Information for the University Delegates - March 2015

1. **2014 Foundation Scheme Live Pilot**
   Webinar sessions on the Stage 2 application for applicants and research administrators have concluded with positive feedback. Of the 467 applicants invited to apply, CIHR received 445 Stage 2 applications.

2. **Funding Opportunities for the new Open Funding Schemes (2015 Foundation Scheme and 2016 Project Scheme Live Pilots)**
   CIHR is preparing for the launch of the 2015 Foundation Scheme live pilot and the 2016 Project Scheme live pilot competitions. The funding opportunities for these competitions are expected to be posted in the coming weeks.

3. **Ongoing Pilots**
   CIHR is continuing to validate Project Scheme design elements through the 2014 Knowledge Synthesis; Partnerships for Health System Improvement (PHSI); and Knowledge to Action competitions. These pilot competitions are progressing well. Feedback from participants (research administrators, applicants and peer reviewers) of the Fall 2013 Knowledge Synthesis pilot has been summarized and is available on the CIHR website.

   CIHR is also testing the Biosketch CV through the Transitional Open Operating Grant Program (OOGP). The Transitional OOGP Biosketch is shorter than the current Academic CV and streamlines the information provided to peer reviewers for the review process. The Transitional OOGP Biosketch is now available through the Common CV.

   CIHR has developed supporting materials to help applicants update their CVs. These materials can be accessed through the Transitional OOGP funding opportunity.

4. **Transitional OOGP**
   Applications have been submitted for this competition. More information will be provided once it is available.

5. **Canada First Research Excellence Fund Update**
   Statistics on the notices of intent submitted for inaugural competition 1 (held in 2015), have been posted on the CFREF website.

6. **Current Engagement Activities**
   CIHR continues the cross-Canada tour to meet with research institutions. To date 13 visits have taken place and have been very productive. Topics include changes to the institutes, reforms to the Open programs and CIHR’s new strategic plan: Roadmap II. A list of planned visits can be found on the CIHR Reforms website: [http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/48947.html](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/48947.html)