
8. Patient, public, and community review
9. Knowledge translation
10. Partnership opportunities
11. Mitacs Accelerate partnership
12. Evaluation criteria
13. Tips for developing your application
14. Health Research BC ApplyNet
15. Application process flow
16. Contact information
17. Q & A session



Dr. Michael Smith  
(1932-2000)

# About Michael Smith Health Research BC

The Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) and the British Columbia Academic Health Science Network (BC AHSN) have joined forces to create a dynamic and integrated health research organization,

**Michael Smith Health Research BC**,  
to support the growth and evolution of  
BC's vibrant health research system and  
life sciences sector.



# Overview of the Health Professional-Investigator program

# 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

HP-I awards enable researchers to:



Dedicate time to research while continuing clinical practice



Link their practical knowledge with important research questions



Advance their research careers



Create knowledge to inform practice, policy + further research



**Benefits to BC:**

- Builds health research capacity
- Connects evidence + patient care
- Improves patient outcomes

# Insights from an HP-I award recipient



**Dr. Marie Westby**

**2020 HP-I Award Recipient**

Physical Therapy Clinical Resource Therapist,  
Mary Pack Arthritis Program, VCH

Research Associate, Centre for Hip Health and  
Mobility, VCHRI

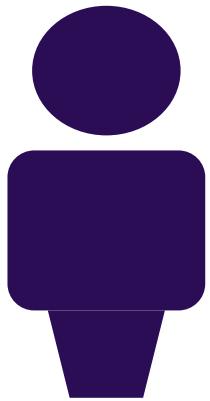
Clinical Associate Professor, Department of  
Physical Therapy, UBC

**Project Title:** Implementing quality indicators through clinician and patient online toolkits to improve rehabilitation care and outcomes after hip and knee replacement for osteoarthritis

# Organizations with HP-I Award Holders

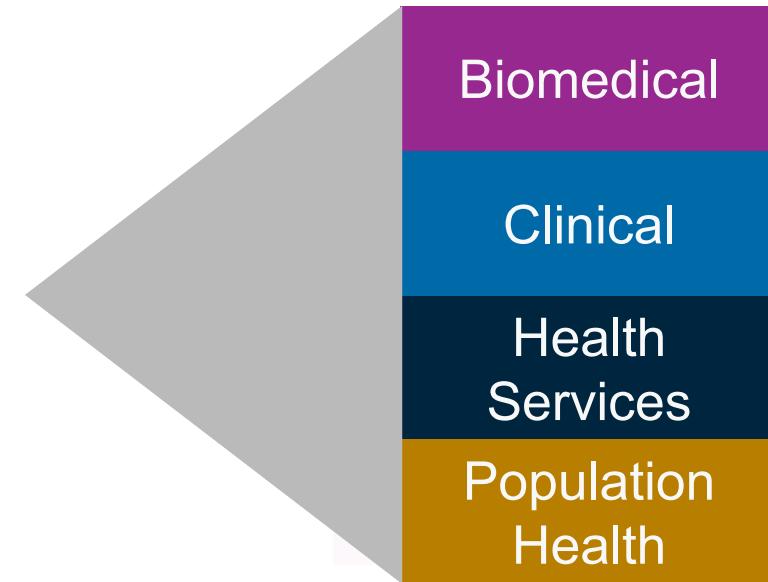
- BC Cancer
- BC Centre for Disease Control
- BC Centre for Improved Cardiovascular Health (ICVHealth)
- BC Centre on Substance Use
- BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
- BC Women's Hospital + Health Centre
- Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation
- Centre for Health Evaluation and Outcome Sciences (CHEOS)
- Centre for Heart Lung Innovation
- Centre for Hip Health and Mobility
- GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre
- Island Health
- Institute on Aging & Lifelong Health
- Provincial Health Services Authority
- Providence Health Care
- Royal Jubilee Hospital
- Simon Fraser University
- St. Paul's Hospital
- University of British Columbia
- University of Victoria
- Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute
- Vancouver General Hospital
- Vancouver Island University
- Vancouver Prostate Centre
- Women's Health Research Institute

# Award Amount & Duration



Applicant

## Research Themes



\$90,000 per year



5 years

# Eligibility Requirements

## Eligibility Requirements

Hold a **valid license to practice in BC** and be a member in good standing of the **appropriate regulatory college** **OR** be a **board-certified/board-eligible health professional** and a member in good standing of the appropriate provincial/national certification body ([BC Health Regulators](#)).

