



Michael Smith
**Health
Research BC**

2024 Scholar & 2024 Health Professional-Investigator Competitions

University of British Columbia – Okanagan

Andrew Biagtan & Shannon Wagener

October 20, 2023



2024 FUNDING PROGRAMS



Michael Smith
**Health
Research BC**

**HEALTH
PROFESSIONAL-INVESTIGATOR**

OCTOBER 2023

**CONVENING &
COLLABORATING (C²)**

APRIL 2024

SCHOLAR
OCTOBER 2023

RESEARCH TRAINEE
NOVEMBER 2023

REACH
APRIL 2024

Agenda

- 2024 Scholar & 2024 HP-I competitions
 - Overview of the programs
 - Partnership opportunities
 - Application and review process
- 2024 Research Trainee competition
- Preview of the 2024 Convening & Collaborating and Reach competitions
- Application tips
- Highlight: current UBC-Okanagan award holders

2024 Scholar & 2024 Health Professional-Investigator competitions

SCHOLAR PROGRAM



An early career researcher within 6 years of their first appointment

A Scholar award provides:



\$90,000 per year for up to 5 years



75% of time protected for research

Scholar awards enable researchers to:



Start + develop new programs of research in BC



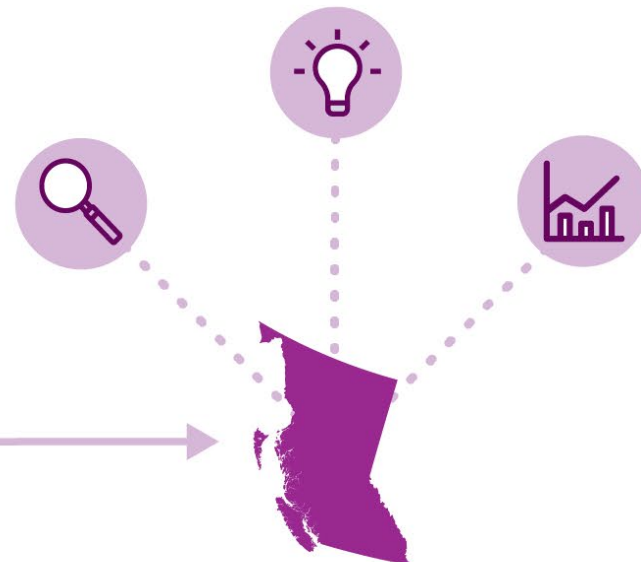
Attract additional funding



Train new researchers + hire full-time staff



Create knowledge to inform practice, policy + further research



Benefits to BC:

- Develops BC talent
- Generates new discoveries + evidence to improve health care
- Builds health research capacity

Eligibility requirements

Eligibility Requirements

Must have a **PhD** or equivalent.

Commit to a minimum of **75 percent time** conducting research.

Currently hold an **appointment** or have a commitment of an appointment to begin by the award start date of **July 1, 2024** at a BC institution that holds a memorandum of understanding with Health Research BC as a host institution.

Be **within six years from the start of their first university appointment** (at an assistant professor level, or equivalent) **OR be within six years of obtaining a PhD** as of the award start date, **July 1, 2024**, whichever comes last

Research must display clear link to human health research

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL-INVESTIGATOR (HP-I) PROGRAM



A health professional looking to conduct and apply relevant research

An HP-I award provides:



Up to \$90,000 per year for five years



50% of time protected for research

HP-I awards enable researchers to:



Dedicate time to research while continuing clinical practice



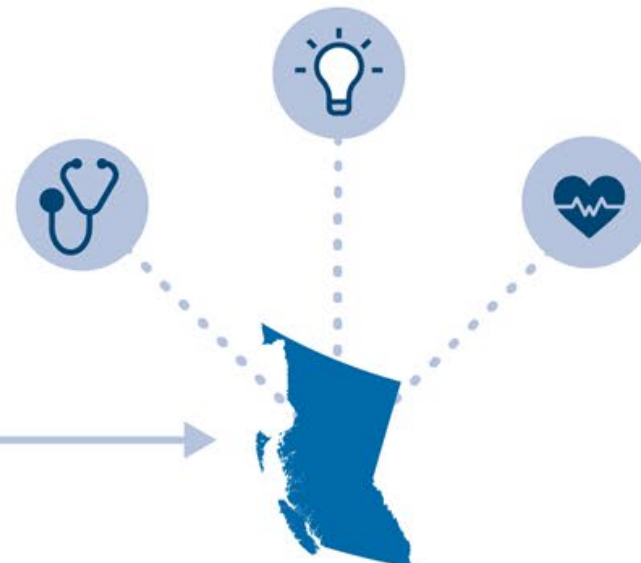
Link their practical knowledge with important research questions



