

# RESEARCH BULLETIN

June 24, 2020

For more information on any of the Research Bulletin items, please contact [research@msvu.ca](mailto:research@msvu.ca)

## UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS AND WEBINARS

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### **[NEW]** Research Ethics Open Office Dates for July 2020

We will be continuing our Ethics Open Office in July. Feel free to join in the group sessions, ask questions on research ethics, the process, the application, modifications, etc.

- July 8<sup>th</sup> 11am to Noon
- July 15<sup>th</sup> 11am to Noon
- July 22<sup>nd</sup> 11am to Noon
- July 29<sup>th</sup> 11am to Noon

To join a session, click [Join Skype Meeting](#)

To schedule a one-on-one ethics consultation, please email [ethics@msvu.ca](mailto:ethics@msvu.ca)

### **[NEW]** Reducing Risk: An Introduction to Survey Data Anonymization

Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020

Time: 1pm - 2pm EDT

[Register for this webinar](#)

This webinar is intended to provide an accessible and practical introduction to the theory and concepts behind data anonymization, looking specifically at anonymization of survey microdata. Topics covered will include an overview of identifiers and quasi-identifiers, an introduction to k-anonymity, a look at some cases where k-anonymity breaks down, and anonymization hierarchies. The presenter will describe a method to assess a survey dataset for anonymization using standard statistical software. Much of the academic material looking at data anonymization is quite abstract and aimed at computer scientists, while material aimed at data curators does not always consider recent developments. This webinar is intended to help bridge the gap.

This webinar will be presented by Kristi Thompson (Western University).

### **[NEW]** 2020 Project Grants Competitions

CIHR is offering [Ask Me Anything](#) sessions on the 2020 Project Grants Competitions. We invite you to send your questions in advance using the “Ask questions” link below.

**Thursday, June 25: 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. ET**

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

[Ask questions](#) in advance: code pjt-ama-june25

Language: Presentation, questions and answers in English and French

**Monday, June 29: 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. ET (French)**

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

[Ask questions](#) in advance: code pjt-ama-29juin

Language: Presentation, questions and answers in French

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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### **[NEW]** 2020-2021 Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships (PDF) Program and Competition

**The 2020-2021 Banting PDF competition has been launched!** Please click [here](#) to access the launch memo, and visit [www.banting.fellowships-bourses.gc.ca](http://www.banting.fellowships-bourses.gc.ca) for further details.

**The 2020-2021 Banting application is now available on ResearchNet!** Please click [here](#) to access the new funding opportunity.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact [banting@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:banting@cihr-irsc.gc.ca).

### Special Initiative PEG COVID-19

The PEG COVID-19 Special Initiative provides short-term and timely support for small-scale, stakeholder-driven partnerships through Partnership Engage Grants (PEG). This Special Initiative will allow researchers and their partners the possibility to address urgent and specific needs, as well as challenges or opportunities through collaborations. It will also provide a unique opportunity to foster knowledge exchange between postsecondary researchers and different sectors of society while including students, PhDs, PDFs and other HQPs on the COVID-19 crisis related issues, challenges and impacts.

**The next application deadline is September 15.** Further details, including application information, are available on SSHRC's website at the following link: <https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programmes-programmes/peg-sep-covid-19-eng.aspx>

### Nova Scotia Business Inc.: Productivity and Innovation Voucher Program

Nova Scotia Business Inc. will be accepting applications to the Productivity and Innovation Voucher Program starting **April 1<sup>st</sup> until mid-October**. The purpose of this program is to allow Nova Scotia registered companies to work with universities and access expertise they do not have in-house. The projects must demonstrate how they increase the productivity or innovation of a company's product, process or service. The program has two tiers, Tier 1 awards are for \$15,000 and Tier 2 awards are for \$25,000. Applications will be reviewed regularly while funding is available. If you have any questions about the program, please do not hesitate to contact our Industry Liaison Officer, Danielle Goodfellow at [danielle.goodfellow@smu.ca](mailto:danielle.goodfellow@smu.ca)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Continuity of Library & Archives Services – Guides at MSVU

The Mount Library & Archives team is working to ensure our research community has access to resources and services while the campus continues with virtual operations. The following Quick Guide offers a list of, and links to, services and their availability. Use the Questions/Feedback button on the left to reach MSVU Library & Archives staff or email [library@msvu.ca](mailto:library@msvu.ca). A chat box will appear whenever Novanet LiveHelp staff are on duty. More information is available [here](#).

### Is Your Research Open?

If you're interested in building a profile in the Mount e-Commons, our research output repository, please contact Scholarly Communications Librarian Lindsey MacCallum at [lindsey.maccallum@msvu.ca](mailto:lindsey.maccallum@msvu.ca). She will work from your CV to populate the repository with articles,

book chapters, grey literature, and more. All citations and full-text articles are indexed by Google Scholar, thus making your research more visible.