For allied health professionals, must have a **bachelor's degree** or higher; for physicians, must have a **medical doctorate** or equivalent.

Be a clinician, health practitioner, and/or health care provider whose role requires **clinical decision-making**.

Commit to a minimum of **50 percent time** conducting research (min. 20 hours/week).

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

Research must display clear link to human health.

# Key changes for 2022

- Health Research BC has modified the 2022 HP-I application process to include a patient, public and community review.
  - We will cover this in more detail later in this presentation.
- The Letter of Intent (LOI) stage of the 2022 competition will involve an eligibility check only and will not include a competitive peer review.
  - Please note: applicants still need to complete the LOI stage.
- As Health Research BC is now a signatory of the **Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)**, and in keeping with best practices for responsible research assessment, we will no longer allow the use of Journal Impact Factors, article citation counts or H-index in our applications and assessments.

# Continuing impacts of COVID-19 on health professional investigators

- 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 clinical and research activities.
  - You may use this section to contextualize changes in productivity or clinical duties over the past year that relate to the pandemic.
- Peer reviewers will account for COVID-19 impacts in application assessment and scoring.

# Integrating Patient, Public and Community Partner Engagement into HP-I Research in BC



Kristi Coldwell  
Transplant Research  
Foundation of BC



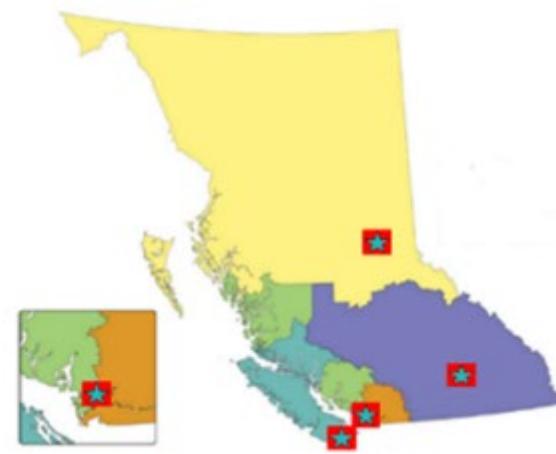
Lynne Feehan  
BC SUPPORT Unit /  
Health Research BC

# What is the BC SUPPORT (SUpport for People and Patient-Oriented Research and Trials) Unit?

12  
**1 of 11 Across Canada**



**'Vancouver'**  
**1 of 5 in BC**



<https://bcsupportunit.ca/>

# What is Patient-Oriented Research?

Care Providers



Patient Partners



Researchers



Care / Service  
Decision Makers

# Many names for ‘Patient’ in Patient-Oriented



caregiver resident  
family  
lived-experience  
patient client  
peer child community  
public youth  
person friend  
consumer

Individuals with personal lived or living experience of a health topic relevant to the focus of the research

# Why a Patient- Public- Community- Oriented Approach?



- ✓ Relevance
- ✓ Uptake of research into practice
- ✓ Service access / effectiveness
- ✓ ++ Reasons



