

The Agility Factor



AT RESEARCH MANITOBA, WE ENSURE THAT RESEARCHERS AND INNOVATORS CAN EXCEL AND FOLLOW THEIR PASSION HERE IN MANITOBA'S RESEARCH COMMUNITY, ADVANCING AND IMPROVING ALL ASPECTS OF OUR SOCIETY.

OUR MANDATE IS TO PROMOTE, SUPPORT, AND COORDINATE THE FUNDING OF RESEARCH IN THE HEALTH, NATURAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES, ENGINEERING AND THE HUMANITIES IN MANITOBA.

For more information contact:

Research Manitoba

A201 Chown Building – 753 McDermot Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3E 0T6

Telephone:	{204}775-1096
Fax:	{204}786-5401
E-mail:	info@researchmb.ca
Website:	www.researchmanitoba.ca

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



**MS. TRACEY
MACONACHIE**

OUTGOING BOARD CHAIR

*President, Bioscience
Association Manitoba*

2019–20 was a unique year for Research Manitoba and our stakeholders on many fronts; we welcomed a new board, new team members, launched exciting, new programs, forged new partnerships, and then COVID-19 arrived.

Supporting and investing in research, people and partnerships is at the heart of Research Manitoba's efforts. This allows Manitoba to remain competitive in a global arena, to expand commercialization opportunities, to create jobs and economic impacts and to build a stronger future for Manitoba.

The newly appointed board supported Research Manitoba's team to develop a strategic plan focused on supporting the province's priorities; the following goals were established:

- > Advance Research in Manitoba
- > Strengthen the Economy
- > Champion the Manitoba Research Community
- > Support Local Talent Development

Two new programs were launched in 2019/20. The Innovation Proof-of-Concept Program (IPoC) was created to fill a gap in the Manitoba innovation ecosystem by funding industry/academia collaborative projects. Funding was targeted towards Bioscience, Advanced Manufacturing, and Infrastructure and Transportation industries and technologies.

Also introduced was the Innovation and Strategic Partnerships program, an entirely new area of focus for Research Manitoba. This initiative builds larger partnerships bringing together collaborators to advance and translate Manitoba's innovations into solutions leveraging resources and attracting additional investments.

We accelerated the Research Improvements Through Harmonization In Manitoba (RITHIM) initiative whose goal is to significantly improve time-to-conduct for health research in Manitoba through the harmonization of ethics, impact and privacy application, review, and approval processes. Manitoba is the only province to adopt this pioneering approach, which will lead to increased industry investment and expansion of clinical trials.

In March 2020, Research Manitoba created a \$5 Million Manitoba COVID-19 Research Fund to support Manitoba health professionals and scientists as part of a world-wide effort to fight COVID-19. This research fund provided an opportunity for Manitobans to be at the cutting edge for developing new products and testing potential vaccines.

Ms. Christina Weise, who was the CEO of Research Manitoba for 10 years, has moved on from the organization. The board appreciates Christina's commitment and dedication over the years. Building upon an already very strong team, the board appointed Mr. Sean McKay as Interim CEO.

Having served as a Board Chair for a year and a half, I have seen this organization adapt and embrace change as they continue to push themselves to support and champion research and innovation, while growing the provincial economy.

There is still much more work to be performed, but the board, team, and entire research enterprise are committed to have Manitoba become the most improved province in research. As outgoing Chair, I am confident that whatever lies ahead, the perseverance of this community will endure. I am thankful for the opportunity to have served in this capacity and wish Research Manitoba all the best moving forward.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

As Interim Chief Executive Officer, I am privileged to present Research Manitoba's 2019–20 Annual Report, "The Agility Factor", whose title reflects the many changes that occurred and the ability of the Board, staff, and research community to quickly adapt and flourish during this period. As a new staff member, only being appointed in August 2020, I was not actively involved during the last year; however, I would like to comment on Research Manitoba's significant accomplishments.

To maximize the research activities that were conducted in the province, it requires strong partnerships between industry, government, and the research community. The strength of Research Manitoba's relationships was corroborated through the utilization of \$11.7 million in program funding to realize \$12.3 million from other sources, over 50% of the total funding. This was truly remarkable and not by accident. Through a coordinated strategic planning process conducted by the Board and staff, changes in programming resulted with a target to increase collaborations within industry and the research community.

15 individual programs were coordinated by the Research Manitoba team that involved 333 researchers and trainees. 18 projects to build infrastructure were supported that are critical for recruiting and retaining research talent in Manitoba and for workforce development. There was also an emphasis to broaden Research Manitoba's impact throughout the region by actively engaging with universities and colleges in rural communities as well as those central to the Winnipeg area.

Another of Research Manitoba's core activities was providing leadership for the Research Improvement Through Harmonization in Manitoba (RITHIM) initiative. This single amalgamated process to review and approve the ethics, privacy and impact of clinical trials will truly be a game changer that will result in increasing the number of clinical trials that will be performed within the province. Advancements were made throughout the period that will support its launch in the spring of 2021.

There were several new board members and staff changes which also provided an interesting dynamic that made agility a significant factor in terms of maintaining existing and implementing new approaches and programming. Success was manifested through the amount of leveraged funding and the number of projects, research chairs, trainees and internships that were achieved.

Adding to the instability was the advent of COVID-19 for which government, industry and the research community, coordinated by Research Manitoba's team, was sufficiently nimble to pivot into programming to immediately support technology development and social and health studies to counter the impact of this globally catastrophic pandemic. This included locally supported research as well as national and international collaborations.

Certainly, this last year was an evolution for the organization adapting to substantial changes while building a strong foundation for the future. I am fortunate to be in a position to guide Research Manitoba's growth during this current year based on the new portfolio of programs and partnerships. These initiatives will expand industry led research thus strengthening the economy and further developing local talent and capabilities. By following this direction Research Manitoba will cement itself as the champion for Manitoba's research community.



SEAN MCKAY
INTERIM CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Research Manitoba

RESEARCH MANITOBA BOARD MEMBERS

Research Manitoba's Board includes membership from the research community, provincial government, business, academic institutions, and health agencies. The Board's appointments are made by Order in Council by the Government of Manitoba.



MS. TRACEY MACONACHIE

CHAIR

*President, Bioscience
Association Manitoba*



DR. DIGVIR JAYAS

VICE-CHAIR

*Vice-President (Research and
International), Office of the President,
University of Manitoba*



DR. RASHID AHMED

*Associate Professor, University
of Manitoba*



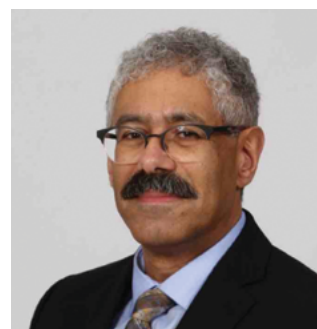
MS. DOREEN BILODEAU

*Former General Manager,
North American Plastics*



MR. LUIS ESCOBAR

*Principal, Operations Lead,
Transportation, Stantec Consulting*



DR. HANI EL-GABALAWY

*Professor of Medicine and
Immunology, Endowed Rheumatology
Research Chair, University of Manitoba*

RESEARCH MANITOBA BOARD MEMBERS



MR. EARL GARDINER

*Founder and Executive
Chairman of Careica Health*



MR. CHRIS JOHNSON

*Co-founder and CEO, Permission Click
Inc. Co-Founder and Chair of North
Forge Technology Exchange*



MS. ANDREA LEGARY

*Senior Manager, Global Investment
and Innovation Incentives (Gi3), Tax,
Deloitte LLP*

Throughout 2019–2020, Research Manitoba worked with the board to implement a new three-year Strategic Plan with new directions. The four themes of the Strategic Plan are: Advance research in Manitoba; Strengthen the economy through strategic research and innovation investments in priority industry sectors; Champion the Manitoba research community; and, Support local talent development.

EX OFFICIO, NON-VOTING MEMBERS FOR 2018-19:

MS. JAN FORSTER

*Deputy Minister, Province of Manitoba, Economic
Development and Training*

MS. KAREN HERD

*Deputy Minister, Province of Manitoba, Health,
Seniors and Active Living*

DR. NICOLE ROSEN

*Professor and Canada Research Chair in Language
Interactions, Department of Linguistics, University
of Manitoba*

RESEARCH MANITOBA TEAM & ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Research Manitoba's staff team is dedicated to supporting, promoting, and advancing outstanding research in the Province of Manitoba. Each member brings their own unique experience and expertise, creating an environment of energetic collaboration in the pursuit of excellence.