Advance their research careers



Create knowledge to inform practice, policy + further research



Benefits to BC:

- Builds health research capacity
- Connects evidence + patient care
- Improves patient outcomes

Eligibility requirements

Eligibility Requirements

Hold a **valid license to practice in BC** and be a member in good standing of the **appropriate regulatory college** **OR** be a **board-certified/board-eligible health professional** and a member in good standing of the appropriate provincial/national certification body ([BC Health Regulators](#)).

For allied health professionals, must have a **bachelor's degree** or higher; for physicians, must have a **medical doctorate** or equivalent.

Be a clinician, health practitioner, and/or health care provider whose role requires **clinical decision-making**.

Commit to a minimum of **50 percent time** conducting research (min. 20 hours/week).

Currently hold an **appointment** or have a commitment of an appointment to begin by the award start date of **July 1, 2024** at a BC institution that holds a memorandum of understanding with Health Research BC as a host institution.

Is Scholar or HP-I right for you?



Changes for 2024 Scholar and 2024 HP-I competitions

- Alignment of Scholar and HP-I competition timelines
- Covid-19 impacts are now incorporated into the Career Timeline section
- Space to detail your Pathway to Impact (Knowledge Translation) and engagement of research users, including people with lived/living experience
- New for HP-I:
 - Dedicated space to describe how you will meaningfully and appropriately account for EDI
 - Reference letters are no longer accepted

Partnership opportunities

Partnership opportunities

Health Research BC partners with leading organizations to grow BC's health research talent.



Process:

Applicants interested in being funded through a partnered award are encouraged to **Complete the Potential Co-Funding Partners tab in their Full Application in ApplyNet.**

Additional partners will sometimes come on board during or after the full application phase and are therefore listed only on our website. If you'd like to be considered for an award co-funded by any of these additional partners, please let us know by emailing partnerships@healthresearchbc.ca.

*Health Research BC uses the details captured in your full application and **keywords** provided by partners to identify applications that may be relevant to and align with partners' area of interest.*

2023 Scholar & 2022 HP-I Co-Funding Partners



More information about partners interested in co-funding the 2024 competition will be available in the full application form and at <https://healthresearchbc.ca/funding/partnered-awards/>.

Mitacs Accelerate partnership

- Optional expedited application process for Mitacs Accelerate funding for Scholar and HP-I applicants.
- Mitacs Accelerate funding supports experiential training internships for Master's, PhD students, and post-doctoral fellows who are supporting your research.
- Applicants indicate interest at letter of intent.
- Separate application form outside of ApplyNet system. Form to be uploaded to Full Application.
- Contact a Mitacs [business development representative](#) for more information and to obtain an Accelerate Proposal application.



Application and review process

Evaluation criteria

Criterion	Weighting
Applicant expertise and experience	30%
Research program	50%
Environment and support	20%

Applicant Expertise and Experience

- Career timeline
- Most significant contributions
- Health Research BC Full CCV
- Publication list

Research Program

- Research program upload
- Response to previous reviews (if applicable)
- Pathway to impact/KT
- EDI considerations

Environment and Support

- Research support statement
- Budget statement
- Department Head and/or Dean Forms in which reviewers look for clear commitment and support by applicant's host institution.
- Letter(s) of collaboration (optional)

Peer review

Scholar:

Separate peer review pools for junior faculty:

- Within **three years** of first appointment
- Between **4-6 years** from first appointment

Health Professional-Investigator:

Separate peer review pools for:

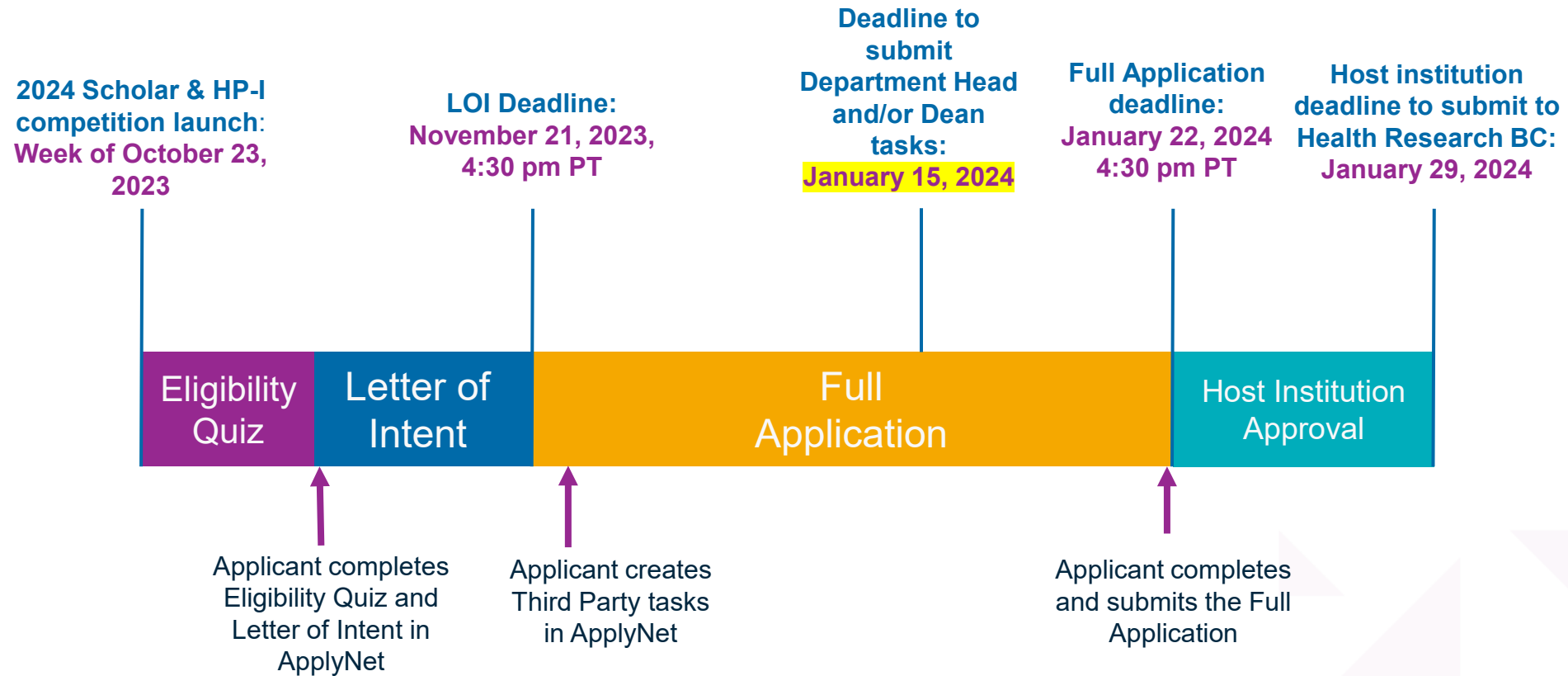
- **Physician** applicants
- **Allied Health** applicants

Both programs:

Peer review panels by theme

Biomedical | Clinical | Health Services | Population Health

Scholar and HP-I application process flow



* **Third Parties:** Department Head and/or Dean

2024 Research Trainee competition

RESEARCH TRAINEE PROGRAM



A post-doctoral health researcher or health professional eligible for a fellowship

A Trainee award provides:



\$60,000 per year for up to 3 years



Up to 75% of time protected for research

Research Trainee awards enable researchers to:



Increase research productivity



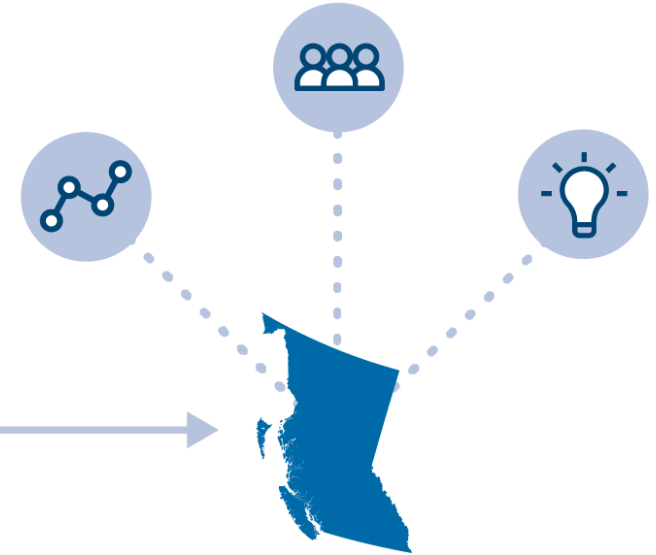
Launch successful careers in research, biotech, health policy, and more



Attract additional funding



Create knowledge to inform practice, policy + further research



Benefits to BC:

- Develops BC talent
- Supports the knowledge economy
- Builds health research capacity

Eligibility requirements

- Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and foreign nationals are eligible.
- Hold a **PhD OR** be a **health professional (HP) in active clinical service**.
- Hold a **Postdoctoral fellowship or equivalent** at a BC university or research institution by the award start date, and for the duration of the award.
- Project in 1 of 4 research themes (Biomedical, Clinical, Health Services Research, Population Health), with clear link to human health.
- < 6 years from completion of PhD degree as of the award start date (September 1) (<11 years for HP).
- 75% protected research time committed by supervisor (50% for HP).

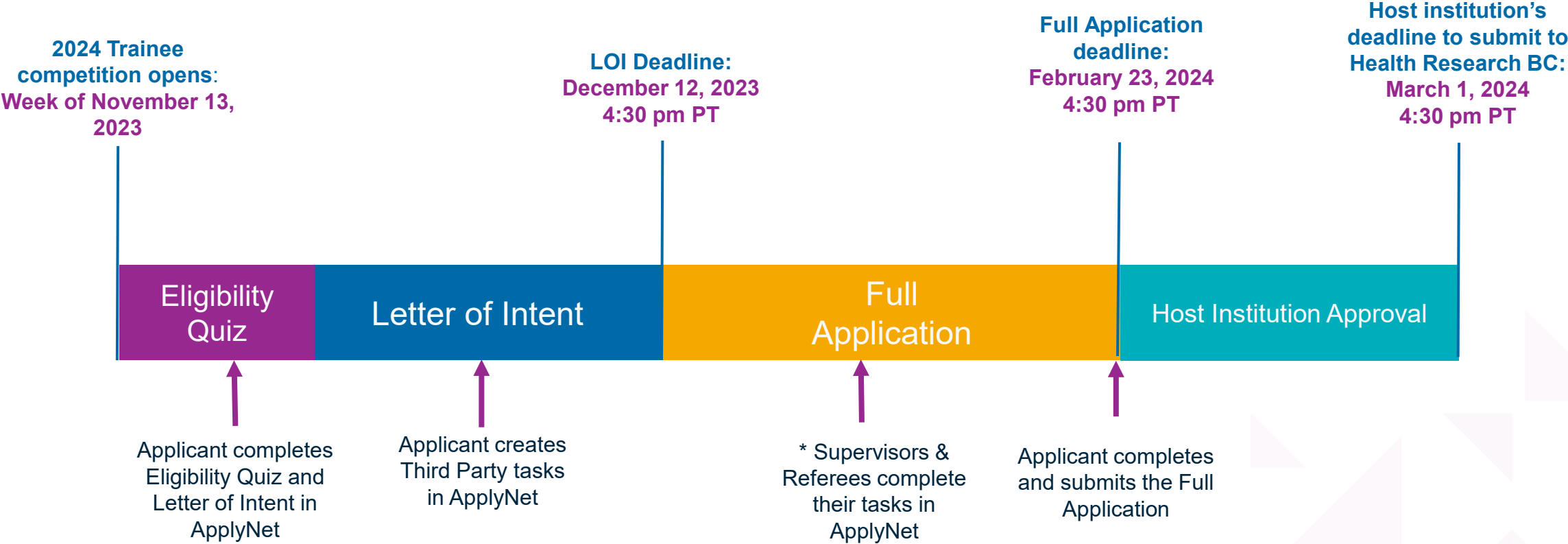
Supervisor(s)