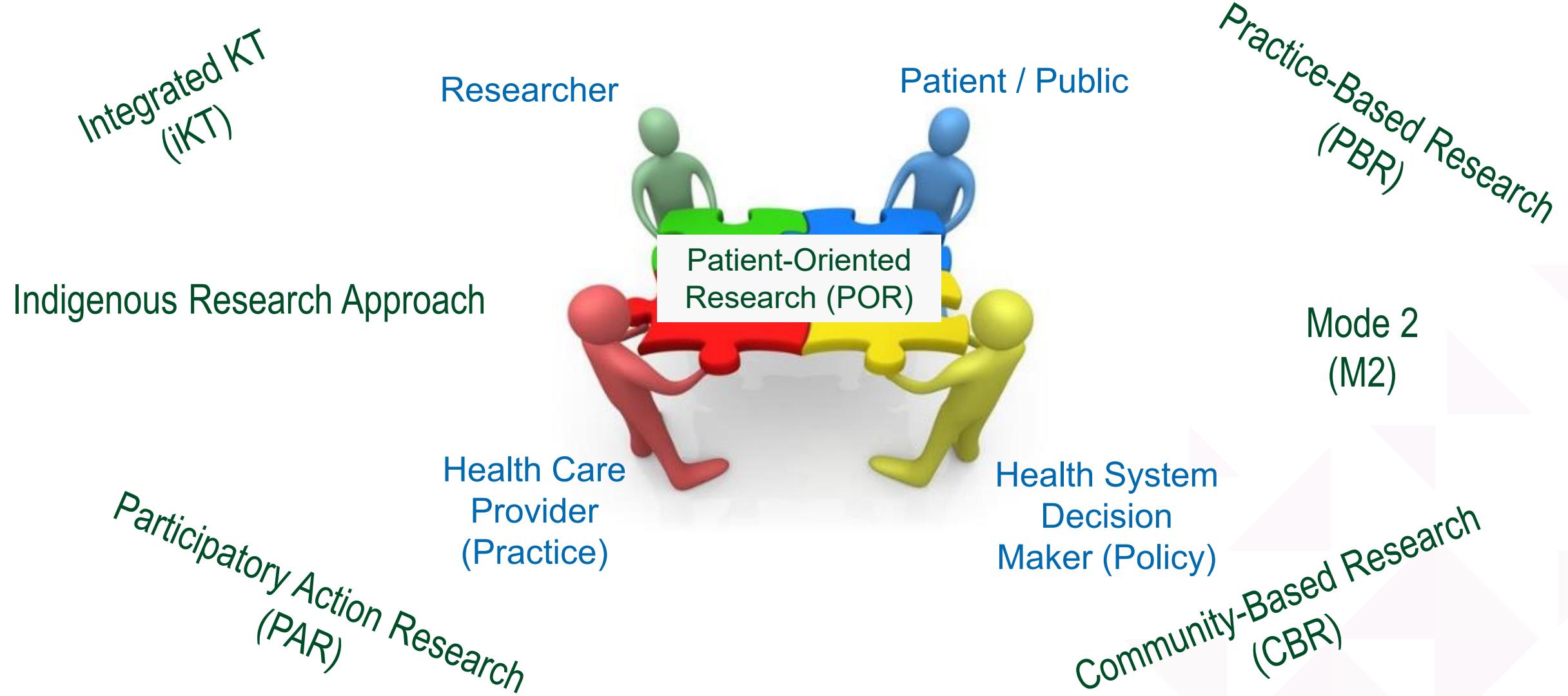
# An Approach . . . not a Method



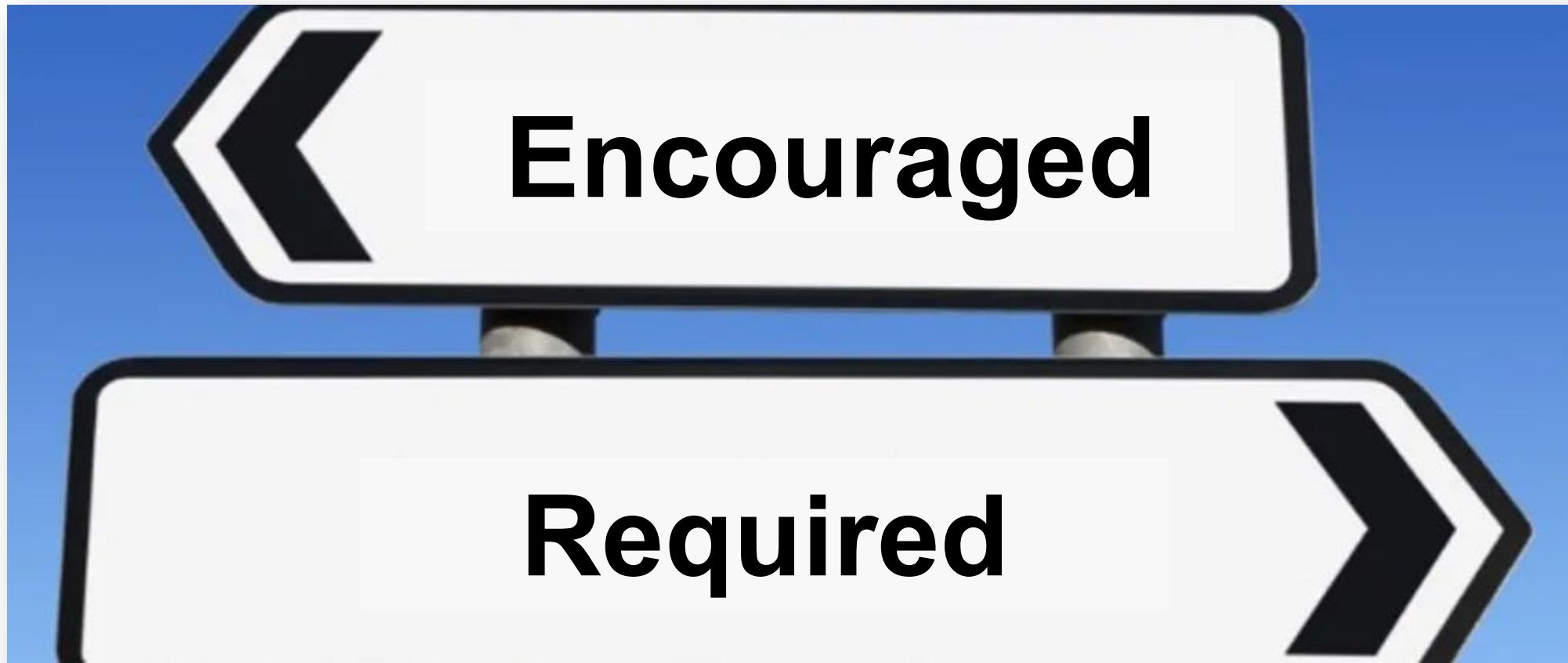
Patient- Public- or Community-Oriented . . .  
an approach not a method