MR. DUSTIN AMEIS
IMPACT AND EVALUATION,
RESEARCHER
[AS OF NOVEMBER 25, 2019]



MS. FREYJA ARNASON
MANAGER, RITHIM



MS. JUDI BAHL
MANAGER, STRATEGIC
PARTNERSHIPS
[AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2019]



MS. NICOLE BARRY
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND
ADMINISTRATION
[AS OF MAY 8, 2019]



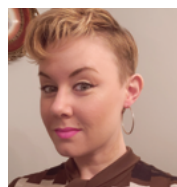
MS. JENNIFER CLEARY
MANAGER, FUNDING
PROGRAMS
[AS OF AUGUST 19, 2019]



MS. KRISTEN HOOPER
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER



MS. MIKAYLA HUNTER
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT



MS. HOPE NICHOLSON
RITHIM, SPECIAL ASSISTANT
[AS OF JANUARY 6, 2020]



MS. NECOLE SOMMERSELL
MANAGER, EVALUATION
AND IMPACT



MS. CHRISTINA WEISE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DR. COLLEEN METGE

Interim Manager, Programs
[END DATE NOVEMBER 15, 2019]

MR. TIM REDDECOPP

Director, Finance & Administration
[END DATE MAY 10, 2019]

MS. KATHLEEN ZAWALY

Researcher: Evaluation & Impact
[END DATE SEPTEMBER 27, 2019]

RESEARCH MANITOBA TEAM & ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS FROM APRIL 1, 2019 – MARCH 31, 2020

DR. NICOLE ROSEN

(VICE-CHAIR, APRIL 2019 – JUNE 2019; CHAIR AS OF JUNE 2019)
University of Manitoba, Canada Research Chair
in Language Interactions

DR. PAUL ALEXANDRE

Department of Geology, Brandon University
(As of September 2019)

DR. JUDY ANDERSON

Department of Biological Sciences,
University of Manitoba

DR. KATRIN ATNIKOV

Department of Science, University College
of the North (As of September 2019)

DR. DANNY BLAIR

Department of Geography, The University of Winnipeg

DR. KAREN BUSBY

Professor, Faculty of Law; Director, Centre for Human
Rights Research, University of Manitoba

DR. ALLISON DART

Department of Pediatrics and Child Health,
University of Manitoba

DR. HEATHER DUNCAN

Associate Vice-President Research and Dean of
Education, Brandon University

DR. JEAN-ERIC GHIA

Departments of Immunology & Internal Medicine,
University of Manitoba (As of September 2019)

MR. RAY HOEMSEN

Research Partnerships & Innovation,
Red River College

DR. POURANG IRANI

Department of Computer Science,
University of Manitoba

DR. JOSEE LAVOIE

Community Health Sciences, University of Manitoba;
Director, Manitoba First Nations Centre for Aboriginal
Health Research

DR. MICHELLE LOBCHUCK

College of Nursing, University of Manitoba; Manitoba
Research Chair in Caregiver Communication

DR. BRIAN MARK

Department of Microbiology, University of Manitoba

DR. ADOLF K.Y. NG

Department of Supply Change Management,
University of Manitoba (As of September 2019)

DR. FEIYUE (FEI) WANG

Department of Environment and Geography,
University of Manitoba; Canada Research Chair
in Arctic Environmental Chemistry

The Research Advisory Committee provides advice and makes recommendations to the board on all research-related matters including administration of existing programs, opportunities for development of new programs, and research initiatives.

The membership of the Research Advisory Committee reflects the broad experience with research in industry, health, natural and social sciences, engineering, and the humanities in Manitoba.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS (NON-VOTING)

MR. LUIS ESCOBAR

Research Manitoba Board
Representative (AS OF JUNE, 2019)

DR. RASHID AHMED

Research Manitoba Board
Representative (AS OF JUNE, 2019)

FUNDING OUTCOMES

Studentship Partners

Manitoba Chairs

Canadian Institutes
of Health Research



Research Manitoba

Canada Foundation
for Innovation

Mitacs

In 2019–20 Research Manitoba had total expenditures of \$12,598,983 of which \$11,656,079 was allocated to programs.

This funding leveraged \$12,258,284 from other sources for a total of \$23,914,363 applied directly to programs.

