

BRC Knowledge Translation (KT) Grant Programme – 2019

Overview:

The Brain Repair Centre Knowledge Translation (BRC-KT) Grant Programme is intended to enhance the BRC's mission to improve brain and neurological health outcomes for Nova Scotians and elsewhere. The BRC-KT programme is designed to move new neuroscience related discoveries towards broader use outside the immediate research/academic community.

Knowledge translation occurs along a spectrum of activities, as such the BRC-KT programme will provide funding for proof of principle and pre/pro-commercialization research projects. The BRC-KT programme will **NOT** support hypothesis driven research project grants normally funded by CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC or national research funding societies).

Grant requests in the range of \$5,000-\$30,000 CDN will be considered, to be spent over a 12-18 month period. It is anticipated that up to five (5) grants will be awarded in this round of applications.

Typical Expenses: Examples of eligible expenses include:

- Funding to permit and/or facilitate key experiments as part of an already established research programme to enable transition to a more effective knowledge translation;
- Fee-for-service analyses, construct preparation, assays or custom mouse model production;
- Patenting expenses;
- Consulting fees associated with business plan preparation or business-related advice.

The specific objectives of this funding opportunity are to:

- Enable or facilitate key experiments as part of an already established research programme to enable transition towards knowledge translation
- Permit key data to be acquired to add information (e.g. toxicology, pharmacokinetic data, behavioural analysis) to a "data package" necessary for continuing knowledge translation or commercialization
- Provide the opportunity to determine the potential for commercial viability, market potential, etc.;
- Provide the opportunity to assess and/or strengthen the value of IP;
- Promote academic neuroscience research and technology transfer activities that support and accelerate commercialization of IP;
- Foster an entrepreneurial culture within and around the neuroscience research community in the Dal/NSHA/IWK institutional complex;
- Promote economic development through neuroscience research in the Dal/NSHA/IWK community;
- Support the application of neuroscience research results to improve the health of Nova Scotians and Canadians.

Call for Submissions

Eligibility:

For your application to be eligible:

- The focus of the application must be directly related to neuroscience, more specifically to knowledge translation as applied to neuroscience.
- Significant and substantive preliminary research must already have been completed and there must be evidence in the application documentation on how the proposed knowledge translation research builds upon this preliminary research.
- The Nominated Principal Applicant must be an independent researcher; applications from graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, resident-physicians and other learners/trainees will not be accepted or considered.
- The Nominated Principal Applicant must be appointed at one or more of the following institutions: Dalhousie University (all faculties and schools are eligible); IWK Health Centre; Nova Scotia Health Authority.
- Applicants must have an established track record of provincial, national and/or international peer-reviewed funding from recognized agencies for research in areas related to the proposed project.
- Summaries of all held grants must accompany this grant application.

Additional note for previous applicants

If you have previously applied for a BRC-KT grant, your application must be a new request **OR** if a follow on from previous grant must demonstrate substantial progress including a summary of expenditures from previous grant AND be substantially a distinct and new program versus a continuation of previous year's KT programme.

Guidelines for Application Preparation:

Application format:

- One inch (2.54 cm) margins, all four edges, (8.5 x 11 inch paper);
- 12 pt. font (one of Times New Roman, Arial or Calibri); except cited bibliographic references which may be given in 10 pt. font; single-spaced;
- All pages numbered, lower right corner;
- No appended manuscripts (either published or in press); no attached protocols or supplementary data or information packages;
- Exception: a single letter (maximum length 2 pages) from an industrial or commercial partner or sponsor in support of the application may be appended;
- Any and all additional or extraneous materials will be removed and discarded.

Call for Submissions

Application Components:

A full application will be comprised of a cover page and three modules.

Cover Page (1 page)

The cover page will contain the title, and the names and full addresses (including telephone number and e-mail) of the principal investigator (PI) and all co-applicants. It must be signed by the PI and all co-applicants, and by the Department Head for the department in which the PI holds his/her primary appointment. Co-applicants may be from universities, hospitals, government laboratories or industrial laboratories from any other province or country. However, the funding requested must remain with the Dal/NSHA/IWK institutional complex (with the only exception being fee for service analyses or assays being done by a contract research organization (CRO) laboratory).

