ORS Update

The Office of Research Services team is working diligently to maintain full services remotely to the entire research community. For regular updates on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the University’s research operations, grant agency deadlines, considerations for active research projects, and funding opportunities for COVID-19 research, please refer to the Vice-President, Research and Innovation’s COVID-19 Updates website.

If you are interested in applying to any of these opportunities, please notify your faculty’s Grants Officer as soon as possible and submit an application draft for administrative review at least five days (if possible) before the external agency deadline along with a signed Research Grant/Contract Authorization (RGA) Form.

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Opportunities Related to COVID-19 Research and Services

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<th>Funding</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Roche Canada – COVID-19 Open Innovation Challenge</strong></td>
<td>April 10, 2020</td>
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| A funding program to support our community in bringing forward innovative ideas to address some of the biggest challenges and issues of the COVID-19 pandemic. Whether you are a biologist, data scientist, student, patient, or someone with an innovative mind and wants to make a difference, we need you! Some examples of these challenges that need to be addressed include:  
  - How can we better understand disease biology, pathophysiology, transmission, etc.?  
  - How can we address our health system capacity issues?  
  - How do we enhance real-time information sharing?  
  - How will we effectively manage remote and rural populations (eg. remote indigenous populations)?  
  - How can we increase the education and awareness and promote healthy practices?  
  - How can we increase the participation and effectiveness of social/physical distancing?  
  - How can we manage productivity while distancing and isolating ourselves? | |
| **Canadian Frailty Network – Frailty and COVID-19** | Apr 17, 2020 |
| The Canadian Frailty Network (CFN) is looking to fund proposals aimed at investigating the interaction between frailty and COVID-19. Older adults living with frailty are the most vulnerable to COVID-19. As a result, CFN is looking for health, social or policy research studies that investigate determinants of increased susceptibility, and solutions to mitigate or prevent the differential risk to COVID-19. | |
| **NSERC Alliance COVID-19 Grants** | Jun 1, 2020 |
| In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, NSERC is leveraging the expertise of researchers in natural science and engineering and their partners across Canada to address this unprecedented crisis. NSERC is providing up to $15 million in total support to stimulate collaborations between academic researchers and the public and not-for-profit sectors, and industry to address pandemic-related research and technical challenges. Support for up to $50,000 for one-year projects is being made available immediately. | |
**NSERC** will process these applications in an accelerated fashion. Partners do not need to provide cash contributions to participate, but must be engaged throughout the research process, from input in design to using the expertise and/or the research results.

**Mitacs Accelerate Program Rapid Response to COVID-19 Funding**

**Open Call**

**National Research Council of Canada Pandemic Response Challenge Program – Online Registration**

This program builds teams to address challenges requiring further research and development for solutions to meet COVID-19 related needs. The NRC will build these teams drawing on internal-to-government capacity and academic researchers who register here to indicate their interest, and related areas of expertise and capabilities.

**Open Call**

**Ontario Together Portal: Help Fight Coronavirus**

The Province of Ontario is welcoming help from businesses, researchers and organizations who can supply emergency products and innovative solutions to support Ontario’s response to COVID-19.

Specifically, the province is seeking solutions for:

- Virtual mental health services for vulnerable populations
- Supply chain resiliency monitoring
- Financial planning or advising for small business at a low-cost
- Remote learning for elementary/secondary students

The Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) is also accepting COVID-19 research proposals through the Ontario Together Portal. Ideas for research projects should:

1) Clearly have “research” in the title or subject
2) Identify Ontario Tech University as the affiliated institution (applicants can apply as “individuals” but they must identify Ontario Tech as their affiliation)
3) Research submission should be made through the “ideas” stream

Applicants who are selected to move to the next stage in the application process will be invited by the province through an email, which includes program guidelines and an application form.

**Research Networks and Other Opportunities**

**InfoEd Global – Online COVID-19/ Coronavirus Resource Database**

InfoEd Global is provides an online database of international COVID-19 funding opportunities and resources.

**N/A**


The SOCSIP COVID-19 Response aims to provide rapid access to high-performance computing (HPC) resources on our advanced computing platforms. Through industry-academic partnerships, compute space for collaborators committed to responding to COVID-19 will be fast-tracked, and successful applicants will be rapidly launched onto the compute systems.

**Open Call**

**Canada’s Chief Science Officer – CanCOVID – Canada’s COVID-19 Research Network**

CanCOVID is Canada’s federally-mandated, expert led COVID-19 research network made up of Canadian COVID-19 researchers, clinical collaborators, and healthcare stakeholders from across the country.

CanCOVID seeks to link up the many research efforts that are taking place nationally in order to support collaboration, coordination and communication between those working on COVID-19 research.

**Open Call**

**Next Generation Manufacturing Canada (NGen): COVID-19 Response Program**

Next Generation Manufacturing Canada (NGen) will invest $50 million in Supercluster funding to support companies as they rapidly respond to the COVID-19 pandemic by building a Canadian supply of essential equipment, products, and therapeutics.

NGen is looking for:

- Companies looking for support in launching production of critical products to fight COVID-19 can indicate their interest at www.ngen.ca/covid-19-response.
- Experts who are able to assist are also encouraged to share their capabilities at www.ngen.ca/covid-19-response.

**Open Call**
Mitacs Accelerate Program Rapid Response to COVID-19 Funding

In response to the Government of Canada's and provinces' announcements of funding to quickly mobilize researchers and companies to combat COVID-19, Mitacs is making a number of short-term changes to their business operations.

For a limited time, small- and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) responding to federal and provincial requests can solve COVID-19 research and development challenges with academic expertise, enhanced leveraged funding (1:3 matching), and one-to-one support from Mitacs.

Internships will be delivered through the Accelerate program, under the following conditions:

1) Must involve an SME (<500 employees)
2) Projects must address COVID-19
3) Being a limited funding stream, potential projects must be vetted by a Mitacs Business Development representative prior to proceeding with an application
4) Cash contribution from the SME will be reduced to $3,750+HST per 4 month internship unit (for a total value of $15,000 per unit when matched by Mitacs)
5) Scientific decisions on these applications will be provided within 1-2 weeks

Note that opportunities also exist for virtual interaction between participants. Funding is limited to 200 internships nationally.

If you are interested in applying, please contact your Grants Officer or Daniel Giovannini (dgiovannini@mitacs.ca).

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