**PROGRAM
EXPENDITURE**

\$11.7
— Million

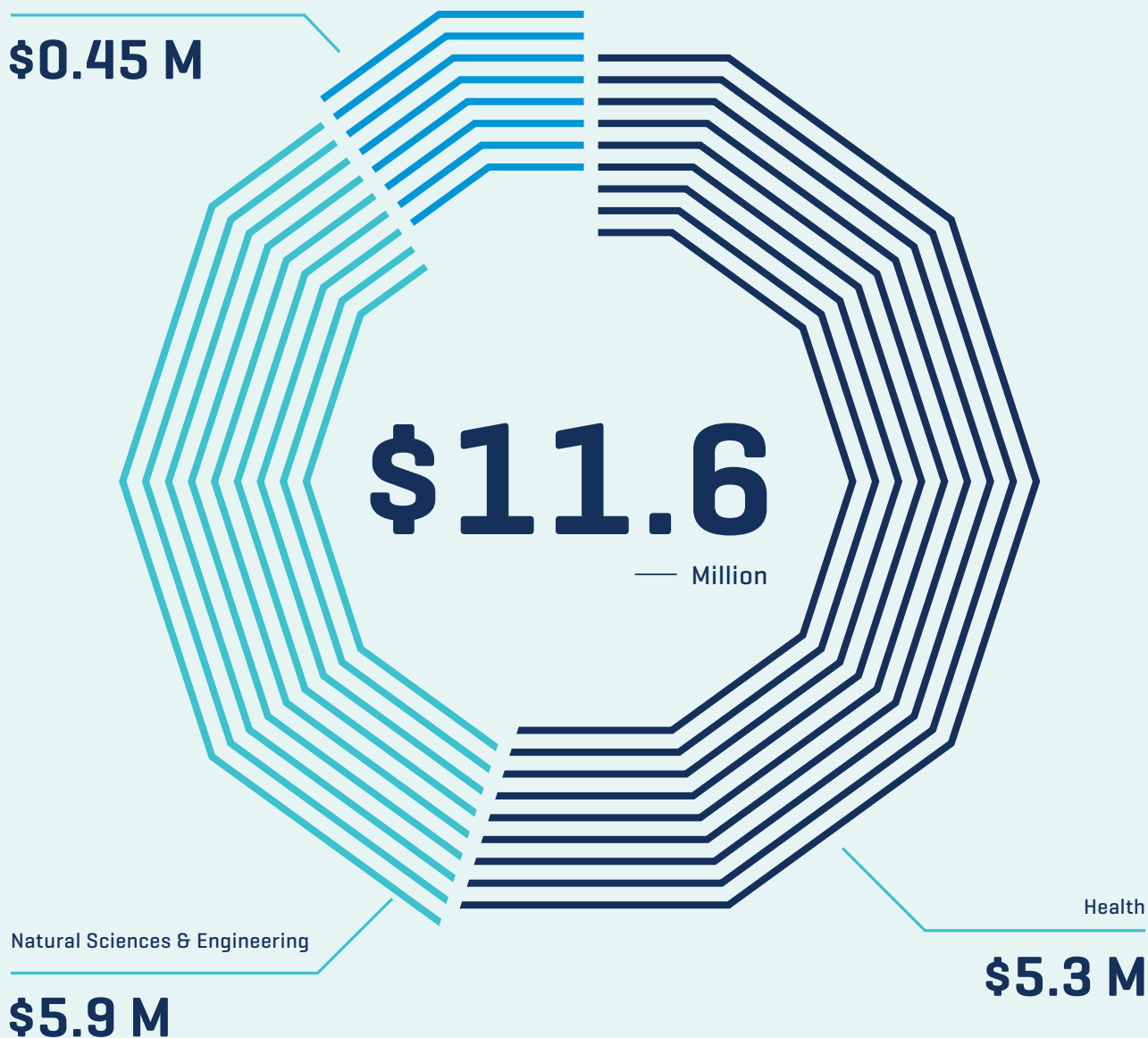
**FUNDING
LEVERAGED**

\$12.25
— Million

PROGRAM FUNDING BY RESEARCH AREA

Social Sciences & Humanities

\$0.45 M



Natural Sciences & Engineering

Health

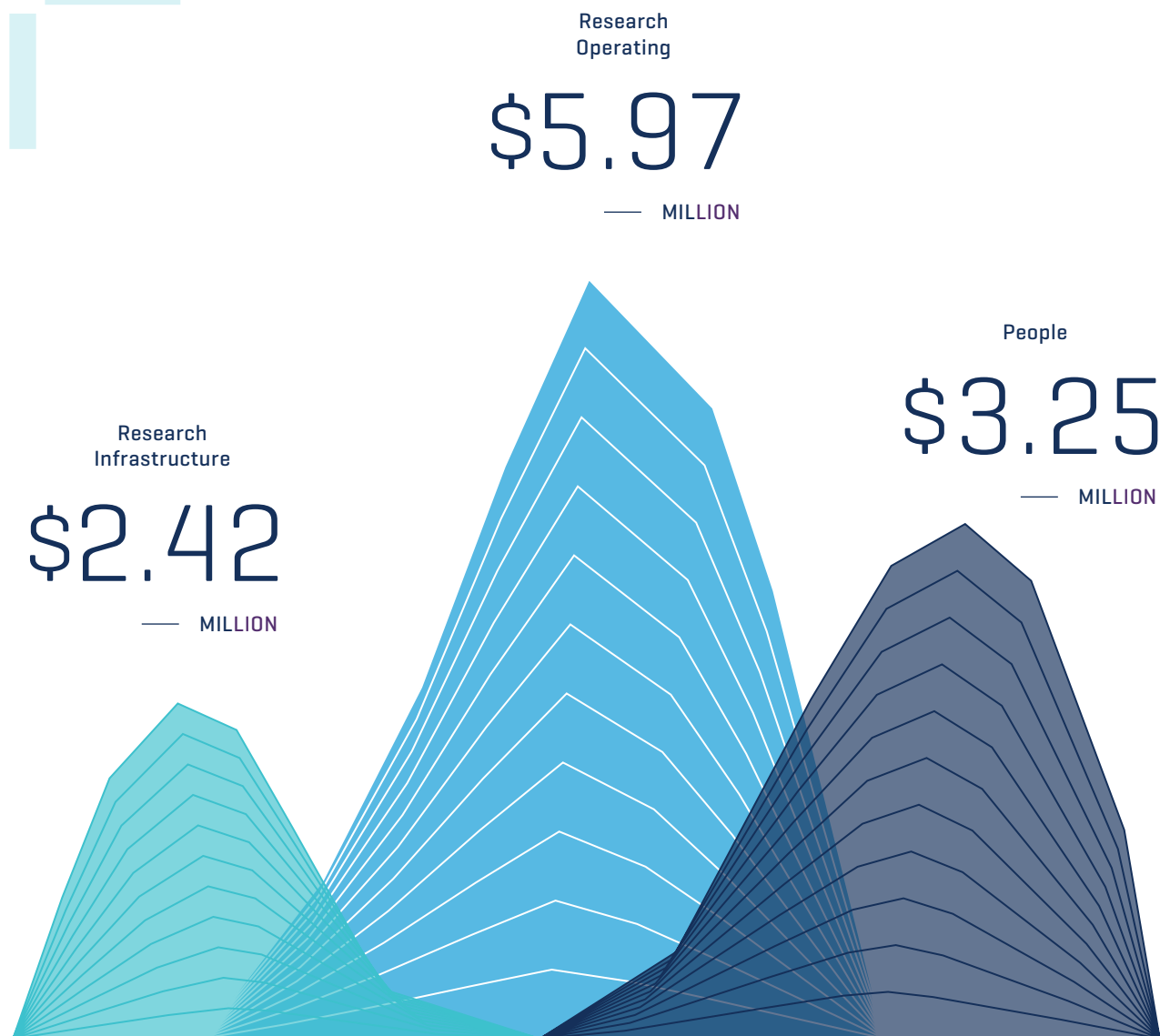
\$5.9 M

\$5.3 M

FUNDING BY SECTOR



PROGRAM FUNDING BY EXPENSE



FUNDING BY EXPENSE



> Funding Programs

Research Manitoba's funding programs are designed to support and elevate the research enterprise in Manitoba; programs and projects funded are in priority areas within industry and academia. In 2019–20 Research Manitoba expanded its funding programs suite to include opportunities for research focussed on innovation and commercialization.

This listing includes programs that ended prior to the 2019–20 fiscal year, but still have ongoing payments, and those that commenced in this fiscal year and are still in progress.

RESEARCH PROGRAMS

INNOVATION PROOF-OF-CONCEPT GRANT > \$105,000

The Innovation Proof-of-Concept program officially launched on January 13, 2020. The key objective of this program is to support industry led innovation opportunities within the Province of Manitoba.

Specifically, Research Manitoba assists in filling funding gaps for companies to develop and test innovative products that have the potential to push an industry or market forward to gain a competitive advantage.

For the 2019–20 period, funding was applied to support the proposal review process.

TARGETED INDUSTRY-ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP GRANT > \$275,000 > 11 PROJECTS FUNDED

This Research Manitoba initiative focuses on continued support for industry-academic partnerships which work towards solving an industry specific question/issue at the basic research stage.

With support from our colleagues at the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Prairies Office in Winnipeg, this program, unique to the 2019–20 fiscal year, was launched for targeted projects on January 14, 2020. There were 11 projects funded from this call, supporting Manitoba-based industry-academic research.

- > Seven projects focused on advances for sustainable infrastructure, including climate effects on structures, and the use of recyclables in civil infrastructure projects
- > Three focused on agriculture and agribusiness, including crop sustainability and advances for the cattle industry
- > One project focused on using customer transactional data (e.g., bank deposits, withdrawals, investments), to predict future client behaviour in terms of revenue, cost, and margin. An outcome of this work includes creating new job opportunities for data science and business intelligence on predicting consumer behaviour.

\$3 MIL

FUNDING PROGRAMS

\$3 MIL

NEW INVESTIGATOR OPERATING GRANTS > \$1,382,386 > 12 NEW INVESTIGATORS FUNDED

The New Investigator Operating Grant program has one competition annually. New Investigator Operating Grants are intended to support independent research programs of new faculty in Manitoba, who have typically recently completed their postdoctoral training.

This investment in early career researchers is integral to supporting both local talent development and a strong Manitoba research ecosystem.

Below is a listing of the New Investigator funded research topics that have a direct positive impact to benefit Manitobans:

- > Nutrition and the quality of plant-based foods being produced in Manitoba
- > Different influences on diverse learners
- > Antibiotic resistance
- > Developing a phone-based mental health program for older adults

Nine grantees are located at the University of Manitoba, two are at Brandon University, and one at the Canadian Mennonite University.

GRADUATE STUDENTSHIP AWARDS > \$265,925 > 22 STUDENTS SUPPORTED

The Master's Studentship program has one competition annually. All one-year awards consist of an annual stipend of \$12,000. Stipends support highly qualified Master's students to prepare for careers as independent researchers, in industry, within the healthcare system, and in other environments thus attracting and retaining the best students within Manitoba.

This funding supported students in the following areas:

- > Seven in the Faculty of Medicine
[note this encompasses several departments such as Human Anatomy, Immunology, etc.],
- > Six in the Department of Psychology,
- > Two each in the Departments of Kinesiology and Recreation Management, and Bioscience, Technology and Public Policy Program,
- > One each in the departments of Biology, Biological Sciences, Criminal Justice, Food and Human Nutritional Science, and Microbiology.

18 of our awardees are at the University of Manitoba and four at the The University of Winnipeg.

FUNDING PROGRAMS

MANITOBA RESEARCH CHAIRS > \$50,000 > ONE RESEARCH CHAIR FUNDED

The Manitoba Research Chairs Program invests in the continued growth of successful research programs of internationally recognized independent investigators in Manitoba and supports the development and retention of local talent.

Dr. Benedict Albeni was awarded the 2015 Manitoba Dementia Research Chair in partnership with the Alzheimer's Society of Manitoba, and over the past five years has been conducting ground-breaking work to advance the understanding of dementia and for improving dementia care and diagnosis. Knowing that different types of dementia often present with similar symptoms, Dr. Albeni recognized that novel diagnostic methods will allow clinicians to better distinguish amongst different types of dementia. A correct diagnosis is significantly important for effective drug treatment.



COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH TEAM/CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM > \$1,000,000 > ONE RESEARCH TEAM & 2 CLUSTERS

The goals of the Collaborative Research Team/Cluster Development Program are to support multidisciplinary cutting-edge research programs in which findings will have a direct impact on the health of Manitobans and the health system.

One Research Team is examining the impact of building personalized nutrition, sleeping and exercise programs for individuals living with chronic conditions [TMPLR], one Research Cluster is investigating Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia [CLL], and a second supporting the Developmental Origins of Chronic Diseases in Children Network [DEVOTION].

DIRECTED FUNDING

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS [MS] FUNDING > \$85,094 > ONE RESEARCHER

Through this program Research Manitoba continues to support MS clinical trials and data intensive research within the province. Research Manitoba manages this activity which was funded by a one-time \$5,000,000 investment from the Province of Manitoba. Funding was supplied to Shared Health to support a research nurse working on stem cell clinical trials in MS.



RESEARCH IMPROVEMENTS THROUGH HARMONIZATION IN MANITOBA [RITHIM]

RITHIM is a special initiative mandated by the Province of Manitoba. The RITHIM project's goal is to significantly enhance time-to-conduct for health research in Manitoba through process improvement and inter-agency harmonization for ethics, privacy, and impact reviews. Additional information about this initiative is contained in a subsequent section of this report.



FUNDING PROGRAMS

\$7.9 MIL

MATCHING NATIONAL FUNDING

CANADA EXCELLENCE RESEARCH CHAIR PROGRAM > \$2,857,040 > ONE PROGRAM

The Canada Excellence Research Chairs (CERC) program is a federal program which awards universities up to \$10 million over seven years to support world-renowned researchers and their teams establish ambitious research programs at Canadian universities.