Can be adopted in any context or used in any type of health research.

# Similar to other approaches, terms . . .



# Not required, but encouraged



# Patient, Public, and Community Engagement in: Reviews, Proposals and HP-I Research



# Thank you . . . We are here to help



The BC SUPPORT UNIT  
and Research Competition Teams  
at  
Michael Smith Health Research BC

# Knowledge Translation – your pathway to research impact

# What is Knowledge Translation?

Knowledge translation (KT) activities aim to close the gap between research and its use by improving the use of research evidence in practice, policy and further research.



# Why is KT important?

- Estimated \$200B (USD) wasted research funding from failure to use biomedical findings
- 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



Macleod et al., Biomedical research: Increasing value, reducing waste. *The Lancet*, 2014, 383(9912), 101–104. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(13\)62329-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(13)62329-6)  
Kiesler DJ, Auerback SM. Optimal matches of patient preferences for information, decision-making and interpersonal behavior: evidence, models and interventions. *Patient Educ Couns* 2006;61:319-41.

Dawes, M., Sampson, U.: Knowledge management in clinical practice: A systematic review of information seeking behavior in physicians. *Int J Med Inform* 2003;71:9-15 .

McGlynn Elizabeth A, Asch Steven M, Adams John, Keesey Joan, Hicks Jennifer, DeCristofaro Alison, Kerr Eve A. The quality of health care delivered to adults in the United States. *N Engl J Med*. 2003 Jun 26;348(26):2635–2645.

# KT Practice and KT Science

**KT Practice** = activities to encourage and enable evidence use, for example synthesis, dissemination, exchange, and implementation of evidence

**KT Science** = the study of KT practice activities, including implementation science

# KT in your funding application

Health Research BC requires applicants from all research pillars to include knowledge translation activities in their project proposal in one of two ways:



- 1. KT Practice:** As **components** of a research project to promote evidence use (e.g., research user engagement, synthesis of the evidence, and/or research dissemination)
- 2. KT Science:** KT is the **focus** of the project (e.g., dissemination science or implementation science)

# What is YOUR pathway to research impact?



# Engage with those who will use your research

Biomedical → Clinical researchers, clinicians, industry, other biomedical researchers, public, etc.

Clinical → Health services researchers, patients, policy makers, clinicians, public, etc.

Health Services → Clinicians, health care administrators, decision makers, educators, communities, patients, etc.

Population Health → Policy makers, communities, health care professionals, educators, etc.



