Research Acceleration and Strategic Initiatives

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Visit the OVPR Grants Calendar for up to date deadlines and events.
Learn more about RASI services online.
RASI Workshops and Support Services

2022 NSERC USRA Competition
Research Acceleration and Strategic Initiatives (RASI) cordially invites undergraduate students and faculty supervisors to submit applications for the 2022 NSERC USRA (Undergraduate Student Research Awards) competition by Tuesday, 01 February 2022 by 4:30 p.m. CST.

For details on eligibility, changes to the NSERC USRA supervisor supplement, application instructions and other details including instructions for department heads, please go to NSERC USRAs page.

For an overview of the NSERC USRA program, expectations and guidelines, please visit the NSERC USRA website.

Questions may be directed to Merle Massie, coordinator undergraduate research initiatives, at merle.massie@usask.ca or to the Undergraduate Research Initiative at undergraduate.research@usask.ca.

4 Seasons of Reconciliation
The online Truth and Reconciliation anti-racism course “4 Seasons of Reconciliation” from Reconciliation Education and First Nations University of Canada is open and available to all Canadians (free until 31 December) through the generosity of the Royal Bank of Canada. All USask staff, faculty and students are welcome and encouraged to register, and to share this link with family, friends, and colleagues.

Register: here

Cross Disciplinary and Institutional Opportunities

Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies (ACUNS) Scholarship Opportunities
ACUNS call for proposals is now open. ACUNS offers nine different awards for studies and research related to the polar regions and especially Canada’s North including 2 new scholarships this year. They also offer a wide variety of funding opportunities including:

• Graduate student research that focuses on polar studies
• Undergraduate and graduate students residing in Canada’s North
• Studies in the physical sciences or the social sciences and humanities
• Research on caribou and their habitat, conservation, or management

Deadline for all funding opportunities is: 31 January 2022

USask JELF Special Call
The John R. Evans Leaders Fund (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.

USask’s JELF envelope has given us the opportunity to do a larger-scale internal special call in 2022. The selected proposal will clearly demonstrate benefit to the USask research community, contribute to either an existing or emerging core facility, and have secured the full amount of matching funding.

**USask Special Internal Call 2022 Guidelines**
- Proposed infrastructure will support cutting-edge research at an existing or emerging core facility with clear benefit to USask as a whole.
- Proposals can request up to $800,000 from the CFI, with a maximum total eligible cost of $2 million; preference will be given to those proposals with total eligible costs over $1 million.
- Core team (upto 3 applicants) must have continuing, full-time academic appointments.
- Requests by OVPR to Innovation Saskatchewan will not be part of this special call process. Rather, proposals have to demonstrate that all matching funding has been received by the university and/or provide letters of commitment from funding sources upon EOI submission.
- Unless otherwise specified in the special call guidelines, standard CFI JELF guidelines apply.

**Expressions of Interest (EOI) are required and must be submitted to RASI (cfi.support@usask.ca) by 15 January 2022.** The CFI Advisory Committee will review all EOIs and will take into consideration the priorities of the institution. Due to the targeted funds the USask envelope, only one EOI will be selected by the Advisory Committee and VP, OVPR, to submit a full application.

**Applicants will be notified of the decision by 20 January 2022.** The successful applicant will be allowed to submit to CFI either 15 June 2022 or 15 October 2022. Detailed timelines will follow, depending on which month is chosen to submit.

Please contact RASI at cfi.support@usask.ca for a form.

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**Institute of Indigenous Peoples’ Health Newsletter**

Please click [here](#) to see the 29 November 2021 issue of the CIHR Institute of Indigenous Peoples’ Health Research newsletter. Highlights of the newsletter include:

**Funding Opportunities:**
- Operating Grant: Indigenous COVID-19 Rapid Research Funding Opportunity
- 2022 Health System Impact Fellowship
- Webinar: Accessing and Using Healthy Cities Data

**Webinar: Accessing and Using Healthy Cities Data**
In collaboration with Statistics Canada, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), and the Canadian Urban Environmental Health Research Consortium (CANUE), the CIHR Healthy Cities Research Initiative (HCRI) is pleased to announce an upcoming webinar focused on healthy cities data holdings on **15 December 2021, 2-4pm ET**.

