

# RESEARCH BULLETIN

May 17, 2022

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

## EVENTS AND WEBINARS

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**[NEW] Basics: Introduction to Linux**  
*Wednesday May 18, 10:00am-11:30am, Online*

This workshop is designed for those with no prior experience in working with a terminal interface. To access and use the ACENET and Digital Research Alliance of Canada HPC clusters from your desktop, you will use a text-based "command line" interface. You will use the command line to move data around and run calculations. In this session, learn how to get started with the command line and how to perform some basic tasks: create and navigate directories for your data; upload and download files; manage your storage; and run programs on the computing clusters. For more details and to register [click here](#).

**[NEW] Basics: Introduction to Shell Scripting**  
*Thursday May 19, 10:00am-11:30am, Online*

This workshop is designed for both new and experienced users. You'll learn how to use the command line to carry out repetitive tasks, extract information from files quickly, combine commands in powerful ways, and capture a workflow so you can re-use it easily. Save time, reduce errors, and use Linux more effectively. Prerequisite: ACENET Basic Series Introduction to Linux, or previous experience with Linux. For more details and to register [click here](#).

**[NEW] Basics: Job Scheduling with Slurm**  
*Friday May 20, 10:00am-11:30am, Online*

This workshop is designed for either new HPC users, or for experienced users either transitioning to Slurm or seeking to improve efficiency with the scheduler. The Digital Research Alliance of Canada's (Alliance) national systems use a job scheduler called "Slurm". In this session you will learn how Slurm works and how it allocates jobs, helping you to: minimize wait time by framing reasonable requests; ask for only the resources you need, to improve efficiency; increase throughput; run more jobs simultaneously; and troubleshoot and address crashes. Prerequisites: Completion of Introduction to Linux and Introduction to Shell Scripting, or prior experience with both.

For more details and to register [click here](#).

### **[NEW] Parallel Computing School**

***Wednesday May 25 – Friday June 29, Varied, 1:00pm-3:00pm, Online***

This course seeks to educate participants in common tools and techniques used in high-performance computing and scientific computation. Over 12 sessions in 6 weeks, we will cover general parallel computing, Dask, Machine Learning, OpenMP programming, GPU accelerator programming, and Message Passing Interface (MPI) programming. Each session will include a lecture and learning exercises. These will be oriented to those learners seeking a more advanced experience. There will be online office hours each week so participants can ask questions about the course content and exercises. Participants must have familiarity with the Unix command line, at the level expected after completion of the ACENET Basics Series, along with some programming experience.

For more details about dates and to register [click here](#).

### **[NEW] Wicked Bodies: Film Screening and Discussion Event**

***Thursday May 26, 7:00pm-8:30pm, MSVU Evaristus Room 104***

Join Dr. Phillip Joy (MSVU) and Shaleen Jones (Eating Disorders Nova Scotia) for a screening of a new documentary series Wicked Bodies, a project dedicated to holding space and bringing a more compassionate lens to disordered eating in the queer community. Featuring uplifting narrative films, Wicked Bodies stimulates conversation to challenge and disrupt rigid body ideals, improving the health and wellbeing of our communities.

These free events welcome 2SLGBTQIA+ folks, community service providers, scholars, students, healthcare providers, and the general public to a screening and facilitated discussion of Wicked Bodies – a toolkit to help to reduce stigma, generate hope, and invite more open conversation among 2SLGBTQIA+ folks struggling with disordered eating, eating disorders, and body dysmorphia. After the screening, a discussion will be held on how the Wicked Bodies toolkit can be used to support individuals living with disordered eating in our community and how you can get involved. Your feedback at these sessions will inform the themes for future episodes in the series.

The screening is free to attend, but spaces are limited. Click [here](#) for more details and to register.

### **[NEW] CIHR 2022 Info Session for Trainees in Health Research**

CIHR will be offering a series of MS Teams live events to trainees and institution staff regarding award programs that are offered. An overview about relevant policies, tips for applicants, guidelines on how to submit an application, and other relevant information will be included.

The webinars will be held via MS Teams at the following dates and times:

#### *English*

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

- Time: 1:00pm-2:00pm, ET

Thursday, June 16, 2022

- Time: 10:00am-11:00am, ET

#### *French*

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

- Time: 10:00am-11:00am, ET

Thursday, June 16, 2022

- Time: 1:00pm-2:00pm, ET

For more information and to join, [click here](#). For any questions contact [Support-Soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:Support-Soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca).