Research Manitoba has partnered with CERC to fund Dr. Dorte Dahl-Jensen, at the University of Manitoba's Centre for Earth Observation Science, a Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) entitled "Arctic Ice, Freshwater-Marine Coupling and Climate Change." Our funding for Dr. Dahl-Jensen has brought international collaboration and new opportunities for research and training to Manitoba.

CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION (CFI) > \$2,421,960 > 18 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

CFI is the federal government agency responsible for funding research infrastructure within our post-secondary institutions. Infrastructure such as state-of-the-art equipment, laboratories, databases, specimens, scientific collections, computer hardware and software, communications linkages, and buildings are necessary to conduct leading-edge research. This program is critical for recruiting and retaining research talent in Manitoba, and for workforce development in high demand skill areas.

Research Manitoba supports this essential research infrastructure to Manitoba's universities and colleges as a funding partner on CFI projects. Over the 2019-2020 fiscal year, Research Manitoba supported 18 infrastructure projects at Brandon University, University of Manitoba, and The University of Winnipeg across a multitude of health, science and engineering topics.

CANADIAN 2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) RAPID RESEARCH FUNDING OPPORTUNITY > \$800,000 > THREE RESEARCH GRANTS

In March 2020 Research Manitoba was able to provide three research grants related to COVID-19 in partnership with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). With support of our Board of Directors, funding was rapidly reallocated to underpin this impactful research.

The three funded projects focus on logistical responses and planning using the Covid-19 epidemic as a case study, development of a vaccine, and investigating easily administered diagnostics for Covid-19.

FUNDING PROGRAMS

INDIGENOUS RESEARCH CHAIR IN NURSING > \$25,850 > ONE CHAIR

Research Manitoba partnered on the Indigenous Research Chair in Nursing with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Canadian Nurses Federation. This Chair position is a five-year term and began in October 2019. The Chair position is located at the First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba (FNHSSM).

Ms. Wanda Phillips-Beck's work is a multi-pronged/mixed methods approach within an Indigenous and culturally/equity-informed framework to develop and mentor a future cohort of nursing leaders and researchers in Indigenous health. The outcomes of Ms. Phillips-Beck's work will develop a burgeoning cohort of Indigenous students and future leaders in their fields who understand the needs of Indigenous people and who will work to improve the quality of care for Indigenous people.

MANITOBA CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE FUND (MCEF) > \$67,767

MCEF is a research and development support mechanism for Manitoba researchers participating in national research networks who have been successful under the federal government's Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) program. Through this program, Research Manitoba has helped increase industry investments in Manitoba.

Three researchers continued to receive MCEF funding in the 2019–2020 fiscal year, all of which contributed to the development of research within and outside of the province. Their work included:

- > Investigating the role and stability of marine mammals on the development and sustainment of human populations over the last 2500 years. This has importance for comparative interpretations of human-environment interactions in northern Manitoba and the Hudson Bay marine environment overall.
- > A focus on Indigenous/non-Indigenous collaboration for innovation and learning that could strengthen adaptive capacity for communities and industries in natural resource rich settings. A goal of this research is to improve policies, practices, and networking capabilities to support residents, decision makers and industry in navigating unparalleled environmental and social change.
- > Studying and Applying proven approaches to Advance Care Planning and end-of-life care in nursing homes for frail elderly patients.



FUNDING PROGRAMS

\$7.9 MIL

STRATEGY FOR PATIENT ORIENTED RESEARCH (SPOR) > \$825,634 > SIX PROJECTS

Research Manitoba partners on this program with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). SPOR program funding is used to strengthen support for clinical trials and intervention studies, as well as research that compares the effectiveness, benefits, and harms of existing treatment options.

The strategy also endeavors to improve the translation of innovative preventative, diagnostic, and therapeutic approaches into health care settings by expanding research in implementation science and incorporating these methods into day-to-day practice. The projects included:

- > The CHILD-BRIGHT pan-Canadian network works to achieve brighter futures for children with brain-based developmental disabilities. Together with youth and families, CHILD-BRIGHT's pan-Canadian network includes an impactful patient-oriented research program, authentic citizen engagement, multi-pronged knowledge translation and patient-oriented training
- > The Diabetes and its Related Complications Network has joined patients and non-researcher health professionals together to redefine methods for earliest diabetes diagnosis and treatments that will transform the health outcomes for all with the disease
- > The Inflammation, Microbiome, and Alimentation: Gastro-Intestinal and Neuropsychiatric Effects (IMAGINE) chronic disease network studies the effects and novel therapies for gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms
- > The Innovation in Pediatric Clinical Trials research project focuses on clinical trials on children and uses the information gained from these trials to inform decisions made at the bedside and system level
- > Can-SOLVE CKD Network is a national patient-oriented kidney research network that focuses on ensuring kidney disease patients receive the best recommended care, experience optimal outcomes, and have the opportunity to participate in studies with new treatments
- > The Screening for Poverty and Related Social Determinants and Intervening to Improve Knowledge and links to Resources (SPARK) program studies how social conditions such as income and food security impact the health of individuals. The research team is developing effective screening methods to help identify patients with their socio-economic data and is evaluating an online tool that helps health providers at primary care sites recommend resources that will assist those in need.

FUNDING PROGRAMS

MITACS > \$950,000 > 246 STUDENTS

Mitacs is a national, not-for-profit organization that designs and delivers work-integrated learning programs for college, undergraduate and graduate students and post-doctorate fellows throughout Canada and internationally. In partnership with Research Manitoba, Mitacs delivers its Accelerate, Elevate, and Globalink programs throughout the province.

Through Research Manitoba's formal partnership with the Mitacs program:

- > Trainees at all levels in Manitoba have an opportunity to work with local companies on industry research and development projects, while still working on their academic training and knowledge generation
- > Companies can access and recruit Manitoba and international talent, while also allowing our provincial trainees the opportunity to become engaged with local companies and gain valuable experience.

246 students were supported by the 2019-20 Research Manitoba/Mitacs partnership:

- > 83 Master's students
- > 88 PhD students
- > 52 Postdoctoral Fellows
- > 23 students who received Globalink internships and awards

POLICY FELLOW > \$59,401 > ONE FELLOW

Working with the Province of Manitoba Deputy Minister of Central Services, Research Manitoba is supporting a Mitacs Policy Fellow who is examining evidence-based decision making within government using a big data analytics approach to inform their policy decisions and improve the outcomes for Manitobans.



> Review Process

Each year, Research Manitoba employs a competitive peer/merit review process to evaluate and select research funding proposals for the board's approval. The review process is undertaken by a committee of active experts with the appropriate background and knowledge of the application topics under review. Committee members review applications in advance of the committee meeting and then discuss, assess, and score the applications during a live meeting. Each committee is chaired by a respected researcher from a relevant field and, in some cases, accompanied by a skilled Scientific Officer. In addition, Deloitte was engaged to review Innovation Proof of Concept Grant proposals to ensure that those selected have a reasonable probability for successful commercialization.

Number of committees

10

REVIEW COMMITTEES

1. Basic-Biomedical Health Research >Master's/PhD Studentship Review Committee
2. Natural Sciences and Engineering >Master's Studentship Review Committee
3. Social and Population Health Research >Master's/PhD Studentship Review Committee
4. Social Sciences and Humanities >Master's Studentship Review Committee
5. Health Research >Postdoctoral Fellowship Review Committee
6. Basic-Biomedical Health Research >New Investigator Operating Grant Review Committee
7. Natural Sciences and Engineering >New Investigator Operating Grant Review Committee
8. Social and Population Health Research >New Investigator Operating Grant Review Committee
9. Social Sciences and Humanities >New Investigator Operating Grant Review Committee
10. University of Manitoba > Rady Faculty of Health Sciences Graduate Student Entrance Scholarship Review Committee

Number of reviewers

85

INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED

- > Boise State University
- > Brandon University
- > Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba
- > National Microbiology Laboratory
- > Public Health Agency of Canada
- > St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre
- > University of Alberta
- > University of Kentucky
- > University of Manitoba
- > The University of Winnipeg

For more information or to see a list of our 2019–20 Review Committees please visit our website: www.researchmanitoba.ca.

> Working in Partnership

PARTNERSHIP IS A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF MAXIMIZING THE RESEARCH POTENTIAL WITHIN THE PROVINCE. RESEARCH MANITOBA IS PLEASED TO PARTNER WITH THE FOLLOWING 23 ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS:

- > Alzheimer Society of Manitoba
- > Brandon University [BU]
- > Canadian Foundation for Innovation [CFI]
- > Canadian Institutes of Health Research [CIHR]
- > Canadian Mennonite University [CMU]
- > Canadian Nurses Foundation [CNF]
- > CancerCare Manitoba Foundation
- > Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba [CHRM]
- > First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba [FNHSSM]
- > George & Fay Yee Centre for Healthcare Innovation [CHI]
- > Health Sciences Centre Foundation
- > Manitoba Lung Association
- > Mitacs
- > Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada
- > Natural Sciences and Engineering Council of Canada
- > Network for Centres of Excellence [NCE]
- > Province of Manitoba
- > Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Manitoba
- > Red River College [RRC]
- > Shared Health
- > University of Manitoba
- > The University of Winnipeg
- > Winnipeg Regional Health Authority [WRHA]

> Impact Reporting

DEMONSTRATING PROVEN VALUE

Research in Manitoba has created entire industries that are driving our local economy and are improving our environmental impacts.

