

March 14, 2019

2018 John R. Evans Leaders Fund Awards

Funding our Future through Research Excellence

Research Manitoba announced today \$1,151,730 in research funding for seven University of Manitoba projects supported through the John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF) of the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science and Sport, was in Winnipeg to announce matching federal funds and to celebrate the achievements of the Manitoba awardees.

“I congratulate all of the recent Manitoba JELF recipients on their research excellence,” said Christina Weise, Chief Executive Officer at Research Manitoba. “Our investment leverages \$1,883,401 into Manitoba and enables our province to retain the finest research talent, provides opportunities for the investigators to train their students with cutting-edge equipment and resources, and supports growth and innovation for Manitoba.”

The 2018 JELF recipients at the University of Manitoba include:

- **Meghan Azad - \$165,464, Department of Pediatrics and Child Health**
Manitoba Interdisciplinary Lactation Center (MILC): a provincial infant feeding database and human milk biorepository
- **Janilyn Arsenio - \$156,834, Department of Internal Medicine**
Single-cell transcriptomics analysis of the immune system during infection and chronic inflammation
- **Lyle McKinnon - \$155,942, Department of Microbiology**
Enhancing capacity for cellular phenotyping for HIV prevention and cure research
- **Gerd Prehna - \$159,028, Department of Microbiology**
High-yield protein production suite for structural biology
- **Robert Stamps - \$114,462, Department of Physics and Astronomy**
Desktop Supercomputers for the Design of Advanced Functional Materials
- **Marcelo Urquia - \$240,000, Department of Community Health Sciences**
Social Determinants of Health Digital Library
- **Havva Koxsel Ustundag - \$160,000, Department of Food and Human Nutritional Sciences**
Tailoring quality during processing of protein rich plant-based foods and food ingredients

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About Research Manitoba:

Research Manitoba promotes, supports, and coordinates the funding of, research in the health, natural and social sciences, engineering and the humanities in Manitoba. Research Manitoba advises the Minister of Growth, Enterprise and Trade on matters related to research and from moneys received from the Province, provides funds for research through several grants and awards programs. For more information, visit: www.researchmanitoba.ca.

About the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI):

The CFI was built on the ideals of thinking big and investing in areas that matter to Canadians. Since its creation in 1997, the CFI has ensured Canadian researchers have the tools — the cutting-edge labs, facilities and equipment — they need to push the frontiers of knowledge in all disciplines, and to contribute to the full spectrum of research — from discovery to technology development. This has allowed our brightest minds to contribute to better health outcomes, a cleaner, greener environment, evidence-based policy-making and the competitiveness of Canadian businesses.

<https://www.innovation.ca/>

About the John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF):

The JELF enables a select number of an institution's excellent researchers to undertake leading-edge research by providing them with the foundational research infrastructure required to be or become leaders in their field. In turn, this enables institutions to remain internationally competitive in areas of research and technology development, aligned with their strategic priorities.

This fund also offers institutions the opportunity to create competitive research support packages in the form of infrastructure and a portion of the operating and maintenance costs, coupled with direct research costs from partner organizations.

<https://www.innovation.ca/awards/john-r-evans-leaders-fund>