OFFICE OF RESEARCH
NEWSLETTER

Royal Roads UNIVERSITY

Research Calls & Funding Opportunities	April 26, 2024

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Funding & Award Opportunities

Call for Applications:	Internet Society Foundation Research Grants

Proposal deadline: May 14, 2024

Value: **Up to $200,000 USD** (for independent researchers)
Duration: **Not specified**

The Internet Society Foundation's Research Program supports global research collaborations that advance understanding of the Internet and its value for all.

Program Objectives

- Promote novel methodologies that generate solutions to Internet-related challenges
- Identify and support a diverse and collaborative group of researchers and research institutions
- Facilitate access to intersectional research that can be applied to decision-making in government and industry

This program is intended for research that is applied and open, meaning the research seeks to answer a real-world question and should be openly published and made available to the scientific community at no cost. The Foundation supports research involving human or animal subjects when the project has been certified by a responsible body to be ethical and in compliance with local law. It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator of the project to obtain these certifications.

Areas of Focus

Statements of interest and subsequent proposals should address topics related to one of the following thematic areas:

Greening the Internet

The Internet both affects and is affected by the environment and climate change. Having a critical awareness of this impact is key to the Internet's resilience and ensures its sustainability for generations to come. This awareness may include an assessment of energy consumption by the Internet, or the toxins and waste generated by its use. It may consider the enabling effect the Internet has on other sectors to limit greenhouse gas emissions. It may examine the ways in which climate change and extreme weather threatens Internet infrastructure and limits connectivity. Research focusing on Greening the Internet should promote an awareness of these and other issues concerning the Internet's environmental footprint and the sustainability measures needed for it and the planet to thrive.

The Internet Economy

New and emerging Internet-based activities have the power to disrupt our economic landscapes and lead to unpredictable economic futures. Having a firm grasp of the interactions that create the Internet Economy has the potential to reshape this uncertainty. Unpacking how the Internet transforms traditional ideas about competition, production, and consumption of goods and services could be useful in allowing for equitable and gainful participation of everyone in a rapidly digitizing global economy. Research proposals focusing on the Internet Economy should present an analysis of past or present ecosystems that yields insight into the future of the Internet and its dependent market(s).

A Trustworthy Internet

The Internet is completely trustworthy if and only if it is completely resilient, reliable, accountable, and secure in a way that consistently meets users' expectations for information and services. The Internet is only worthy of trust when it conforms with what people expect will happen regardless of whether or not those expectations are reasonable. Further, trustworthiness is not a matter of only one layer in the network, and it is possible that some parts of the Internet are trustworthy while other parts are not. For example, while the application layer may be reliable or secure, there may be gaps in the logic or infrastructure, or there may be mistrust in the content. Research engaging the idea of A Trustworthy Internet should attempt to explain how the Internet does or does not meet user expectations and what should or shouldn't be done about it.

Decolonizing the Internet

We acknowledge that the Internet's development depended on industrial societies that, by their nature, used resources from lands dispossessed from Indigenous people and communities throughout the world. We acknowledge that the Internet can proliferate inequality and injustice, perhaps especially when its design is not inclusive nor its designers diverse. We acknowledge that the Internet can invalidate and make obsolete traditional forms of knowledge production and knowledge sharing and has the power to erase languages and cultures. But it also doesn't have to. Instead, the Internet can be a site of restorative, liberating, and transformational practices that bridge the past to a more just future or bring those at the margins closer to the center. Research on Decolonizing the Internet should explore these practices and other methods toward an Internet for everyone.

For more information: Visit the Internet Society Foundation Research Grant Program web page

Application deadlines: May 13 / 15, 2024

Value: Up to $25,000

Completion date for all projects: March 2025

The BC Council on Admissions and Transfer (BCCAT) is calling for proposals from BC Transfer System member institutions for the following 2024/2025 projects:

Policies and Practices of Course Syllabi Distribution

This study aims to assess the timing of syllabi distribution and its influence on student engagement and retention at BC Post-Secondary Institutions.