An applicant can have **up to two** supervisors. The primary supervisor must have an academic appointment (assistant, associate, or full professor) with a BC institution that holds a memorandum of understanding with Health Research BC. Applicants may also have a co-supervisor who is an independent researcher with expertise related to the proposed research area. The co-supervisor may be located outside of BC.

The primary supervisor agrees to:

- Supervise the applicant's research and provide the resources that are necessary for the successful completion of the research project including any KT activities.
- Administer the research and travel allowance of the award recipient.
- Respect the obligations described in the Health Research BC Research Trainee competition guidelines and conditions of award.

Research Trainee application process flow



* **Third Parties:** Supervisor (and optional Co-Supervisor), at least 2 (max 3) referees

Preview* of the 2024 Convening & Collaborating (C²) & Reach competitions

**2024 competition details may be subject to change; guidelines will be posted in Spring 2024*

Knowledge translation programs: Convening & Collaborating (C²) & Reach



Convening and Collaborating (C²) Program

Support the co-development of research activities

Reach Program

Support the dissemination of health research outputs

C² and Reach are KT awards providing \$15,000 for a maximum of 18 months for research and research user teams

Convening & Collaborating (C²) & Reach



C²

Reach



<p>Purpose</p>	<p>To foster collaboration and co-development of research by researchers and research users throughout the research cycle</p>	<p>To facilitate the co-development of tools, activities, and events to disseminate research evidence at the end of research cycle</p>
<p>Award Amount & Duration</p>	<p>Up to \$15,000 for 18* months (*All activities must be planned to occur within the first 12 months of the award)</p>	
<p>Minimum Team Composition</p>	<p>Researcher Co-Lead + Research User Co-Lead + Trainee (can be a research user co-lead)</p>	
<p>Other eligibility requirements</p>	<p>* Must be based at an eligible BC host institution * Award funds must be used in BC</p>	
<p>Competition Dates</p>	<p>Competition Launch: Spring 2024 More details TBD</p>	

Application tips

Tips for developing your application

- Seek support from your organization's **grant facilitation office** for development, editing, and revision of your application.
- Have your application critically reviewed by **colleagues**.
- Review the competition's **evaluation criteria** and make sure they are addressed in your application.
- Pay attention to **grantsmanship** — cohesive flow of information allows reviewers to read the application without having to flip back and forth between pages.
- If an optional question doesn't apply to you, you **do not need** to fill it out.
- Format the program of research to be easy to read. Use **headings** to show a logical progression and break up the text into **paragraphs**. Don't be afraid of white space.

Tips for developing your application

- Reviewers do not have the time to look up information on your behalf — if it is important, **make it explicit** in the application.
- If you have **pilot data**, mention it.
- You will have 8 additional pages for your appendices, which may include references, tables, charts, figures, and photographs. However, if the data is important to your research proposal, please include it within the **Research Program document**.
- If you were not able to capture important information about your activities and contributions in the CCV, you can add it to the **Most Significant Contributions** section.
- **Reach out to your Department Head** very early in the process to discuss your appointment and the resources and support available to you.