Module 1: Programme Description Module

Module 1 provides a description of the operational plan that demonstrate knowledge translation

Operational Plan (max. 2 pages of text) (pictures, figures, tables and cited references can be included in an additional 2 pages). This section describes the overall programme and what needs to be done to move it towards broader use outside the immediate research/academic community. It should describe how previous funded research has enabled the research program to attain this stage of "KT-readiness". This section may include any of the following:

- Background on why the discovery has the potential for broader application outside the immediate research/academic community.
- Progress to date and what needs to be done to move the discovery along the knowledge translation spectrum
- Action plan (i.e. what work is being proposed)
- Anticipated outcomes **AND** how BRC-KT funding will move the work along the knowledge translation spectrum
- Next steps (e.g. additional funding/sources, patenting etc).

Module 2: Budget Request and Justification

The budget module consists of the statement of budget request and a budget justification. The budget is to be for one year (with an additional six months if justified in the budget justification).

Budget Request (1 page)

List of items and/or services for which funding is requested.

Budget Justification (1 page)

Complete justification for the funding requested. Quotes for services or pieces of equipment (<\$5,000) are requested, but not mandatory. In addition, include a statement of milestones and timeline.

Call for Submissions

Module 3: Curriculum Vitae

A Canadian Common CV (<https://ccv-cvc.ca>; Funding Format, – CIHR option) must be supplied for the principal applicant; no other CV format will be accepted.

Applicants who have not prepared a Common CV in past are advised that this document requires a substantial amount of work to prepare.

Eligible and Ineligible Expenses:

Eligible Expenses: A representative (but not all-inclusive) listing of example eligible expenses is as follows:

- Funding to permit and/or facilitate key experiments as part of an already established research programme to enable transition towards knowledge translation;
- Fee-for-service analyses, construct preparation, assays or custom mouse model production being done by a contract research organization (CRO) laboratory necessary to the ultimate preparation of a pre-commercialization data package;
- Patent related expenses;
- Consulting fees associated with business plan preparation or business-related advice.

Ineligible Expenses: A representative (but not all-inclusive) listing of example ineligible expenses is as follows:

- Salary support of principal or any other named applicant;
- Any expenses incurred at an institution (university or hospital) other than Dalhousie University; IWK Health Centre; Nova Scotia Health Authority;
- Any piece of equipment of value greater than \$5,000 CDN (this is not an equipment grant programme);
- Retiring existing or already incurred debts;
- Building renovations and/or any structural or infrastructure modifications, even if deemed “essential” to completion of the described research;
- Bridge financing for a basic science research programme (whether with or without long-term commercialization potential) that has had its funding terminated.

Funds Available:

Grant requests in the range of \$5,000-\$30,000 CDN will be considered. Requests exceeding \$30,000 will not be considered, even under exceptional circumstances. It is anticipated that up to five (5) KT grants will be funded during the 2019 funding period.

Call for Submissions



Evaluation Criteria:

The BRC grant submissions will be evaluated by an independent peer review panel. It includes an established evaluation framework and discussion amongst the reviewers to finalize decisions.

For each application, the research and technical plan will be assessed together with essential elements of a KT plan. Each application is evaluated on its own merit in relation to the objectives of the BRC-KT Programme. Items that will be considered by the selection committee will include the following:

- Description, feasibility and appropriateness of the proposed plan;
- Originality of the programme and how it will ultimately impact the end users;
- Clarity on how the proposal will move the overall programme towards knowledge translation;
- Describe of how the BRC-KT funding does not overlap with PI's research funding;
- Relevance of project and how it aligns with the overall mission of the Brain Repair Centre;
- Identification of potential hurdles and how they will be addressed;
- Applicant's familiarity with current or emerging competitors and/or technologies;
- How the proposed experiments will strengthen the IP position or generate new IP;
- Qualifications and track record of the applicant(s)

Submission Process:

Applicants are requested to submit one (1) paper copy of the full application (with the common CV* of the PI only) to the BRC office on or before:

12 noon - Monday February 4th 2019

Also, by the deadline, the applicant is asked to submit the full application (in one or more PDF files) by e-mail to Eleanor Seaman-Bolton (esb@dal.ca).

*CV format should be Common CV – Funding format – CIHR option.