The objectives of the study include:

1. To review available literature on course syllabi and their influence on student registration behaviours, as well as student satisfaction and retention;
2. To review institutional policies on course syllabi distribution and content on institutional websites;
3. To assess institutional practices of syllabi distribution and the perceptions of institutional staff and students on the effectiveness of these practices; and
4. To provide recommendations and to identify areas for future research

Delivery Mode Preferences: An Overview of Students' Surveys and Institutional Responses

This study aims at creating a repository of institutional surveys in order to summarize key findings, and to provide a resource for institutions designing surveys in the future.

The objectives of the study include:

1. Conduct a multi-jurisdictional literature review on recent changes in instructional modes and student preferences of specific modalities;
2. Create a repository of surveys documents on student preferences for specific modalities and, if available, the aggregated results or reports of these surveys, identifying common themes where possible;
3. Assess whether/ how the findings of the surveys have been acted upon by the institutions; and
4. Identify areas for future research.

Exploring Interprovincial Student Mobility with Statistics Canada Data

This project is aimed at exploring PSIS and other Statistics Canada datasets to assess their usefulness in tracking inter-provincial mobility of BC students.

The objectives of the study include:

1. To assess availability of data on interprovincial mobility in Statistics Canada databases and the reliability of data in the relevant data fields;
2. To explore options of obtaining the data and to recommend the optimal mechanism;
3. To analyze the data obtained from Statistics Canada; and
4. Identify areas for future research.

Students' Affordability Considerations for Post-Secondary Access

This project explores how the affordability of post-secondary education is assessed and defined in different sectors and institutions.

Objectives

1. To define "affordability of education" in the BC post-secondary context via a post-pandemic environmental scan of BC regional price indices.
2. To conduct a BC review of institutional tuition and fee structures (i.e., mandatory student fees charged by the institution and by the student union), in addition to Canadian and US comparators.
3. To explore availability of data and information on students' perceptions of affordability of post-secondary education in student surveys conducted at and for BC Transfer System institutions.
4. To assess perceptions of institutional staff (e.g., admissions staff, advisors) and students across different post-secondary sectors, regions (including part-time/full-time, domestic/international, transfer/non-transfer learner subgroups).
5. To analyze perceptions of emergent and projected trends in affordability of post-secondary education and institutional measures to ensure access to post-secondary of diverse student groups.
6. To identify areas for further research.

For more information: Visit the BCCAT Call for Proposals web page

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Call for Applications: *SSHRC Institutional Grant (SIG) - Second Competition*

Application deadline: May 15, 2024 at 11:59 pm

Value: $5,000
Award term: June 15, 2024 to March 31, 2025   (No funds may be spent before the start date)

Attn: RRU Core Faculty members

This year we are able to offer a second call for the SSHRC Institutional Grant (SIG) Competition!
The SIG funding is made available through SSHRC's Institutional Grants competition. SSHRC provides these grants to help eligible Canadian postsecondary institutions fund, through their own merit review processes, small-scale research, and research-related activities. SIG funds are intended to help Canadian postsecondary institutions strengthen research excellence in the social sciences and humanities. The funds are complementary to, and in line with, SSHRC's three main pillars of activities (Talent, Insight and Connections).

Application deadline, guidelines and application form

The application deadline is 11:59 pm on May 15, 2024. **Late applications or applications not submitted through the Internal Awards inbox will not be accepted.**
The SIG competition guidelines and the application form are *available on the Research webpages here.*

Eligibility

All SSHRC eligible faculty (i.e., core faculty working in social science and humanities disciplines) can apply. While faculty members may normally hold only one SIG award from 2022 to 2025, for this special call 2022, and 2023 grant recipients will be eligible to apply. Preference will be given to early career scholars and those faculty for whom this is their first SIG application since 2022. If you currently have an active SIG grant, you will be eligible for this competition.

Submission details

Applications must consist of one (1) word or PDF document and be submitted to the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) via the Internal Awards mailbox.

If you applied for a previous call and were not successful, we encourage you to apply again.
If you have any questions, concerns, or need support, please contact the Internal Research Grants Coordinator.

Call for Applications: Research & Professional Development Pool (RPD) - Second Competition

Application deadline: May 15, 2024 at 11:59 pm

Value: Up to $4000
Award term: June 15, 2024 to March 31, 2025   (No funds may be spent before the start date)

Attn: Full-time RRU Faculty Association (RRUFA) Members

This year we are fortunate to be able to run a second call for RPD applications.