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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### **[NEW] Notice of upcoming funding opportunities - Clinical Trials Fund**

CIHR is pleased to provide this pre-announcement of the Clinical Trials Fund (CTF) in order to allow the research community time to prepare and respond to what will be an expedited process. This \$250 million funding opportunity over 3 years stems from 2021 Federal Budget announcements and in the first phase, is an integral component of Canada's Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy. In support of this, the CTF will provide funding through 3 specific vehicles: platforms with the development of a pan-Canadian Clinical Trials Consortium; people with the funding of training platforms; and, projects through the funding of a broad spectrum of clinical trial initiatives. Further information on these opportunities is available [here](#).

The first program, *Team Grant : Pan-Canadian Clinical Trials Consortium*, is available for applications [here](#). Deadline for the submission of a Letter of Intent is **May 25, 2022**, with the full application due on **July 19, 2022**. For questions or additional information, please contact: [support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:support-soutien@cihr-irsc.gc.ca)

### **[NEW] Fighting Blindness Canada 2022/23 Transformative Research Award: Retinal Degeneration**

Fighting Blindness Canada is launching the [Transformative Research Award \(TRA\)](#) program to fund strategic areas of need within vision research. The 2022/23

competition will fund innovative and ambitious research that will advance the development of new therapies for retinal degenerative diseases. This competition is open to discovery, translational or clinical research. The program is open to Canadian or international investigators, with a budget of up to \$1.25 million over five years per award.

Letter Of Intent Deadline: **June 2 2022 5pm EST**

Full Application (by invitation only): **October 6 2022 5pm EST**

For more details, view the [competition guide](#). Any comments or questions can be directed to Larissa Moniz at [research@fightingblindness.ca](mailto:research@fightingblindness.ca).

### **[NEW] Discovery Horizons Call for Proposals**

Discovery Horizons grants support investigator-initiated individual and team projects that broadly integrate or transcend disciplines to advance knowledge in the natural sciences and engineering (NSE). Full applications submitted to this NSERC program will be reviewed by a [tri-agency interdisciplinary peer review committee](#).

In partnership with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), NSERC is piloting this interdisciplinary peer review mechanism. The shared peer review committee will assess all full applications submitted to NSERC's Discovery Horizons program, as well as relevant applications submitted to SSHRC's Insight Grants and CIHR's Project Grants programs.

In the context of this funding opportunity, the term "interdisciplinary" should be understood to fully encompass all research that connects, crosses or falls in between the traditional disciplines of the three agencies, including transdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, convergence research and other approaches at the interface.

Discovery Horizons grants are expected to be valued from \$50K–\$100K per year and will be commensurate to the size of the research team. For this pilot year, NSERC is expecting to award approximately 10–20 grants.

All relevant information for this funding opportunity are available on [NSERC's website](#). All proposals for this call will be submitted through the [Convergence Portal](#). Guidance and additional information regarding NSERC [specific eligibility criteria](#) and terms and conditions for participation are listed on their website.

Deadline for the submission of a Letter of Intent is **June 16, 2022**, with the full application due on **October 18, 2022**. For questions or additional information, please contact: [horizons@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:horizons@nserc-crsng.gc.ca)

### **[NEW] 2022 Exploration stream competition of the New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF)**

The goal of the Exploration stream is to inspire high-risk, high-reward and interdisciplinary research. Exploration grants support research that pushes

boundaries into exciting new areas. Researchers are encouraged to think “outside of the box,” undertake research that would defy current paradigms, and bring disciplines together in unexpected ways and from bold, innovative perspectives. With the Exploration stream, there is recognition that innovation often carries risk; proposals for high-risk research projects that have the potential to deliver game-changing impacts are strongly encouraged.

The maximum budget for the direct costs of the research project is \$100,000 per year, for up to two years.

All competition documents and additional information are available on the [website](#), and the [Convergence Portal](#) is open.

Notice of Intent to Apply (NOI) deadline: **June 28, 2022 (at 8 p.m. Eastern Time)**

Full Application deadline: **September 13, 2022 (at 8 p.m. Eastern Time)**

### **[NEW] 2022-2023 Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships (Banting PDF) competition**

The Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships program is designed to support world-class postdoctoral researchers. The fellowship provides \$70,000 per year for two years. The program is open to both Canadian and international researchers who have recently completed a PhD, PhD- equivalent, or health professional degree. Applications must be completed in full collaboration with the proposed host institution.

