



Supporting Local Talent and Research Excellence in Manitoba

Research Investment Supports Trainees and Early Career Researchers in Manitoba

August 28, 2020 – Today Research Manitoba and partners announced \$1,182,361 in research funding to support 30 Master’s Studentships, two PhD Studentships, two Postdoctoral Fellowships, and seven New Investigator Operating Grants in Manitoba in health, social sciences and humanities, and natural sciences and engineering.

The recipients of the 2020 Grants and Awards Competition are highly qualified trainees and new investigators in health, natural sciences and engineering, and social sciences and humanities in Manitoba. The Grants and Awards prepare recipients for careers as independent researchers in industry or within Manitoba’s research enterprise and help to establish independent research programs and achieve the research productivity necessary to compete on a national level.

“One of the most important things we can do for Manitoba’s economy is to build our research capacity,” said Sean McKay, Interim CEO, Research Manitoba. “Providing investments for trainees and early career researchers to expand research capabilities in Manitoba is essential for long term economic growth. We would like to thank our partners including the Province of Manitoba for their commitment to this innovative program.”

For the 2020 Grants and Awards competition Research Manitoba invested \$939,511, and our partners provided an additional \$242,850 in support of Master’s Studentships, PhD in Health Research Studentships, and Health Research Postdoctoral Fellowships.

“The Manitoba government is pleased to support important research and innovation in our province through our \$939,511 contribution to Research Manitoba for this initiative, as part of our \$12 million overall funding this year,” said Ralph Eichler, Minister of Economic Development and Training. “Through the 2020 Grants and Awards Competition, we are investing in some of Manitoba’s best and brightest students so they can build their careers in our province and grow Manitoba as a national centre of research excellence.”

Our partners for the 2020 Awards Competition:

- CancerCare Manitoba Foundation
- Children’s Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba
- Health Sciences Centre Foundation
- Lung Association, Manitoba
- WM Ross Scholarship, Regenerative Medicine Program, University of Manitoba

“The support of Research Manitoba is essential for attracting the best students and trainees working in cancer research.” Dr. Neil Watkins, Director, Research Institute in Oncology and Hematology and Chief of Research, CancerCare Manitoba.

“The Children’s Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba is proud to be in partnership with Research Manitoba in today’s exciting funding announcement. The future of Manitobans health has been brought to the forefront during the pandemic, and supporting the expertise that each of these trainees and early investigators brings helps to showcase the critical role that research plays in creating a healthier future for everyone.” Dr. Terry Klassen, CEO and Scientific Director, Children’s Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba.

“The HSC Foundation is proud to partner with Research Manitoba to support projects that have the potential to transform patient care in our province,” said Jonathon Lyon, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Health Sciences Centre Foundation. “We are pleased to invest in these students as they commence their research careers.”

“The Lung Association is pleased to continue its support for new researchers through the generous contributions of Manitobans. The rise of the novel corona virus and the resultant pandemic has given us a stark reminder of the need to continually advance our knowledge of prevention and management of illness.” Neil Johnston, President and CEO of the Lung Association, Manitoba.

“The Max Rady College of Medicine, the Regenerative Medicine Program and CancerCare Manitoba are delighted to announce the Inaugural WM Ross Scholarship in Regenerative Medicine and Oncology will be awarded to Stephanie Borlase. Ms Borlase’s research will be exploring new targeted therapies for cancer stem cells in a highly aggressive children’s brain tumor, medulloblastoma.” Dr. Geoff Hicks, Director, Regenerative Medicine Program, University of Manitoba.

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Grants and Awards List – [The complete listing of the 2020-21 GRANTS & AWARDS recipients.](#)

About 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.

About our Partners:

Children’s Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba:

The Children’s Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba was established in 2001. [CHRIM](#) is the research division of the Children’s Hospital Foundation of Manitoba. At the Institute, more than 270 world-class pediatric medical researchers, technical staff, students and support staff are involved in over \$20 million of research and clinical trial activity each year.

Health Sciences Centre Foundation:

Health Sciences Centre is Manitoba’s flagship hospital with specialized support for trauma, neurosurgery, burns, transplants, and psychiatric health. Donations to the [HSC Foundation](#) enable HSC to improve care in these and other areas through important research initiatives, training opportunities for health care staff, the acquisition of cutting-edge medical equipment, and the development of new state-of-the-art facilities.

Lung Association, Manitoba:

The [Lung Association, Manitoba](#) was created in 1975 as a division of the Sanatorium Board of Manitoba to extend the services that were available to TB survivors to those with other breathing conditions and to promote lung health. This mission remains important to the maintenance of healthy breathing for all Manitobans, especially the one-in-five Manitobans living with a respiratory health issue.

Research Institute in Oncology and Hematology:

The Research Institute in Oncology and Hematology (RIOH) is a joint venture of CancerCare Manitoba and the University of Manitoba. Research in cancer and blood disorders has been the mandate of CancerCare Manitoba since the inception of the Manitoba Institute of Cell Biology in 1969. In 2015, the scope of research was broadened to include all areas of clinical and basic science with the formation of the [Research Institute in Oncology and Hematology](#). RIOH forms the basis of a vision for a comprehensive approach to cancer in partnership with the [CancerCare Manitoba Foundation](#).

WM Ross Scholarship, Regenerative Medicine Program, University of Manitoba:

The Winnifred Margaret Ross Oncology Research Fund creates an endowment to support graduate student projects working in stem cell research and regeneration medicine as it applies to oncology. Learn more about the [Regenerative Medicine Program](#).