As per Section 31.5 (a, ii) of the Collective Agreement ,"The Research and Professional Development Pool is a consolidated account solely for the use of full-time Members for all expenses related to scholarly advancement, including travel expenses, attendance at conferences, and travel and related expenses for research activities."

Application deadline, guidelines and application form

The application deadline is 11:59 pm on May 15, 2024. **Late applications or applications not submitted through the Internal Awards inbox will not be accepted.**

The RPD guidelines and application form are available on the Research webpages here.

Eligibility

All full-time Royal Roads faculty Association (RRUFA) members including librarians.

Submission details

Applications must consist of one (1) word or PDF document and be submitted to the Research and Professional Development Panel via the Internal Awards mailbox.

If you currently hold one RPD grant: For this special second call, RPD grant holders will be able to hold a maximum of two RPD grants.

If you have any questions, concerns or need support, please contact the Internal Research Grants Coordinator.

Call for Proposals: Spencer Foundation – Large Research Grants on Education

Intent to Apply deadline: May 22, 2024
Full Proposal deadline: June 18, 2024

Value: From $125,000 to $500,000 USD
Duration: 1 to 5 years

The Large Research Grants on Education Program supports education research projects that will contribute to the improvement of education, broadly conceived, with budgets ranging from $125,000 up through $500,000 for projects ranging from one to five years. We accept applications twice a year.

This program is "field-initiated," meaning that proposal submissions are not in response to a specific request for a particular research topic, discipline, design, or method. Our goal for this program is to support rigorous, intellectually ambitious and technically sound research that is relevant to the most pressing questions and compelling opportunities in education. We seek to support scholarship that develops new foundational knowledge that may have a lasting impact on educational discourse.

We recognize that learning occurs across the life course as well as across settings— from the classroom to the workplace, to family and community contexts and even onto the playing field—any of which may, in the right circumstance, provide the basis for rewarding study that makes significant contributions to the field. We value work that fosters creative and open-minded scholarship, engages in deep inquiry, and examines robust questions related to education. To this end, this program supports proposals from multiple disciplinary and methodological perspectives, both domestically and internationally, from scholars at various stages in their career. We anticipate that proposals will span a wide range of topics and disciplines that innovatively investigate questions central to education, including for example education, anthropology, philosophy, psychology, sociology, law, economics, history, or neuroscience, amongst others.

Moreover, we expect and welcome methodological diversity in answering pressing questions; thus, we are open to projects that utilize a wide array of research methods including quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods, ethnographies, design-based research, participatory methods, historical research, to name a few. We are open to projects that might incorporate data from multiple and varied sources, span a sufficient length of time as to achieve a depth of understanding, or work closely with practitioners or community members over the life of the project. In addition, we welcome proposals submitted by multidisciplinary and multigenerational teams who are positioned to both contribute to the project as well as contribute to the teaching and learning of fellow team members.

Finally, we encourage teams to thoughtfully consider and describe plans regarding the trajectories of their project's findings, implications, and potential effects, especially how the knowledge may be shared and utilized across the field in practice, policy making, or with broader publics.

Eligibility

Proposals to the Research Grants on Education program must be for academic research projects that aim to study education. Proposals for activities other than research are not eligible (e.g., program evaluations, professional development, curriculum development, scholarships, capital projects). Additionally, proposals for research studies focused on areas other than education, are not eligible.

Principal Investigators (PIs) and Co-PIs applying for a Large Research Grant on Education must have an earned doctorate in an academic discipline or professional field, or appropriate experience in an education research-related profession. While graduate students may be part of the research team, they may not be named the PI or Co-PI on the proposal. **Proposals are accepted from the U.S. and internationally, however, all proposals must be submitted in English and budgets must be proposed in U.S. Dollars**.

For more information: Visit the Spencer Foundation Large Research Grants on Education webpage

Application deadline: June 4, 2024

Note: Faculty submitting an application for a GRI must send a [Notice of Intent form](#) to RRU Research Services.

Mitacs Globalink Research Internship (GRI) is now accepting faculty applications for Summer 2025. GRI pairs professors in Canada with international undergrads for 12-week research projects from May to October.
The Globalink program builds international networks and positions Canada as a top research and innovation destination for emerging talent around the world.