## Eligibility Changes to the NSERC Postdoctoral Fellowships Program

NSERC is pleased to announce a change to the eligibility criteria for the Postdoctoral Fellowships (PDF) program ([https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/NewsDetail-DetailNouvelles\\_eng.asp?ID=1154](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/NewsDetail-DetailNouvelles_eng.asp?ID=1154)). As of the 2021 competition year (**application deadline October 19, 2020**), NSERC will no longer impose a once-per-lifetime application limit. Provided applicants meet all other eligibility criteria, as detailed on the [PDF Program](#) webpage, they can re-apply to the program. **The webpage for the 2021 competition will be updated in July 2020** to reflect all changes coming into force for the competition.

## REMINDER: COVID-19 Research Ethics Update

- The UREB continues to accept and review new applications, modifications, renewals and study closures.
- In-person participant interactions (recruitment and data collection) **must** be replaced with telephone, online communications or other **remote** measures. If your cleared protocol involves any in-person participant interactions, you **must** complete a modification request as soon as possible (REB.FORM.002). We are processing these requests as quickly as possible.
- Researchers with questions on online/remote platforms should contact Brenda Gagne at [ethics@msvu.ca](mailto:ethics@msvu.ca) to confirm if the platforms are secure.
- Researchers should be aware that any data collected in this pandemic environment may alter, skew or contaminate your results, unless your focus includes COVID 19 questions. Further, researchers may need to address/disclose this in publications and other knowledge dissemination activities when documenting method and timeframe of data collection.
- If researchers are able to postpone recruitment and data collection, we **strongly** recommend doing so. Please let us know at [ethics@msvu.ca](mailto:ethics@msvu.ca) and we will place your file temporarily on hold. If you need to postpone data collection and have questions about extending your funding, please contact [research@msvu.ca](mailto:research@msvu.ca).
- If it is not possible to postpone the research or modify participant contact, please contact us as soon as possible at [ethics@msvu.ca](mailto:ethics@msvu.ca) with a formal request and full rationale. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Researchers with questions or concerns are encouraged to contact the Research Ethics Board via email at [ethics@msvu.ca](mailto:ethics@msvu.ca).
- As per the federal government advisory, research ethics applications directly addressing COVID-19, or pandemics generally, will be given first **priority** for ethics review.

## COVID-19 Resources for Researchers

**COVID-19 Resources for Researchers:** <https://crdcn.org/covid-19-resources>

With an understanding of the challenges faced by members of the [Canadian Research Data Centre Network \(CRDCN\)](#) research community, this list of sources -- which includes government and non-profit resources, researcher-led initiatives and data resources -- is intended to complement the resources and information available through Vice-President Research Offices across the country (which may include rapid-response funding opportunities).

## Portage COVID-19 Discussion

CARL has been working with the European Project, OpenAIRE, to provide a tracking and discovery service for Canadian research outputs. OpenAIRE is getting ready to launch a COVID-19 gateway very soon (<https://www.openaire.eu/openaire-covid-19-gateway?idU=1>). There is a Canadian portal (in beta) that will be part of the OpenAIRE Aggregation. Any COVID-19-related Canadian content will also be tagged and become part of the gateway. The Tri-Agencies have already contacted PORTAGE about the OpenAIRE gateway. They are very interested in using it to track the research they have started to fund related to COVID-19 in a comprehensive way has become a top priority for them.

## CanCOVID Community

CanCOVID Community is a new initiative spearheaded by Canada's Chief Science Officer in order to optimize Canada's research response to the COVID-19 crisis. CanCOVID is Canada's federally-mandated, expert led COVID-19 research network made up of Canadian COVID-19 researchers, clinical collaborators, and healthcare stakeholders from across the country. Involvement in the CanCOVID network is currently by invitation only and restricted to verified members of the COVID-19 expert research and response community. However, those interested in joining the network are encouraged to complete the [electronic form](#) on the website to indicate their interest.

For more information, visit the [CanCOVID website](#).

## MSVU FACULTY RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

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IWK collaboration focuses on best way to support pregnant women living with higher weights

Dr. Shannan Grant's new study is featured [here](#).

## IT&S CYBERSECURITY TIPS

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### **NEW** Home Networking Tips

Working and collaborating online from home can be affected by your home networking situation. If you are experiencing lagging or dropped connections when video conferencing, see [the new Home Networking Tips webpage](#) for ways to improve your home networking experience.

### Conferencing Tools Intranet and Web Resources

IT&S has added a [Conferencing Tools section](#) to the Working from Home intranet page. It provides guidance on when to use the tele- and web-conferencing solutions provided and supported by the University, and it provides some advice on using other conferencing tools.

Also see [the new Web Conferencing Safety Tips web page](#) for some ways to protect your privacy when participating in or hosting web conferences in general.

### New Videos by IT&S

IT&S recently has published several new videos on Office 365 Stream, including:

1. [VPN Installation on Windows](#)
2. [Skype for Business Training](#)
3. [Skype For Business with External Participants on Cell phones](#)
4. [SharePoint at the Mount](#)
5. [Installing SPSS on a Mac](#)
6. [Installing SPSS on Windows](#)
7. [Installing Minitab on Windows](#)

For more information on using the VPN, Skype for Business, and other tools to help you work remotely, see [the Working From Home Intranet page](#).

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The Research Office is funded, in part, by the [Research Support Fund](#).