Research in Manitoba has saved countless lives and has improved health and social systems here and around the world.

The purpose of Research Manitoba's impact narrative and impact report initiative is to document the outcomes and impacts of research in the province. The goal of the impact narrative and report is two-fold: a) to communicate the impacts of research to a wide variety of audiences such as academics, industry, community groups, the public, government and other users of research findings, and b) to link outcomes and impacts to the original research.

Our impact report series is designed to capture these complex stories in compelling ways, and in 2019–20 we published two impact reports.

MITACS

This impact narrative and report showcased four Manitoba-based Mitacs internships and the amazing effects that resulted from the collaborations. All four produced outcomes that not only benefited the interns and the companies, but also the health and future of our province. The Mitacs funding in Manitoba was used to support 38 companies and 246 internship opportunities. Our funding of \$950,000 leveraged over \$2,850,000 from industry and federal sources.

MANITOBA AGRICULTURE: POTATO INDUSTRY

The 38-year history of potato research in Manitoba is described in the impact narrative and the impact report demonstrates that research funded by Manitoba Agriculture and other sources have contributed to the overall growth of the industry and to the economic strength of the province. It is the partnership of the provincial and federal governments, processors, scientists, and producer associations that drives the implementation of best practices based on research.

MITACS



MANITOBA AGRICULTURE: POTATO INDUSTRY



> Strategic Partnerships

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS IS A NEW INITIATIVE FOR RESEARCH MANITOBA AS OF OCTOBER 2019. IT IS INTENDED TO SUPPORT OUR GOAL OF ADVANCING RESEARCH IN MANITOBA AND TO STRENGTHEN THE ECONOMY THROUGH STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION INVESTMENTS IN PROVINCIAL PRIORITY RESEARCH AREAS.

Its focus is to:

- > Foster and grow collaborative partnerships to further develop various industries within Manitoba
- > Seek out investment and expertise from a wide variety of industry, government agencies and philanthropic organizations
- > Look for cross-sectoral and cross-provincial opportunities and priorities, to shine a light on Manitoba's tremendous assets.

This initiative aligns with three of the province's drivers of growth: Strategic Sector Growth; Access to Capital; and Research, Innovation and Technological Advancement.

Efforts within this fiscal period focused on relationship building, understanding needs of various partners and learning about Manitoba's assets and strengths within the Health sector. This resulted in development of several opportunities including industry, government, academia, research organizations and foundations. Two partnerships were identified to be initially rolled out in fiscal 2020–21: one with the Victoria General Hospital Foundation focusing on utilizing telepresence robots for elderly care; and a second with Boehringer Ingelheim with an aim to support diabetes care for Indigenous populations in Manitoba.

MILESTONES

> 39 <

Thirty-nine initial meetings were held supporting the early development of strategic partnerships

> 31 <

Thirty-one meetings were held with industry and/or philanthropic organizations

> 8 <

Eight meetings were held with government stakeholders

RESEARCH MANITOBA HAS UNIQUELY POSITIONED ITSELF TO BE A COLLABORATOR AND CONNECTOR IN THE SPACE OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS. WITH THE ABILITY TO WORK WITH ORGANIZATIONS, INSTITUTIONS, COMPANIES AND PEOPLE WE CAN:

- > Increase the cumulative impact of investment and research
- > Advance translational research
- > Provide measured return on investment
- > Be a conduit for opportunity
- > Connect key leaders and stakeholders to the research community and beyond, and
- > Accelerate new ideas.

> RITHIM



For more info about RITHIM:

Follow us on Twitter
[@Research_MB](#)

Visit RITHIM website
www.rithim.ca

Research Improvement Through Harmonization in Manitoba's (RITHIM) mandate is to enhance, coordinate, and harmonize the systems for ethics, privacy, and impact review related to health research. This provincial initiative is unique and will position Manitoba as one of the most attractive places to conduct research in Canada. RITHIM will make the review processes easier and faster, while maintaining the highest levels of ethics and privacy protection. Through this cutting-edge harmonization initiative, Manitoba can attract innovative trials and increase industry investment and partnership potential. It is anticipated that RITHIM will become operational in the Spring of 2021.

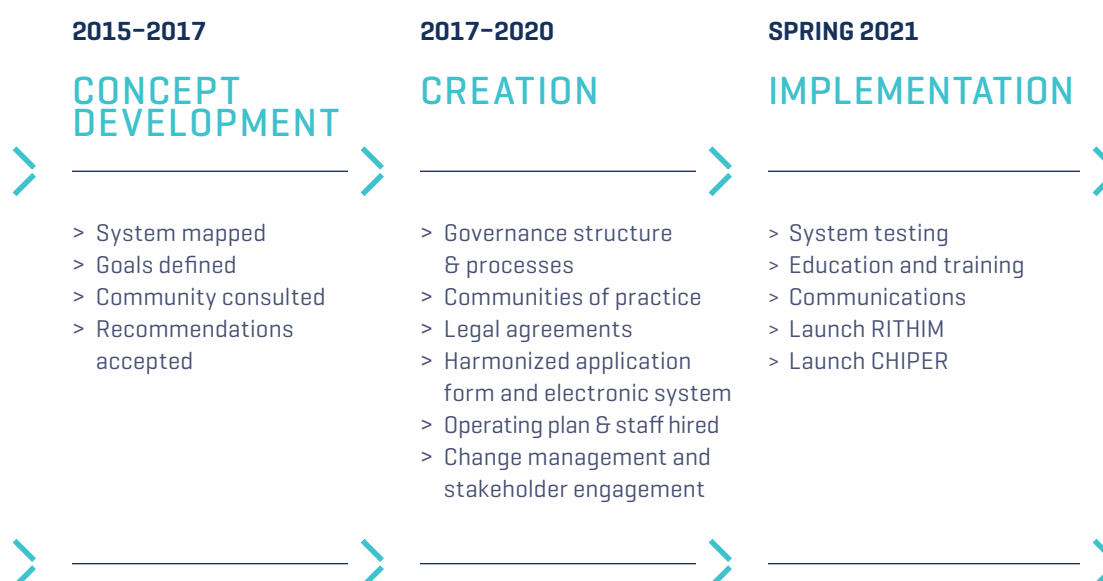
In November 2017, the provincial government approved a set of recommendations with an increased scope to include all relevant activities in Manitoba and agreed to propose the necessary changes to the Personal Health Information Act (PHIA) that included the following:

- > Establish a single amalgamated health research review committee, which encompasses ethics, impact, and privacy reviews of health research done at any relevant institution in Manitoba
- > Designate an organizational delegate that facilitates the timely review of feasibility of data request and contract process at the approver's institution
- > Invest in necessary infrastructure and operational resources to support the new review process including the establishment of an electronic, web accessible, research administration and information system, which will use a harmonized application form
- > Enhance the system-wide culture to undertake research through researcher training and support with navigation as well as the establishment of sustainable working groups to create bodies of knowledge and act as a forum for discussion around privacy and legal issues related to health research in Manitoba.

EXCELLENT RESEARCH THRIVES HERE

Research Manitoba was selected to lead RITHIM through implementation and subsequent operations. Milestones that were achieved in the fiscal year 2019/2020:

- > RITHIM website was created
- > Delegation of Authority template agreement was sent to key post-secondary stakeholders and health system stakeholders for legal review
- > The software system, which in its current stage is referred to as Provincial Research Application System or PRAS, was developed in a draft stage. This system harmonizes different review processes and paper-based forms from over 25 health research institutions and addresses the needs of all stakeholders in one electronic application. RITHIM has worked closely with a small interdisciplinary working group that includes health research experts and technology advisors to refine the draft of the system
- > A policy suite for the Committee for Harmonized Health Impact, Privacy and Ethics Review (CHIPER) was developed, which includes 30 draft Standard Operating Procedures
- > Recruitment for CHIPER members was conducted and over 35 nominations were received and reviewed
- > 25 RITHIM stakeholder meetings and presentations were conducted, including engaging groups that had not previously been reached including Indigenous stakeholders and archivists.



Wave Magazine

RESEARCH MANITOBA SPECIAL REPORT



THE MAY/JUNE 2019 ISSUE FEATURED "BIG DATA" IN MANITOBA.

The Rady Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Manitoba, in consultation with Manitoba Health, Research Manitoba, the George and Fay Yee Centre for Healthcare Innovation, the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, the Bioscience Association of Manitoba and other stakeholders, has developed a five-year strategic plan to help develop the technological capacity needed to leverage advances in big data analytics with a view to producing better health research and better care for patients here in Manitoba.

> Research Today

STORIES OF INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE

Research contributes to the economy, the environment, our society, and more importantly — our future, which is why Research Manitoba is dedicated to supporting research in Manitoba.