# Some KT strategies

- Interactive small groups
- Educational outreach
- Mass media campaign
- Opinion leaders
- Performance feedback
- Peer reviewed publications
- Conference presentations
- Press release
- Webinar
- Reminders
- IT decision support
- Best practice guidelines
- Financial incentives
- Networks
- Patent license
- Arts-based KT
- Social media
- Patient advisory group

# Want to know more?

Click on the *KT links* in the Guidelines

Visit  **KT Pathways**

[www.ktpathways.ca](http://www.ktpathways.ca)

# Partnership opportunities

# Partnership Opportunities

**Health Research BC partners with leading organizations to grow BC's health research capacity.**



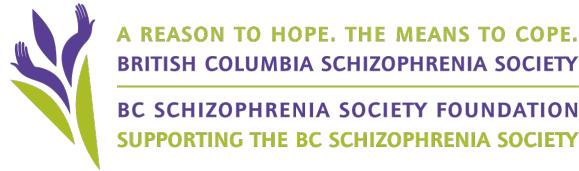
## Process:

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 these are listed on our website. If you'd like to be considered for an award co-funded by any of these partners, please let us know by emailing [partners@healthresearchbc.ca](mailto:partners@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.*

# 2022 Co-Funding Partners



*More information about partnership opportunities will be available  
in the full application form and at:  
[msfhr.org/funding/partnered-msfhr-awards](http://msfhr.org/funding/partnered-msfhr-awards).*

# Mitacs Accelerate Partnership

- Introduced in 2019 – expedited application process for Mitacs Accelerate funding for HP-I 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.



# Review process

# Evaluation Criteria

Criterion	Weighting
Applicant Expertise and Experience	20%
Research Proposal	40%
Environment and Support	20%
Impact of Award	20%

## Applicant Expertise and Experience

- Health Research BC Full CCV (last 5 years)
- Publication list
- Most significant contributions
- Letters of reference (optional)
- Information about your clinical/research training/practice

## Research Proposal

- 5-year research proposal
- KT plan
- Letters of collaboration (optional)

## Environment and Support

- Research support statement
- Department Head and/or Dean Forms in which reviewers look for clear commitment and support by applicant's host institution.

## Impact of Award

- Award impact statement

# Evaluation Criteria

Criterion	Weighting
Applicant Expertise and Experience	20%
Research Proposal	40%
Environment and Support	20%
Impact of Award	20%

## Continuing for 2022

- Separate peer review pools for allied health and physician applicants
- Reference letters are optional, rather than required.
- The evaluation criteria continue to emphasize the research proposal and the potential impact of the research (including knowledge translation)
- The optional COVID-19 impact statement may be submitted to contextualize changes in productivity or clinical duties that relate to the pandemic.

# Writing and submitting your application

# 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**.
- **Reach out to your Department Head** very early in the process to discuss your appointment and the resources and support available to you.
- 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 research proposal 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 **Research Proposal 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.

# 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**

[Forgot Password?](#)

Learn more about our [Privacy & Security policies](#)

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.

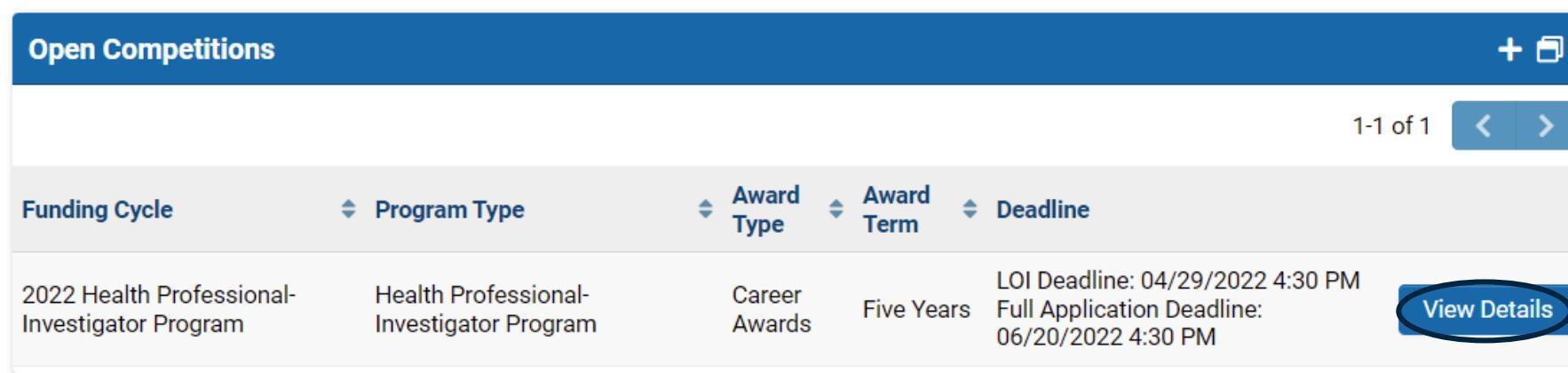
Note: ApplyNet is optimized for the most recent versions of Chrome, Firefox, Edge, and Safari. If you are experiencing problems while using Internet Explorer, we recommend trying another browser.