- All disciplines are eligible
- Top-ranked senior undergrads travel from around the world
- Faculty can submit multiple projects (and re-submit from previous years)

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for hosting interns as part of the Globalink Research Internship program, you must:

- Have one of the following statuses at an eligible institution: Full professor, Associate professor, Assistant professor, Adjunct professor, Emeritus professor
- Be able to supervise international students at your institution
- Be able to host interns within the stipulated dates of the GRI program: Internships must start between May 1 and July 31 and must be delivered over the course of 12 consecutive week.

For more information: [Visit the Mitacs Globalink Research Internship web page](#)

Call for Proposals: Chronic Pain Centre of Excellence for Canadian Veterans

Application deadlines: June 30, 2024

Funds available: $450,000 (approximately 3 proposals) per funding opportunity
Duration: 1 – 2 years

As the national leader in Veterans' chronic pain research, the Chronic Pain Centre of Excellence (CPCoE) funds research that improves the well-being of Veterans, and their families, living with chronic pain.
The CPCoE is currently calling for proposals for three distinct funding opportunities:

[Assessing and Improving Quality of Life of Canadian Veterans Living with Chronic Pain and Common Comorbidities](#)

Overall Objectives for this funding opportunity:

- Advance the understanding of how chronic pain and common comorbidities such as post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury impact the quality of life of Canadian Veteran and their family members.
- Evaluate the effects of clinical, system, social or other kinds of interventions targeted specifically at improving quality of life of Canadian Veterans living with chronic pain and their family members.
- Promote understanding of how families, support groups, peers, and others can contribute to improving of quality of life for Canadian Veterans living with chronic pain with/or without comorbid conditions.

[Health System and Policy Innovations for Canadian Veterans Living with Chronic Pain](#)

Overall Objectives for this funding opportunity:

- Comparatively analyze chronic pain health services for Canadian Veterans, and civilians, across health systems. This may include, but need not be limited to, comparisons of models and forms of care, issues of accessibility, care pathways, program costs, system-level variations, and considerations of variable policy trajectories.
- Improve the understanding of the relationships between primary care and interprofessional models of care for Veterans, and civilians, living with chronic pain. This may include, but need not be limited to, understanding the decision-making and communication processes across different levels of care, and consideration of the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of different models of care including interprofessional chronic pain care.

Understanding the Diverse Experiences of Canadian Veterans Living with Chronic Pain

Overall Objectives for this Opportunity

- Advance the understanding of the experiences of different population groups (i.e. Women, 2SLGBTQI+, Indigenous, Black and racialized Veterans, Veterans with disabilities) of Canadian Veterans as it relates to chronic pain, including accessing health services.
- Identify and analyze chronic pain diagnostic and treatment pathways for Canadian Veterans, with consideration as to how these may vary across populations (i.e. women, 2SLGBTQI+, Indigenous, Black and racialized Veterans, Veterans with disabilities), how these compare to best practices, and how these compare to civilians with chronic pain.
- Evaluate clinical, system, and/or policy interventions to improve access to chronic pain care and management for diverse Canadian Veterans living with chronic pain.

Research Types

All research types are eligible for these requests for proposals, including, but not limited to pilot clinical trials, observational studies, evidence syntheses, qualitative studies, policy analyses, etc.

For more information: Visit the CPCoE Funding Opportunities web page

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Call for proposals: SSHRC Partnership Engage Grants

Proposal deadline: May 22, 2024 (new deadline) and September 15, 2024

Value: **$7,000 to $25,000**
Duration: **1 year**

Partnership Engage Grants provide short-term and timely support for partnered research activities that will inform decision making at a single partner organization from the public, private or not-for-profit sector. The small-scale, stakeholder-driven partnerships supported through Partnership Engage Grants are meant to respond to immediate needs and time constraints facing organizations in non-academic sectors. In addressing an organization-specific need, challenge and/or opportunity, these partnerships let non-academic organizations and postsecondary researchers access each other's unique knowledge, expertise and capabilities on topics of mutual interest.