In the summer of 2019, the WRHA's WAVE magazine was discontinued. However, we wanted to continue our work with former Editor of the magazine, Brian Cole, so we created a new newsletter called Research Today.

The Research Today stories highlight a few aspects of Manitoba's research enterprise and the work that Research Manitoba is doing to support the Province's vision. These stories are a sampling of the value that investing public funds into research in Manitoba can and does bring to our community.

OUR FIRST FOUR STORIES WERE PUBLISHED IN FEBRUARY 2020:



New \$800,000 program will help researchers and companies commercialize their work.



New manager for strategic partnerships aims to maximize Manitoba's research potential.



DeepGeo illustrates how entrepreneurs and researchers can work together to create new economic opportunities.



Former U of M student Andrea Kroeker is realizing her passion for research.

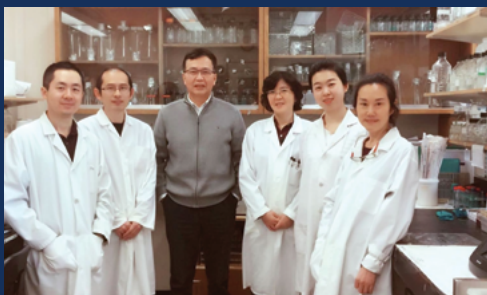
> Research Today

STORIES OF INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE

MARCH 2020



Research Manitoba supports scholarship in memory of Winnipeg scientist Forough Khadem



Q&A: Winnipeg researcher Xiao-Jian Yao discusses efforts to develop COVID-19 vaccine



With a \$6.5 million grant from the Gates Foundation, researcher Meghan Azad is preparing to launch a new study that could enhance the health of infants around the world



Remembering Dr. Francis [Frank] Plummer: A gifted physician and scientist, a wonderful human being.

> Manitoba: Home of World-Class Research

Our event “Manitoba: Home of World-Class Research” took place on April 8th, 2019 at the Legislative Building; Minister Blaine Pedersen brought opening remarks. The purpose of the “Manitoba: Home of World-Class Research” event was to introduce members of the Provincial Government to our research community and to exhibit scientific excellence by showcasing some of the most innovative research projects that Mitacs has in Manitoba.

The goals of this event were to enhance the understanding of research and to raise the awareness of our province’s research enterprise successes and the potential to improve Canadians’ lives as it represents significant social and economic benefits for Manitoba.

THE EVENT FEATURED EIGHT INTERNS AND THEIR INDUSTRY PARTNERS:

- > St. Amant
- > Bold Commerce
- > Vector Corrosion Technologies
- > Cypher Environmental
- > Cubresa
- > Intelligent Structures
- > Myera – Durnston Honey Farms
- > KGS Group

Each intern featured at the event is a Mitacs Accelerate recipient. The Accelerate program supports bilateral research collaborations between interns, universities, and industry partners in Manitoba, in Canada, and around the world.



Ms. Tracey Maconachie,
Board Chair, at Podium



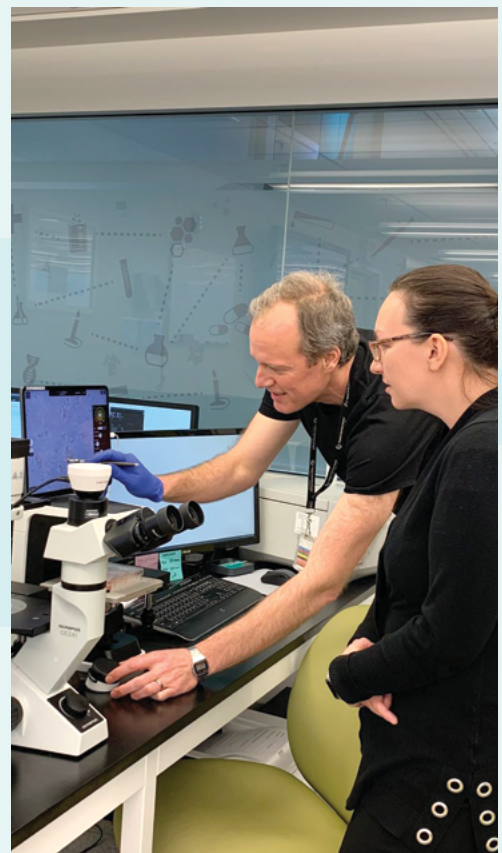
Group shot of the event in the Rotunda at the
Manitoba Legislative Building

> Community Engagement

MAKING CONNECTIONS AND CREATING NEW PATHWAYS IS INTEGRAL TO BUILDING A STRONG RESEARCH COMMUNITY IN MANITOBA. ONE OF THE WAYS THAT RESEARCH MANITOBA DOES THIS IS BY CELEBRATING INNOVATION AND ENGAGING WITH OUR LOCAL, PROVINCIAL, AND NATIONAL PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS.



*Canadian Medical Hall of Fame — Discovery Days
(Nov. 1, 2019)*

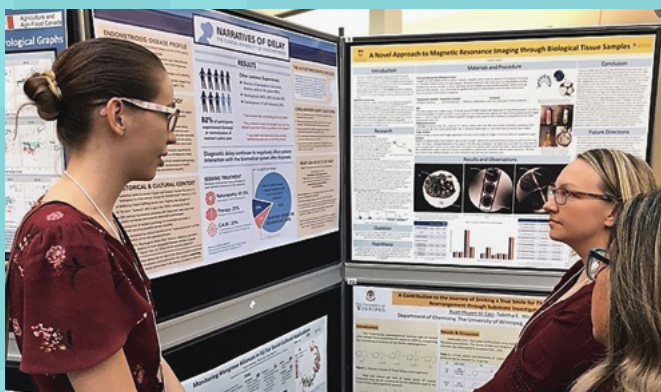


Youth BIOLab Jeunesse (Feb. 28, 2020)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Global Climate Strike [Sept. 27, 2019]



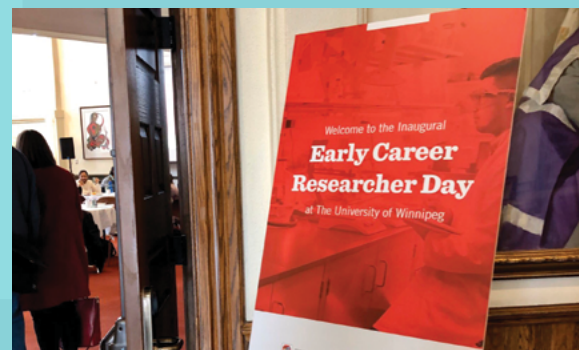
The University of Winnipeg's 14th Annual Randy Kobes Poster Symposium [Sept. 18, 2019]



Red River College, Prairie Research Kitchen Grand Opening [Nov. 7, 2019]



Bioscience Association Manitoba's Funding Day [Dec. 17, 2019]



Early Career Researcher Day — panel participation to raise awareness about RITHIM [Feb 27, 2020]

> 2019 – 2020 Financial Statements

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The accompanying financial statements are the responsibility of the management of **RESEARCH MANITOBA** and have been prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. In management's opinion, the financial statements have been properly prepared within reasonable limits of materiality, incorporating management's best judgment regarding all necessary estimates and all other data available to the audit report date.

Management maintains internal controls to properly safeguard the assets and to provide reasonable assurance that the books and records from which the financial statements are derived accurately reflect all transactions and that established policies and procedures are followed.

The responsibility of the external audit is to express an independent opinion on whether the financial statements of **RESEARCH MANITOBA** are fairly represented in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. The Independent Auditor's Report outlines the scope of the audit examination and provides the audit opinion.

On behalf of Management of **RESEARCH MANITOBA**:



Christina Weise,
Chief Executive Officer



Nicole Barry,
Director of Finance and Administration

June 22, 2020

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of **RESEARCH MANITOBA**

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of **RESEARCH MANITOBA** (the "Organization") which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2020, and the statement of operations and accumulated surplus, changes in net financial assets, and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at March 31, 2020 and the results of its operations, its changes in net financial assets, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

OTHER MATTER

We draw attention to Note 3 of the financial statements, which describes the change in the accounting policy. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGEMENT AND THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- > Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- > Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- > Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- > Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- > Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

BDO Canada LLP

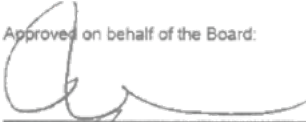
Chartered Professional Accountants


Winnipeg, Manitoba
June 22, 2020

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

March 31	2020	2019
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash and bank	\$ 216,828	\$ 364,987
Portfolio investment [Note 4]	1,420,198	1,376,346
Accounts receivable [Note 5]	104,582	33,295
Accrued interest receivable	8,105	14,038
	1,749,713	1,788,666
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	142,160	117,700
Research grants payable	-	61,684
	142,160	179,384
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	1,607,553	1,609,282
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets [Note 6]	13,865	18,011
Prepaid expenses	17,650	3,069
	31,515	21,080
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	\$ 1,639,069	\$ 1,630,362

Approved on behalf of the Board:

 Director

 Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

For the year ended March 31	2020	2020	2019
	BUDGET	TOTAL	TOTAL
REVENUE			
Province of Manitoba			
Growth, Enterprise and Trade	\$ 12,113,000	\$ 12,113,000	\$ 12,113,000
Agriculture	-	-	14,300
Other funding	-	-	1,038
Grants returned/rescinded	-	456,106	78,872
Investment income	25,000	38,584	55,164
	12,138,000	12,607,690	12,262,374
EXPENDITURES			
Administration [Page 50]	943,942	942,904	946,731
Infrastructure grants - matching	1,850,000	2,421,960	5,323,908
Infrastructure grants	625,440	411,141	163,557
MS grants & awards	85,094	85,094	234,537
Operating grants - matching	5,772,165	5,954,322	2,078,456
Operating grants	2,377,186	2,382,386	2,835,530
Personnel awards	494,000	325,326	1,414,434
Personnel awards - matching	360,000	75,850	50,000
	12,507,827	12,598,983	13,047,153
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ (369,827)	8,707	[784,779]
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		1,630,362	2,415,141
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, END OF YEAR		\$ 1,639,069	\$ 1,630,362

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS

For the year ended March 31	2020	2020	2019
	BUDGET	TOTAL	TOTAL
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ (369,827)	\$ 8,707	\$ (784,779)
AMORTIZATION OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS	-	4,146	5,517
DECREASE (INCREASE) IN PREPAID EXPENSE	-	(14,582)	976
CHANGES IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	<u>\$ (369,827)</u>	<u>(1,729)</u>	<u>(778,286)</u>
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		<u>1,609,282</u>	<u>2,387,568</u>
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, END OF YEAR		\$ 1,607,553	\$ 1,609,282

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended March 31	2020	2019
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Annual surplus (deficit) for the year	\$ 8,707	\$ [784,779]
Adjustments for		
Amortization of capital assets	4,146	5,517
	12,853	[779,262]
Changes in non-cash working capital balances		
Accounts receivable	[71,287]	79,678
Accrued interest receivable	5,933	995
Prepaid expenses	[14,584]	976
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	24,460	[117,313]
Research grants payable	[61,684]	[919,998]
	[104,309]	[1,734,924]
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS	-	-
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	-	-
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	-	-
DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS DURING THE YEAR	[104,309]	[1,734,924]
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,741,335	3,476,259
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,637,026	\$ 1,741,335
REPRESENTED BY		
Cash and bank	\$ 216,828	\$ 364,989
Portfolio investment	1,420,198	1,376,346
	\$ 1,637,026	\$ 1,741,335

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2020

1. Nature of the Organization

Research Manitoba (the "Organization") was originally established by The Manitoba Health Research Council Act to promote and assist basic, clinical and applied research in the health sciences in Manitoba. It was continued under The Research Manitoba Act in 2014 to promote, support and coordinate funding of, research in the health, natural and social sciences, engineering and the humanities in Manitoba. Research Manitoba is a registered charity and is exempt from tax under the Income Tax Act.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements have been prepared using the Canadian public sector accounting standards as established by the Public Sector Accounting Board.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

The Organization is primarily funded by the Province of Manitoba and operates per the mandates set out in the Research Manitoba Act. These financial statements reflect agreed funding arrangements with respect to the year ended March 31, 2020.

Provincial government transfers for operating purposes are recognized as revenue in the period in which all eligibility criteria and/or stipulations have been met and the amounts are authorized. Any funding received prior to satisfying these conditions are considered unearned until conditions have been met. When revenue is received without eligibility criteria or stipulations, it is recognized when the transfer from the Province of Manitoba is authorized, except when and to the extent the transfer gives rise to an obligation that meets the definition of a liability for the Organization.

The General Research Funds - General research grants are charged to expenditures in the year the funding is committed for, by the Board. Research grants returned to or rescinded by the organization is recorded as revenue when received or rescinded.

Investment income is recognized as revenue in the year in which it is earned.

FINANCIAL ASSETS

Portfolio investments are investments that are capable of reasonably prompt liquidation and are recognized at cost.

LIABILITIES

Liabilities are present obligations as a result of transactions and events occurring prior to the end of the fiscal year. The settlement of the liabilities will result in the future transfer or use of assets or other form of settlement. Liabilities are recorded at the estimated amount ultimately payable.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2020

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies [continued]

NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS

- (a) Prepaid expenses are payments for goods or services that will provide economic benefit in future periods. The prepaid amount is recognized as an expense in the year the goods or services are consumed.

- (b) Tangible capital assets

Capital assets are stated at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization, based on the estimated useful life of the asset, is calculated as 20% per year for 5 years. Any changes to this policy will be Board approved. The amortization for purchases prior to this fiscal year will continue to be calculated as follows:

Office and computer equipment	20% diminishing balance basis
Computer equipment for review committees	33.3% diminishing balance basis

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. Cash has been designated to be in the fair value category. All other financial instruments are reported at cost or amortized cost less impairment, if applicable. Financial assets are tested for impairment when changes in circumstances indicate the asset could be impaired. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale or issue of financial instruments are expensed for those items remeasured at fair value at each balance sheet date and charged to the financial instrument for those measured at amortized cost. Due to the nature of the financial instruments held by the Organization, there are no unrealized gains or losses, and therefore a statement of remeasurement gains and losses is not required for these financial statements.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash and bank, a short-term investment in a cash savings account that can be redeemed at the organization's request.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

All grants and awards and their renewals are recorded as an expenditure in the year they are committed for.

MEASUREMENT UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2020

3. Change in Accounting Policy

Effective April 1, 2019, the Province of Manitoba has directed the Organization to change its basis of accounting from Canadian Government Not-for-Profit Organization standards, which includes sections PSAS 4200 to PSAS 4270, to PSAS without sections PSAS 4200 to PSA 4270. As a result of the adoption, the presentation of the financial statements changed from the prior year. This change in accounting policy has been applied retroactively with restatement of prior periods. The most significant changes as a result of adopting this basis of accounting include:

- > The Organization's budget is presented in the Statement of Operations.
- > The Statement of Financial Position presents financial assets and liabilities to determine a net financial assets position; non-financial assets are shown separately and the accumulated surplus or deficit is the sum of the above-noted amounts.
- > Presentation of the Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets which presents the activities that contributed to the change in net financial assets in the Statement of Financial Position.

For the year ended, March 31, 2019, this change in accounting policy had the following effect on the financial statements from amounts previously presented in the prior year's financial statements:

Decrease in deferred revenue	\$ 1,367,969
Decrease in revenue for deferred revenue recognized in 2019	604,687
Increase in opening accumulated surplus	1,969,654
Increase in ending accumulated surplus	1,367,969

4. Portfolio Investment

Steinbach Credit Union, charity regular savings account, 1.55% (2.90% in 2019), no maturity date and is reduced by the deficit in the chequing account.

	2020	2019
	\$ 1,420,198	\$ 1,376,346

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2020

5. Accounts Receivable

	2020	2019
University of Manitoba	\$ 59,129	\$ 988
Goods and Services Tax receivable	28,616	17,157
MITACS Inc.	15,600	-
Province of Manitoba	1,000	-
Institute of Health	237	-
McGill University	-	850
CAP - Ag Action Manitoba	-	14,300
	\$ 104,582	\$ 33,295

6. Tangible Capital Assets

	2020			
	Opening Balance	Additions	Disposals	Closing Balance
Cost				
Office equipment	\$ 34,151	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 34,151
Computer equipment	62,913	-	-	62,913
	97,064	-	-	97,064
Accumulated Amortization				
Office equipment	24,451	1,552	-	26,003
Computer equipment	54,602	2,594	-	57,196
	79,053	4,146	-	83,199
Net book value	\$ 18,011	\$ (4,146)	\$ -	\$ 13,865

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2020

6. Tangible Capital Assets (continued)

	2019			
	Opening Balance	Additions	Disposals	Closing Balance
Cost				
Office equipment	\$ 34,151	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 34,151
Computer equipment	62,913	-	-	62,913
	97,064	-	-	97,064
Accumulated Amortization				
Office equipment	24,451	-	-	24,451
Computer equipment	49,085	5,517	-	54,602
	73,536	5,517	-	79,053
Net book value	\$ 23,528	\$ [5,517]	\$ -	\$ 18,011

7. Pension Benefits

Employees of Research Manitoba are eligible for pension benefits in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Service Superannuation Act [CSSA], administered by the Civil Service Superannuation Board [CSSB]. The CSSA established a defined benefit plan to provide benefits to employees of the Manitoba Civil Service and to participating agencies of the Government, including Research Manitoba, through the Civil Service Superannuation Fund [CSSF]. Effective April 1, 2012, pursuant to an agreement with the Province of Manitoba, Research Manitoba transferred to the Province the pension liability for its employees.