Current UBC-Okanagan award holders

UBC-Okanagan: Active award holders - Scholar

Award Holder	Project Title
Shelly Ben-David	Understanding service use decision-making and improving engagement among youth and young adults with mental health disorders
Thu Dang	Plant based anticancer drugs - from discovery to final products
Jennifer Davis	Adding Quality Years to Later Life via Innovative Health Economics Research Methods
Katrina Plamondon	Advancing Health Equity Action
Isaac Li	Molecular Tools for Monitoring and Controlling the Mechanobiology of Diseases
Sana Shahram	Systems Transformation for Health Equity: The PHAIRNESS Research Program
Sarah Dow-Fleisner	The ADAPT Project: Adaptation, Development, and Positive Trajectories in the context of childhood adversity
Sarah Kraeutner	Examining motor imagery-related brain function in health and after stroke to leverage its prescription
Jessica Lougheed	Supporting Mental Health in Adolescents and their Parents: Using Developmental Science to Refine and Promote the Uptake of a Local Community Intervention
Kirk Bergstrom	Mucus-directed therapeutics to prevent and treat chronic microbiota-dependent diseases of the gut
Elizabeth Keys	The SLeep solUtions to proMote Better Early childhood Relationships (SLUMBER) Program: Helping families optimize infant mental health by supporting sleep health in early childhood.
Laura Struik	Innovating health promotion efforts in response to youth tobacco use.
Rebecca Feldman	Evaluating microstructural changes in multiple sclerosis with magnetic resonance imaging

UBC-Okanagan: Active award holders – Research Trainee

Award Holder	Project Title
Femke Hoekstra	Understanding counsellor-client interactions in spinal cord injury exercise counselling: a novel method to explain outcomes of randomized controlled trials by assessing intervention fidelity
Hashim Islam	Anti-inflammatory cytokine function in individuals with type 2 diabetes: impact of hyperglycemia and the restorative effects of exercise
Jessica Bourne	Let's Ride! Supporting individuals at risk of type 2 diabetes who self-identify as an ethnic minority in a community-based diabetes prevention program using electrically assisted bicycles
Travis Gibbons	The effect of temperature on brain bioenergetic stress in hypoxia
Matteo Ponzano	Impact of a combined exercise and counselling intervention on mental health in people with spinal cord injury who live with chronic pain: A psychobiological approach
Tineke Dineen	Scaling-up a community-based diabetes prevention program: A longitudinal matrixed multiple case study to examine implementation context.
Sze Lok Fan	Improving access to breastfeeding support in British Columbia: needs assessment of a virtual health intervention
Alexandra Kent	Advancing Anti-Colonial Implementation Science and Knowledge Translation with the xacqanal itkinil (Many Ways of Working on the Same Thing) Research Team
Seongho Kim	Harnessing NK cell mechanics for fine-tuning cancer immunotherapy
Julianne Barry	Can Blending Western and Traditional Knowledge Improve Diabetes and Obesity Health in Urban Indigenous Communities?

UBC-Okanagan: Active award holders – C2, Reach, IST, I2C

Program	Primary Applicant / PI	Project Title
Convening and Collaborating	Kathy Rush	Enhancing Patient Self Care and Management of Atrial Fibrillation within Primary Care
	Heather Gainforth	A Partnership Approach to Co-Developing a Smoking Cessation Intervention for Persons with Spinal Cord Injury
	Marie Tarrant	Improving access to breastfeeding support in interior British Columbia: A collaborative planning project
Implementation Science Team	Lise Olsen	Implementing Physical Activity Programs in Communities for Children with Neuro-disabilities
Innovation to Commercialization	Deanna Gibson	Novel bioengineered probiotics increase colonization and persistence in the gut enhancing bioavailability and their therapeutic potential for inflammatory bowel disease
Reach	Jonathan Little	Remission Possible: A knowledge translation project to inform British Columbians with type 2 diabetes that remission is possible

Key application dates

Competition stage	Dates Scholar & HP-I	Dates Research Trainee	Dates C ² and Reach
Letter of Intent deadline	November 21, 2023 4:30 pm PT	December 12, 2023 4:30 pm PT	Coming spring 2024
Full Application deadline	January 22, 2024 4:30 pm PT	February 23, 2024 4:30 pm PT	
Peer review	March-May 2024	April-June 2024	
Award start date	July 1, 2024	September 1, 2024	

Contact us

- **Scholar Program**
 - Andrew Biagtan – abiagtan@healthresearchbc.ca
- **Health Professional-Investigator Program**
 - Shannon Wagener – swagener@healthresearchbc.ca
- **Research Trainee Program**
 - Asta Jureliaviciute – ajureliaviciute@healthresearchbc.ca
- **Convening and Collaborating (C²) Program**
 - C2@healthresearchbc.ca
- **Reach Program**
 - reach@healthresearchbc.ca



Questions??

Thank you!