# Health Research BC ApplyNet

From the home page, click **Apply**.



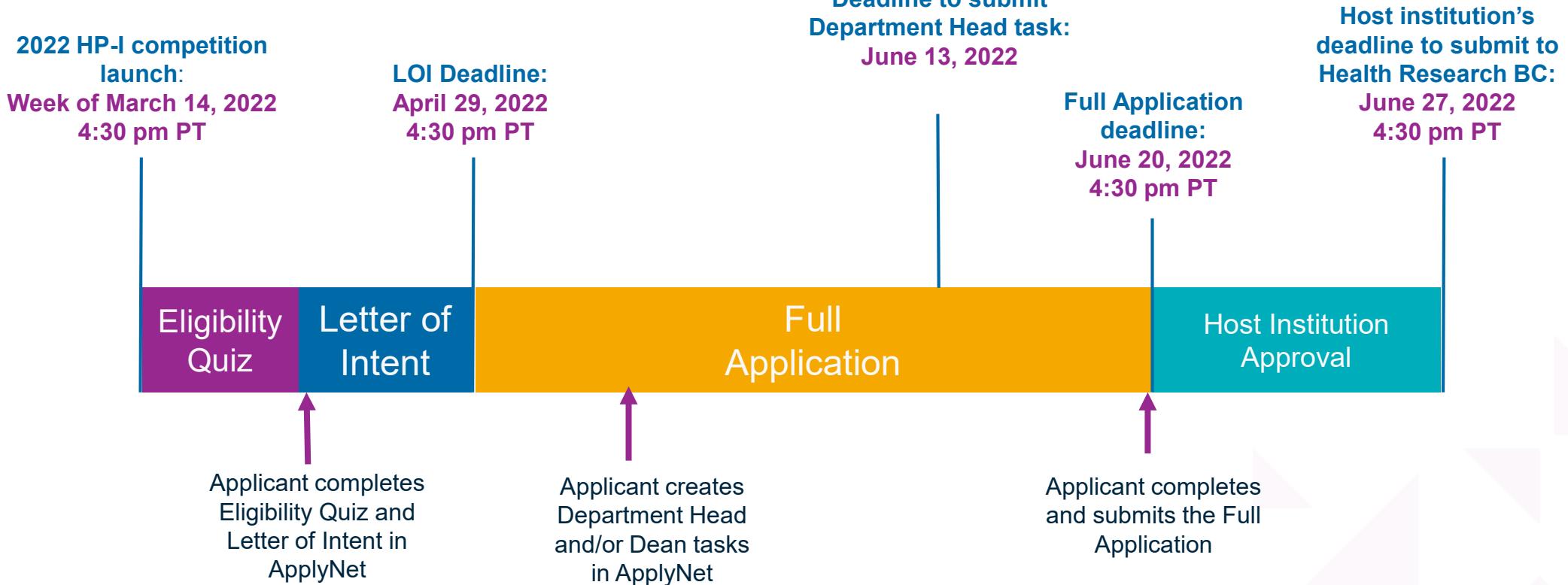
The next page will display a list of competitions available for application.



Funding Cycle	Program Type	Award Type	Award Term	Deadline
2022 Health Professional-Investigator Program	Health Professional-Investigator Program	Career Awards	Five Years	LOI Deadline: 04/29/2022 4:30 PM Full Application Deadline: 06/20/2022 4:30 PM

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.

# Application Process Flow



# Contact Info

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

**Shannon Tolleson**

Coordinator, Research Competitions

604.714.2779

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

# Questions?

Stages in Competition Cycle	Date
Letter of Intent Deadline	April 29, 2022 4:30 p.m. PT
Full Application Deadline	June 20, 2022 4:30 p.m. PT
Host Institution Deadline	June 27, 2022 4:30 p.m. PT
Peer Review Panel Meetings	September 2022
Patient, Public, and Community Review + Applicant Response	October 2022 – February 2023
Anticipated Notice of Funding Decision	March 2023
Anticipated Start of Funding	April 1, 2023