

Research Manitoba Funds Manitoba-led COVID-19 Research Projects

March 23, 2020 – Winnipeg, Manitoba

Today Research Manitoba announced that they are partnering with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to invest \$800,000 to support three research projects through the *Canadian 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Rapid Research Funding Opportunity*. The three successful researchers are:

- **Adolf Ng - *An Investigation on Epidemic Logistical Response and Planning: The Case of Novel Coronavirus (Covid-19)* - \$258,900 – fully funded by Research Manitoba**
- **Bradley Pickering, *Development of field-deployable and point-of-need diagnostics for SARS-CoV-2 using CRISPR-based technology* - \$411,820 (\$270,550 Research Manitoba and \$140,270 CIHR)**
- **Xiao-Jian Yao, *Development of a novel DC-targeting vaccine that targets COVID-19 spike protein to control COVID-19 infection* - \$597,128 (\$270,550 Research Manitoba and \$326,578 CIHR)**

These are 3 of 16 projects supported by CIHR in Manitoba and of 96 projects across Canada that will focus on developing and implementing measures to rapidly detect, manage, and reduce the transmission of COVID-19.

“Investing in COVID-19 research is a global priority,” said Christina Weise, CEO of Research Manitoba. “We are pleased to support these three local teams, which are part of a worldwide scientific effort in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.”

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Background

On March 19, the Government of Canada announced funding of \$25M for 49 additional COVID-19 research related projects. The three Manitoba-led projects are included in this second wave of funding.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-funds-49-additional-covid-19-research-projects.html>

Research Manitoba:

Research Manitoba promotes, supports, and coordinates the funding of research excellence and innovation in health, natural and social sciences, engineering and the humanities in Manitoba. Research Manitoba supports local talent development by providing research support to early career researchers and graduate students, along with fostering strategic partnerships to strengthen research and innovation in Manitoba.

Canadian Institutes of Health Research:

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) is Canada's federal funding agency for health research. Composed of 13 Institutes, they collaborate with partners and researchers to support the discoveries and innovations that improve our health and strengthen Canada's health care system.