Partnership Engage Grants are expected to respond to the objectives of:

- the Insight program (to build knowledge; support new approaches to research; provide research training for students; fund research expertise that relates to societal challenges and opportunities; and mobilize research knowledge) and
- the Connection program (to share research knowledge; increase accessibility of research knowledge among all audiences; build reciprocal relationships among researchers; develop research networks and tools; and to make those networks and tools available to non-academic audiences.) However, Partnership Engage Grants cannot respond exclusively to the objectives of the Connection program.

SSHRC welcomes applications involving Indigenous research, as well as those involving research-creation.

See SSHRC's Partnerships Tool-Kit to assist in the planning and implementation of your partnership.

Types of partnerships

Following are some possible formal partnership approaches. Applicants are in no way limited to these approaches and are welcome to combine some of the features described below.

- **Cross-sector co-creation of knowledge and understanding:** Partnerships to foster innovative research, training and the co-creation of new knowledge on critical issues of intellectual, social, economic and cultural significance.
- **Partnered knowledge mobilization:** Partnerships designed to synthesize, apply and mobilize new and existing social sciences and humanities research knowledge in accessible ways to build institutional capacity and to increase the national and international impact and stature of Canadian research.

Partner organizations

Only one Canadian or international organization from the public, private or not-for-profit sector can be involved as a partner organization. Postsecondary institutions and scholarly associations are not eligible as partner organizations. Organizations collaborating with postsecondary institutions can be considered eligible as long as they are a separate

entity from the postsecondary institution (i.e., a stand-alone organization in the non-profit, private or public sector). The partner organization must be at arm's length (independent) from the academic institution and the applicant.

Future Challenge Areas

SSHRC invites all applicants to review [Imagining Canada's Future](#)'s 16 future global challenges and to consider addressing one or more of these areas in their research proposal. This is not an evaluation criterion for merit review and does not offer additional or dedicated research funds for this funding opportunity.

For more information: [Visit the SSHRC Partnership Engage Grants web page](#)

Call for Proposals: NSERC / National Science Foundation Global Centres — Bioeconomy

Application deadline: June 11, 2024

Value: **Up to $500,000 per year**
Duration: 4 to 5 years

The Government of Canada, through the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), is pleased to join a new edition of the US National Science Foundation (NSF)-led Global Centres initiative focused on the bioeconomy. Through the 2024 competition, Canada, along with other international partners, will support international, interdisciplinary collaborative research centres to foster cutting-edge breakthroughs in the bioeconomy. These centres will develop use-inspired research to address global challenges facing humanity in sectors of the global economy such as agriculture, health, security, manufacturing, energy, and the environment.

NSF Global Centres is a collaborative effort among the United States, Canada, Finland, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and the United Kingdom. Partner Agencies include NSERC, SSHRC, NSF and the National Endowment for the Humanities of the United States of America (NEH), the Research Council of Finland (RCF), the Innovation Funding Agency Business Finland (BF), the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF), the Ministry of Science and Information and Communication Technology of the Republic of Korea (MSIT), and the United Kingdom Research and Innovation's (UKRI) Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC).

NSERC and SSHRC would welcome the involvement of Indigenous Peoples, their uniquely valuable connection to Canada's ecology, and their incorporation of traditional Indigenous knowledge in research.

Overview

The world is facing some serious challenges, from climate change to food sustainability, water insecurity and mitigating infectious diseases, and advancements in biotechnology can provide the means to address some of these challenges. The Global Centres initiative provides an opportunity for international, interdisciplinary teams to use knowledge and research on the bioeconomy to address a global challenge facing humanity. The bioeconomy is expected to play a pivotal role in the pursuit of a net-zero economy. Research investments in this area can help accelerate scientific discovery and enable the harnessing, engineering and rational modulation of biological systems to create goods and services that contribute to the agriculture, health, security, manufacturing, energy and environmental sectors of the global economy. Bioeconomy is built on the foundation of biotechnology and biomanufacturing, and in addition to biological science and engineering, includes research in other fields, such as the social and behavioural sciences, humanities, ethics, geosciences and chemistry, which help determine what biotechnologies are needed.