Deadline for applications are **September 21, 2022** (8:00 p.m. EDT). Please note that institutions may have internal deadlines. For more information [click here](#). Questions can be sent by email to [banting@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:banting@cihr-irsc.gc.ca).

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **[NEW] NSERC Revised guidelines**

NSERC is pleased to release the revised [Guidelines on assessment of contributions to research, training and mentoring](#). The revised guidelines promote NSERC’s support of research excellence in Canada and incorporate the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) principles by recognizing a broader range of contributions, including outreach and mentoring, and emphasizing their quality and impacts. The person applying for funding will now be able to select a broader variety of contributions and suitable indicators to demonstrate the impact of their work. Among other changes, the Guidelines provide examples of forms of contributions as well as quality and impact indicators. They also include updated language around interruptions to research, training and mentorship to reflect current NSERC practice.

Applicants to NSERC's funding opportunities should review these guidelines and consult the program instructions before applying.

This change is hopeful in encouraging a broader range of contributions in grant applications. Please forward any questions to [dora@nserc-crsng.gc.ca](mailto:dora@nserc-crsng.gc.ca).

### **[DEADLINE EXTENDED] CIHR looking for members of two new standing committees**

Improve the science policy by applying to the Standing Committee on Science. Apply and see more information [here](#) by **May 20, 2022**.

Shape the work of the 13 institutes by applying to the Standing Committee on Institutes.

Apply and see more information [here](#) by **May 27, 2022**.

Members from all communities are encouraged to apply, especially those from groups historically underrepresented in research, including Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities; LGBTQ2S+ communities; Francophone communities; and persons with disabilities.

### **[NEW] SSHRC call for expressions of interest to join Advisory Committee to Address Barriers to Accessibility**

Work with other members of the research community (including graduate students and postdoctoral fellows) over the coming months to develop an Accessibility Action Plan that identifies and addresses barriers to accessibility within our programs. The aim of the committee is to reflect a diverse lived experience with disability and intersecting identities including regional and linguistic diversity.

Advisory committee members will serve an initial one-year term (June 2022 to June 2023) and will participate in about four to five meetings throughout the year. For further information, [click here](#). Contact [accommodations-adaptation@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca](mailto:accommodations-adaptation@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca) or call 1-855-275-2861 with further questions.

Expressions of interest to participate will be active from **May 9 to June 9, 2022**.

### **[NEW] CFI Strategic Planning Preparation**

The Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) is inviting stakeholders in Canada's research community to participate in the preparation of its next strategic plan. As a member of the research community, you are invited to submit your comment on CFI's future strategic directions. You may participate and submit your comments in one of two ways:

In writing, by returning a written response to the questions of your choice in CFI's discussion document, For a more prosperous and sustainable Canada: Strategic planning consultations 2022. To consult the document, please visit the CFI website [here](#). Written submissions will be accepted until **July 15, 2022**.

In person, by attending a virtual townhall meeting in your region. Open to research administrators and researchers, the [online townhall](#) is scheduled on: **May 24, 2022, 10–11:30 a.m.** (ADT). To RSVP for this event [click here](#).

Forward questions about the CFI's strategic plan consultations to [consultations@innovation.ca](mailto:consultations@innovation.ca).

### **[NEW] CIHR French Peer Review Opportunities**

If you or someone you know can peer review applications in French, we hope you'll consider joining or nominating someone for the CIHR College of Reviewers.

All peer reviewers are welcome, but CIHR has a particular need for clinician scientists and experts in the following areas:

- Cancer
- Cardiovascular, respiratory and circulatory systems
- Digestive, endocrine and excretory systems
- Health services and systems
- Indigenous health
- Methods development and modelling
- Population and health

For more information, [click here](#).

### **IT&S CYBERSECURITY TIPS**

#### **[NEW] Whales Spotted on Campus!**

No not Bedford Basin baleens, but [phishing emails](#) crafted to exploit our desire to please our leaders, bosses, and authority figures. [Whaling](#) is a scam where they impersonate someone you respect (the big fish) asking you to do a task, like buy a gift card, provide your cell number, or write a cheque. Recently, faculty received emails from “department chairs” requesting their cell number. Then, the scammers sent obnoxious texts demanding gift cards. The email address was from @icloud.com not @msvu.ca, so always check the message's actual email address when getting unexpected emails from your professor, chair, dean, or supervisor. As well, scammers often impersonate the university president. You can learn more [on our whaling webpage](#). Please forward suspicious emails to [phishing@msvu.ca](mailto:phishing@msvu.ca).

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