Commencing April 1, 2012, Research Manitoba was required to pay to the Province the employees' current pension contributions. The plan is funded by the Organization's employees at rates of 8.0% to 9.0% of the employees' salary. The Organization is required to match at rates of 7.1% to 9.0% of the employees' salary. The amount contributed by Research Manitoba for 2020 was \$50,590 [\$53,280 in 2019] and the employees' share was \$55,010 [\$57,629 in 2019]. Under this agreement, the Organization has no further pension liability.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2020

8. Commitments

GRANTS

Research Manitoba has committed grants and awards under the General Research Fund, the Regional Partnership Fund, MS Fund and Strategy for Patient Oriented Research (SPOR) Fund as follows:

Year	General Research Fund	MS Fund	SPOR Fund	Matching Grants	Total
2021	\$ 1,811,700	\$ 45,000	\$ 240,094	\$	\$ 2,096,794
2022	1,211,700		485,641	1,428,571	3,125,912
2023	1,211,700	-	-	1,428,571	2,640,271
2024	111,700	-	-	1,428,571	1,540,271
2025	85,850	-	-	1,428,571	1,514,421
Total	\$ 4,432,650	\$ 45,000	\$ 725,735	\$ 5,714,284	\$ 10,917,669

PREMISES

The Organization has entered into an agreement to lease its premises for \$76,920 annually until the agreement expires in August 2030.

9. Related Party Transactions

Research Manitoba is related to all Province of Manitoba departments and agencies. During the year, Research Manitoba had the following transactions with related organizations:

	2020	2019
Grant revenue	\$ 12,113,000	\$ 12,127,300

These transactions are in the normal course of operations and are measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2020

10. Financial Instrument Risks

GENERAL OBJECTIVES, POLICIES, AND PROCESSES

The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for the determination of the Organization's risk management objectives and policies and, whilst retaining ultimate responsibility for them, it has delegated the authority for designing and operating processes that ensure effective implementation of the objectives and policies to the Organization's Chief Executive Officer [CEO]. The Board of Directors receives quarterly reports from the Organization's CEO through which it reviews the effectiveness of the processes put in place and the appropriateness of the objectives and policies it sets.

The Organization's financial instruments are exposed to certain financial risks, including credit risk, interest rate risk and liquidity risk.

There have been no significant changes from the previous year in the exposure to risk, policies or procedures used to manage financial instrument risks.

INTEREST RATE RISK

The Organization is exposed to interest rate risk arising from the possibility that changes in interest rates will affect the cash flows related to its investments. The Organization's objective is to minimize interest rate risk by locking in fixed rates on its investments when possible.

At March 31, 2020, a 1% move in interest rates, with all other variables held constant, could impact the interest revenue of the investments by \$14,202 (\$13,763 in 2019). These changes would be recognized in the statement of operations.

CREDIT RISK

The Organization is exposed to credit risk through the possibility of non-collection of its accounts receivable. The majority of the Organization's receivables are from government entities which minimizes the risk of non-collection. The Organization also makes sure it meets all the eligibility criteria for the amounts to ensure they will collect the amounts outstanding.

LIQUIDITY RISK

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Organization will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Organization has a planning and budgeting process in place to help determine the funds required to support the Organization's normal operating requirements on an ongoing basis. The Organization ensures that there are sufficient funds to meet its short-term requirements, taking into account its anticipated cash flows from operations and its holdings of cash and cash equivalents.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2020

11. Uncertainty due to COVID-19

The impact of COVID-19 in Canada and on the global economy increased significantly. Prior to year end, the Organization reallocated some of their existing funds to COVID-19 research. The Organization has also received approval to reallocate up to \$5,000,000 of their 2020 to 2021 budget to create a COVID-19 Research Fund that will support clinical and applied research, and provide funds for industry to develop products and devices in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

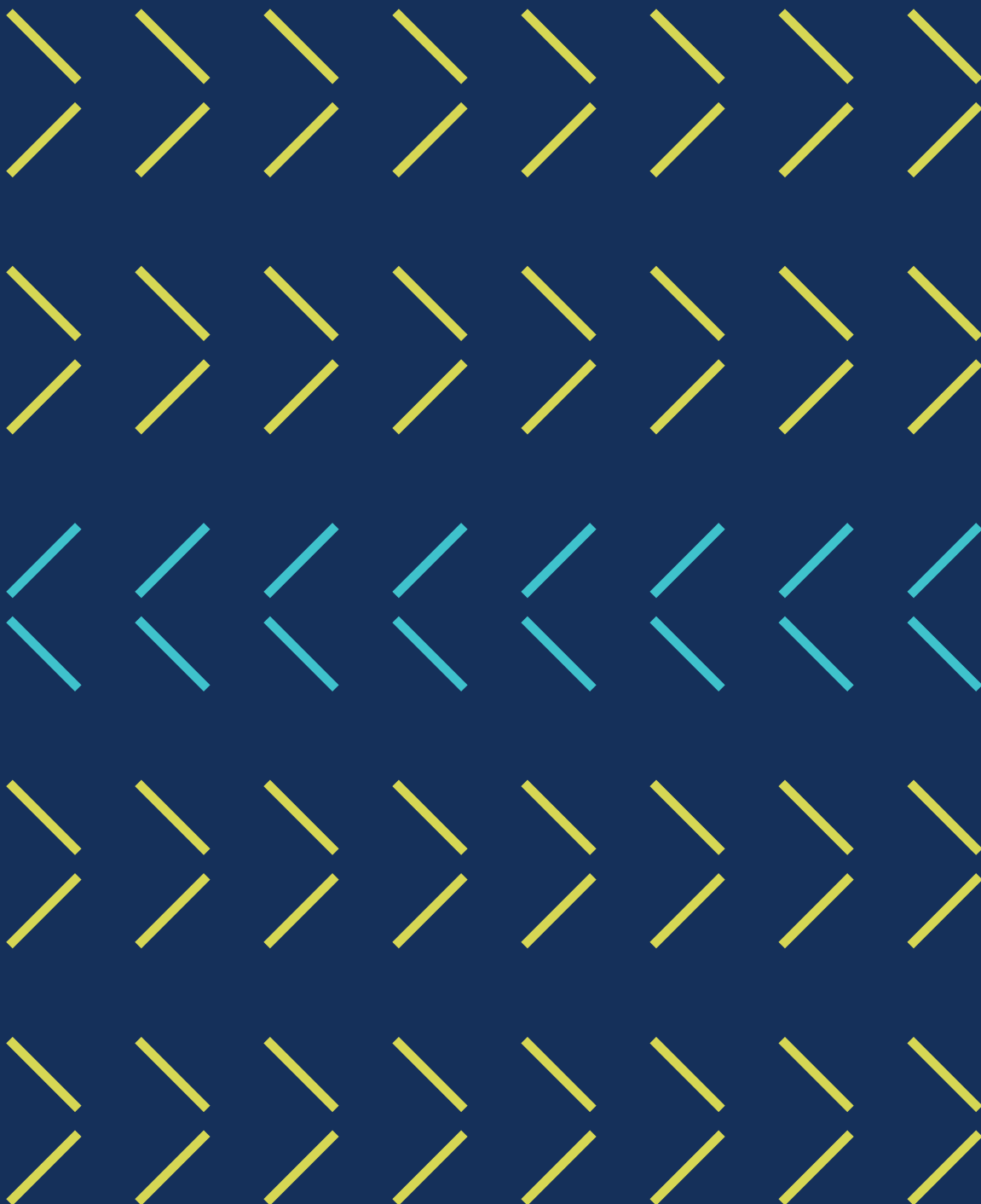
As the impacts of COVID-19 continue, there could be further impact on the Organization. Management is actively monitoring the affect on its financial condition, liquidity, operations, and workforce. Given the daily evolution of the COVID-19 outbreak and the global responses to curb its spread, the Organization is not able to fully estimate the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak on its results of operations, financial condition, or liquidity at this time.

12. Administration Agreement

The Organization holds an amount of \$67,371 in their bank account on behalf of NAPHR0 in a fiduciary capacity which is not included in these financial statements.

SCHEDULE OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES BY OBJECT

For the year ended March 31	Budget	2020	2019
Amortization of tangible capital assets	\$ -	\$ 4,146	\$ 5,517
Bank fees	400	384	151
Board and committee	6,500	2,831	1,405
Communications	41,950	57,398	55,616
Conference and transportation	19,812	18,417	20,809
Courier and postage	1,500	1,809	1,202
Insurance	4,900	4,971	4,571
IT/Telecommunications	66,961	66,910	57,198
Office space	77,423	76,982	76,991
Office supplies	16,250	17,746	20,429
Professional development and memberships	2,000	2,057	1,854
Professional fees	24,500	23,616	31,295
Reviewers	7,500	3,725	5,638
Salaries and benefits	674,246	661,912	664,055
	\$ 943,942	\$ 942,904	\$ 946,731



RESEARCH MANITOBA
A201 CHOWN BUILDING
753 MCDERMOT AVE.
WINNIPEG, MB R3E 0T6

T: 204-775-1096
F: 204-786-5401
E: INFO@RESEARCHMB.CA
RESEARCHMANITOBA.CA

