Call at-a-glance

CIHR Operating Grant: SPOR iCT (Innovative Clinical Trials) Rewarding Success

**Aim:** Canada is spending an increasing proportion of its gross domestic product on health care. This opportunity will fund multidisciplinary research teams and their partners to enhance value-based care, health system sustainability, and health outcomes. The research team and their partners will design, implement, and evaluate interventions in healthcare delivery organization(s) that aim to produce healthcare cost savings and/or improved health system efficiency.

**Best fit PI:** Mid-career to senior clinician scientists with experience managing multi-disciplinary research teams and with existing partnerships with AHS.

**Link to call**

**Value:** The competition rolls out in three phases. The first phase provides $2500 in travel funding for the team to attend an ‘Ideathon’; the second phase provides $100,000 for 1 year for business case development; the third phase provides an operating grant of $2.4M over 4 years (which requires a 1:1 match).

**Process:**

**Phase I (Letter of Intent for Ideathon)**

Applicants must prepare an “idea brief” (2 pages) to outline their proposed idea to enhance value-based care and/or address novel ways to scale and spread successfully implemented innovations that improve value for money. A travel award ($2500/team) is offered to offset cost of travel and accommodation to attend the Phase II Ideathon (up to 4 awards per province).

- **Ideas must** address provincial priorities. For Alberta, these are: (1) addictions and mental health; (2) home and community-based care, including rural, remote and indigenous communities; (3) health information management; and (4) health workforce.
- Multidisciplinary team must be identified.
- Pay organization(s) must be identified (e.g., AHS).
- **Phase I CIHR deadline: November 21, 2017**

**Phase II (Ideathon & Business Case Development Grant)**

- Pending success at the LOI stage, four applicants from each province will be invited to the national two-day event hosted by CIHR on **February 6-7, 2018** in Ottawa.
- Three individuals from each team (e.g., two researchers; one representative from the payer organization) will be required to represent the team and pitch their ideas to the review panel.
- Top-ranked pitches (two from each participating province) will be awarded a Business Case Development Grant (ten one-year grants at $100,000/grant); this grant will support feasibility testing, alignment of partnerships, development of contracts, outcomes and metrics, etc.

**Phase III (Team Grant)**

- Only projects awarded a Business Case Development Grant will be considered for this phase.
- Focus should be on the implementation and evaluation of programs/interventions identified in the Idea Brief and developed through the Business Case Development Grant.
- Five teams (one per province) will be funded with a total funding envelope of $12M with 1:1 matching from non-federal sources over four years.
- **Phase III Deadline TBA (estimated Spring/Summer 2019)**
Matching funds

- Although matching funds are not required for Phases I and II of the initiative, teams are required to partner with ‘payers of health services’ and/or philanthropic organizations to determine the scope of work, outcomes, and how value of services will be impacted. One representative of the payer organization is a **required** team member at the Ideathon. This means early engagement with AHS and the SCNs (Strategic Clinical Networks) is crucial.¹
- 1:1 matching funds are required for the Phase III application.
- FoMD is not able to directly provide matching funds for this opportunity, however, we are pleased to work with teams to help identify and secure funds from other sources.

**Support available from FoMD for proposals**

**Phase I**
- Support to develop the Idea brief, team matchmaking, and coordinating partnerships with pay organizations: contact [Jill](mailto:jill@fo-md.ca) by **October 16** to indicate your interest.

**Phase II**
- Support for developing a compelling pitch: including assistance with slides and coaching for the team.

**Phase III**
- Coordination and writing support for Phase III proposals.

**Questions?**
 [Dr. Jill Byrne](mailto:jill@fo-md.ca) (Director, Clinical Research) or [Dr. Patricia Gongal](mailto:patricia@fo-md.ca) (Director, Major Grants).

**More information**
[CIHR website](https://cihr-icr.gc.ca); webinar slides (attached)

¹Please contact [Jill Byrne](mailto:jill@fo-md.ca) to discuss partnership with AHS and the SCNs **ASAP** if you intend to apply.