Global Centres proposals should be focused on cutting-edge, interdisciplinary and use-inspired research on the bioeconomy with international collaborations that foster breakthroughs in knowledge. This initiative supports researchers from Canada and the US, and optionally from Finland, Japan, Republic of Korea and/or the UK, in forming collaborative research partnerships to address themes related to the bioeconomy (see Research topics). NSF Global

Centres grants will support the creation of international hubs of research excellence that advance knowledge, empower communities, and generate discovery and innovative solutions at a regional and/or global scale. These international hubs are expected to be driven by a bold vision for high-impact, use-inspired research, as well as a strategy to integrate diverse perspectives from different disciplines, international partners and other stakeholders into the research over the course of the project.

Through a lead agency model, the US Principal Investigator (PI) will submit a single collaborative proposal on behalf of the research team, which will undergo a review process by NSF, the lead agency. In parallel, the participating Canadian researchers on the team must submit one simplified application to NSERC.
Please refer to the [Apply section](#) for more details.

This initiative recognizes the need to bring together the social and behavioural sciences and humanities (SSH), alongside the natural sciences and engineering (NSE) fields, to make important contributions to the bioeconomy and its impact on society. As such, *it is strongly encouraged that proposals include both an NSE and an SSH component*.

Objectives

- Create physical or virtual international research centres that advance innovative, interdisciplinary, use-inspired research and education on the bioeconomy to address societal challenges through international collaboration and multi-stakeholder engagement.
- Promote international collaboration to obtain advantages of scope, scale, flexibility, expertise, facilities and/or access to specific geographic locations to enable advances that could not occur otherwise.
- Expand opportunities for students and early career researchers to gain education and training in world-class research while enhancing diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility. Where possible, provide opportunities for workforce training in bioeconomy that does not require advanced degrees but the training of a competitive workforce.
- Integrate stakeholders and community members into the planning of the research so that centres reflect a co-designed and co-developed work plan that results in the co-generation of results likely to be taken up by relevant groups to solve urgent societal challenges at a regional or global scale to support the communities that they serve.

Research Topics

Canadian researchers may suggest research topics that include the full range of disciplinary, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches that address the bioeconomy. Please refer to the [NSF website](#) for the full description of topics accepted by the NSF and other partner funding agencies. All proposals must integrate the two crosscutting themes into the proposed work.

- Topic 1: Leveraging Biodiversity Across the Tree of Life to Power the Bioeconomy
- Topic 2: Biofoundries, also called the Design-Build-Test-Learn process
- Crosscutting Theme A: Public engagement and co-generation of research activities to strengthen the global science and technology enterprise
- Crosscutting Theme B: Workforce Development and Education

Who can apply?

A team of Canadian researchers with at least one academic applicant in Canada who is eligible to receive funding from NSERC or SSHRC. Specifically, Canadian university researchers—whether they come from the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences or engineering fields—wishing to participate as collaborators in an NSF Global Centre proposal may apply for funding from NSERC to support their participation. As an applicant to this initiative, you must collaborate with at least one US-based researcher who meets the NSF eligibility requirements; the US researcher will be the PI on the NSF Global Centre proposal.

For more information: [Visit the National Science Foundation Global Centres / NSERC Call for Proposals web page](#)

Call for proposals: SSHRC Connection Grants

Application deadline: June 20, 2024 (new deadline) and November 1, 2024

Value: **Events: $7,000 to $25,000**
                  Outreach activities: $7,000 to $50,000

Duration: 1 year

Connection Grants support events and outreach activities geared toward short-term, targeted [knowledge mobilization](#) initiatives. These events and activities represent opportunities to exchange knowledge and to engage with participants on research issues of value to them. Events and outreach activities funded by a Connection Grant can often serve as a first step toward more comprehensive and longer-term projects. Connection Grants are expected to respond to the objectives of the [Connection program](#).

Connection Grants support workshops, colloquiums, conferences, forums, summer institutes, or other events or outreach activities that facilitate:

- disciplinary and/or interdisciplinary exchanges in the social sciences and humanities;
- scholarly exchanges between those working in the social sciences and humanities and those working in other research fields;
- intersectoral exchanges between academic researchers in the social sciences and humanities and researchers and practitioners from the public, private and/or not-for-profit sectors; and/or
- international research collaboration and scholarly exchanges with researchers, students and non-academic partners from other countries.