This webinar will cover how to access and use data related to a number of healthy cities research areas including housing, health indicators, air quality and greenness. The intent of this webinar is to highlight and encourage the use of previously funded cohort, administrative, and survey data in order to advance the objectives of the HCRI. This webinar is being held in anticipation of future funding opportunities focused on the use of healthy cities data, including the HCRI Data Analysis Using Existing Databases and Cohorts Operating Grant.

Please note: this webinar is being offered in order to build awareness of existing databases. Unless otherwise stated, applications using these datasets will not be given preference for funding of future HCRI funding opportunities.

While content will be presented in English, questions both in English and French are welcome. Registration is now open and attendees must register to participate.

**Register:** [here](#)

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**Massage Therapy Foundation’s 2022 Grant and Contest Cycle**

The Massage Therapy Foundation's 2022 grant and contest cycle is open for applications. If you are interested in applying, please see the opportunities [here](#).

**Application Deadlines:**
- **International Massage Therapy Conference Poster Session Abstract:** 14 January 2022
- **Research Support Grant (up to $30,000):** 01 February 2022
- **Research Grant Award (up to $300,000) Pre-proposal (LOI):** 01 March 2022
- **Community Service Grant:** 01 March 2022
- **Student Case Report Contest:** 01 June 2022

To learn more about the Massage Therapy Foundation and our grants and contests visit our website at [massagetherapyfoundation.org](http://massagetherapyfoundation.org).

If you have any questions, please contact Geri Anne Nelson, Program Manager, at [gnelson@massagetherapyfoundation.org](mailto:gnelson@massagetherapyfoundation.org).

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**CREATE 2023: Timeline for Participation**

The [NSERC Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE)](#) program supports the training and mentoring of teams of highly qualified students and postdoctoral fellows from Canada and abroad. The aim of the
program is to develop innovative training programs that foster professional skills and improve job readiness for careers in industry, government, non-governmental organizations, or the academy.

**Timeline for the 2023 Competition**

- **Statement of Interest submission** ([submit form](#)) — 24 January 2022
- **Optional Test Your Concept event** — Mid February
- **Mandatory Internal Review** — 23 March 2022
- **LOI deadline** — 2 May 2022

New participants to the CREATE grant can take the opportunity to participate in a “Test your Concept” panel in mid-February, where they can present their ideas in front of an expert panel of past CREATE recipients. NSERC has imposed a quota on USask for the number of LOIs that will be considered; because we have had more interested applicants than our quota allows, all new applications will require a mandatory internal review before submission.

Interested applicants should submit a statement of interest by 24 January 2022 to [rasi.support@usask.ca](mailto:rasi.support@usask.ca). Please use this same address for any questions you may have about the program or application process.

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**Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI): Traditional Knowledge as a Powerful Driver in Research (Annual Public Meeting—Free Online Event)**

In this virtual session, to help mark the CFI’s 25th anniversary celebrations, the speakers will bring their interdisciplinary perspectives on issues such as:

- Balancing land and humankind, traditions and evolution
- Caring for the environment and restoring our health
- Building a career from a young researcher’s standpoint.

Together, they will explore what our society and each individual can do to fully participate in a thriving Canada in the years to come.

CFI officials will also report on the activities of the CFI.

**Date:** Wednesday, 08 December 2021  
**Time:** 10-11am CST  
**Register:** [here](#)

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**Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences New Report**

The Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences has released a new report titled *Think Big: How the social sciences and humanities are building a better Canada*. The report is about how the vital contributions of the humanities and social sciences must be recognized and supported. The knowledge and skills gained through these disciplines will help drive Canada’s COVID recovery and contribute to a better future for people across the country and around the world. The whole report can be read [here](#).
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