Proposed events and outreach activities

- All activities must take place within 12 months of the start date indicated on the notice of award (see decision dates in the [funding cycle schedule](#)).
- Proposed events and outreach activities must produce timely and concrete deliverables, such as conference proceedings or other knowledge products developed for traditional formats and/or employing digital and/or multimedia formats (unless specifically intended to create new, longer-term linkages or to initiate collaboration).
- Proposed events and outreach activities can be one-time encounters or catalysts designed to lead to longer-term partnerships and/or sustained programs of scholarly research.

SSHRC welcomes applications involving [Indigenous research](#), as well as those involving [research-creation](#). To this regard, for Connection Grants support **events and outreach activities** related to research-creation and Indigenous research.

Research Data Management Capacity Building Initiative

Through this initiative, SSHRC will fund at least 10 meritorious Connection Grant proposals per competition to support the social sciences and humanities research community develop and adopt research data management standards, tools and skills. Learn more about the [Research Data Management Capacity Building Initiative](#). Candidates must indicate that they wish to be considered for an initiative, and explain why, in their application form.

For more information: [Visit the SSHRC Connection Grants web page](#)

Proposal deadline: December 12, 2024

Value: **To be announced**
Duration: **To be announced** (Knowledge Synthesis Grants are usually 1 year in duration)

SSHRC will be announcing a new Knowledge Synthesis Grant for December 2024. While the details have yet to be made available, you can read about the challenge to be addressed here and below.

Envisioning Governance Systems that Work

Existing forms of governance at the local, national and international levels are facing problems they were not designed to solve. There is a need to explore more effective, efficient and networked governance structures and processes at all levels.

Summary

A growing number of wicked problems (such as climate change, pandemics, growing inequality, and dislocation in the transition to a global digital economy) threaten our security and prosperity, and require cooperation at every level of government to solve. Patching up old systems may not suffice. To solve these problems, we may need to explore new models for citizen engagement, policy development and service delivery that transcend traditional notions of sovereignty, borders and citizenship.

What is changing?

Democracy under threat. Those "left behind" economically and politically are turning to alternative narratives and ideologies that may erode democratic norms and values.

Digitization of citizenship and government. Digital technologies could transform the role of government. X-Road is the backbone of e-Estonia. It provides an ecosystem of digital government services (including healthcare services) to its citizens, residents, and transnational e-residents. And Bitnation is a virtual nation that provides state-like services to its e-residents. It has been widely used since 2015 to help refugees access essential services and aid.

Non-state actors are gaining influence. Global corporations such as Facebook, SpaceX, and Google are working on connecting the next billion people to the internet; the Gates Foundation is providing healthcare services; and BlackRock is calling for increased social responsibility by corporations, all of which strengthen the importance and power these non-state actors now have. NGOs like Greenpeace and Worldwatch Institute have become global environmental monitoring bodies, and individuals like Jody Williams of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines can use digital networks to change international policies.

Nation state powers in question. The growing digital economy is threatening states' ability to "grow the economy" and control new trade flows. The emergence of crypto currencies that are outside the control of central banks is undermining the policy levers of states. New technologies put powerful weapons in the hands of non-state actors, and can undermine the state's abilities to enforce its powers of coercion.

Why is this significant in 10-15 years?

Governance needed to solve wicked problems. The entire governance spectrum, from local to global, is focused on short-term interests. Much of the system is in stalemate, and unable to invent the new programs, strategies and visions that address emerging problems. Issues such as environmental sustainability, pandemics, crime, and terrorism transcend borders. To solve a growing number of transnational problems, governments at all levels may need to explore new ways to collaborate. In some areas, they may need to cede sovereignty (upwards or downward) to create

effective hierarchical governance, or invent new non-hierarchical, network structures to put resources and services in the right place at the right time.

Technology enables customized governance. Emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, data analytics, sensors and telepresence, are transforming government structures and processes. Policy development, service delivery, and citizen engagement could be customized to the individual. New types of collaboration across levels of government are possible. For instance, governments and other actors could work together to provide some aspects of health care, such as AI-enabled diagnostics, as platform-based global services, as a global public good to all people at very low cost.

Fluid citizenship could drive transformation. In a world where people perform virtual "gig" work across the planet, their loyalties could be split across a broad spectrum of countries and entities, based on where they are from, where they currently live, where they work, and from whom they receive their physical and digital services.

Defending and reinventing democracy. Western democracies face a variety of threats, from fake news to ideological stalemate, that hinder their ability to solve emerging problems. The apparent success of several anocracies (i.e. countries with certain democratic features, in which autocratic elites use big data to understand citizen sentiments and provide the goods and services their citizens want), could undermine support for democratic processes, and become the aspirational model of governance for disgruntled people in the west and in emerging economies – or entirely new models of governance could emerge.

Potential collapse of the current liberal international order. Three recent reports suggest that the multilateral institutions, as well as international rules-based trading systems built in the industrial/colonial era, could unravel. This could create pressure to reinvent the institutions, processes and services to address the issues of the mid-21st century. The current policy framework built on U.S. and Western economic dominance may need re-thinking, partly to reflect growing economic power in Asia. The new system may be more of a distributed network than a hierarchy, and involve actors from local to global, in an effort to mobilize their expertise, resources and buy-in.

More information on this call will be made as it becomes available.

See all upcoming SSHRC deadlines here, and the integrated calendar of agency and interagency funding opportunities here.

Questions about your author rights, publishing, or promoting your research?
Contact Cassandra Larose, Scholarly Communications Librarian, at 250-391-2600, ext. 4324.

Questions about your data management plan?
Contact Amber Gallant, Data Services Librarian, at 250-391-2600, ext. 4433.

If you are interested in any of the above funding opportunities:
Please contact the Office of Research Services and we will assist you in the development of your proposal.
Please note that the principal investigator for any grant application submitted through Royal Roads University must be a core faculty member at RRU.

Spotlight

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Research: EDI 101 Resources:
EDI General Terminology, Concepts and Rationale

Here are some resources to help in a pinch when you need a little clarification of terms and concepts. The last resource serves as a good reminder and summary of the benefits of incorporating EDI practices into projects and organisations.

- [Guide on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Terminology](). (2023). Government of Canada.

- [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion 101](). (n.d.). University of Colorado Denver.

- [Glossary of IDEA Terms: A reference tool for inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility terminology](). (2023). Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion.

- [Making the case for diversity, equity, and inclusion: Toolkit for developing an imperative for DEI that goes beyond ROI](). (2022). Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion (CCDI).

Research Security Resources

Several Canadian universities recently travelled to Texas to participate in [ASCE 2024](). The conference provided an opportunity for research security practitioners to meet one another and engage with government and private sector stakeholders (including OSINT tool providers).

Here are some resources that were shared out of that meeting:

- [Announcement from the U.S. National Science Foundation about research security training modules]()
- The [individual modules for the research security training are available here](), with download files for integration into your organization's learning management systems.
  More information about [Research Security at NSF]() can be found at [nsf.gov]().

UBC has launched or updated a few new pages to help support researchers navigate recent announcements and to provide more information. Here are a few links for your consideration:

- [Federal Policies for Research Funding]()
- [Tri-Agency Funding – CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC - guidance on research security]()
- [Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) Funding - guidance on research security]()
- Updated: [Collaborations + Partnerships and research security]()

NSERC and SSHRC implementing multi-factor authentication on the Convergence Portal

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) are implementing [Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)]() in the Convergence Portal, as mandated by Government of Canada security policies. MFA has been an optional feature since January 2024, but as of **May 2, 2024**, it will become a **mandatory** login requirement for Convergence Portal users.

What is Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)?

Multi-Factor Authentication is a tactic that requires additional verification to access your devices and accounts, adding a supplementary layer of online security.

Why?

MFA is being implemented to comply with Government of Canada security policies, as well as the Convergence terms and conditions.

How will this impact me?

- If you chose not to opt in during the optional period, you will be required to provide additional authentication to sign into your Convergence Portal account on May 2, 2024.
- You will have the option to select your preferred method of authentication (email, text message or through an authenticator app).

What if I have questions or need assistance?

- For technical inquiries or assistance, please visit the *Have questions?* page within the Convergence Portal.
- You may also contact Web Support:

  Local: 613-995-4273
  Toll Free: 1-855-275-2861
  Email web support

Questions about anything in the Research e-bulletin?   Contact the **Office of Research Services**