



January/February 2011 » E-news

NSHRF NEWS

New Programs Team

We are pleased to announce our new Programs Team. Meredith Campbell, former Manager, Research Enterprise Development Initiative (REDI) is the new Director, Programs. She will collaborate with program managers to enhance program operations and work to actively engage health researchers in the development of a comprehensive health research enterprise system for Nova Scotia.

Jennifer McNutt, Manager, Research Programs continues to oversee research competitions and knowledge creation opportunities, as well as overseeing the Peer Review process.

George Collier joins us as Manager, Knowledge Programs. He will oversee the development of programs that increase research evidence use throughout the health system in Nova Scotia.

We are also joined by Leslie Power as the new Manager, REDI. Leslie will be responsible to support the health research enterprise in Nova Scotia and ensure a systems based approach to research enterprise development. She will also be responsible for the Competitive Collaborative Grants, REDI Awards, and support to the health research enterprise funding opportunities.



Contact information for our Programs Team can be found [here](#).

Reminder of Registration for Establishment and Development/Innovative Grants

Registration for the Establishment Grant and the Development/Innovative Grant under the 2011-12 Research Programs' Funding Opportunities closes **Thursday, February 24, 2011 2:00 p.m. (AST)**. All applicants must read the 2011-12 NSHRF Research Programs' Requirements Document. The document and further information can be found on our [website](#).

Research trainee funding

We are pleased to announce a call for applications for the pilot of the *Scotia Support Grant*. This is the first of the new funding opportunities that will be available under Research Trainee Funding. These funding opportunities are the result of an in-depth analysis and consultation process that we undertook in 2010.

The objective of the *Scotia Support Grant* is to provide flexibility for all levels of academic trainees to be engaged within Nova Scotia based research programs that are generating knowledge that is relevant to the NSHRF health research priorities. Registration for this funding opportunity will open on March 3, 2011 in the NSHRF Electronic Grants Management System(EGMS). For complete information on the *Scotia Support Grant* and application requirements please visit our [website](#).

Upcoming Knowledge Programs Funding Opportunity

We are pleased to announce a funding opportunity under our Knowledge Programs. The *Rapid Knowledge Synthesis and Jurisdictional Review* funding opportunity will provide a high-quality rapid knowledge synthesis that will address priority health issues and assist decision makers in the interpretation and contextualization of the findings. Together with the Department of Health and Wellness, we have identified the following priority topics to be addressed by the rapid knowledge synthesis:

- Current practices and potential application of teleconsult/telemedicine
- Collaborative Emergency Centres
- Process Improvement Methodology

The funding opportunities description and application form can be found on our [website](#).

Upcoming RFPs supporting the Mental Health Strategy

In February, we will issue three Request for Proposals (RFPs) in support of the development of the provincial Mental Health Strategy. The Mental Health Strategy Advisory Committee requires the following:

- a synthesis and epidemiological analysis of the mental health and addictions population in Nova Scotia and the current services in place to address the needs of this population;
- a review and synthesis of the current knowledge of mental health and addictions strategies; and

- a national jurisdictional review of mental health and addictions service delivery models currently being implemented in Canada.

For further information and dates please check our website.

IN PROFILE: NOVA SCOTIA RESEARCH

Promoting Active Lifestyles and Neighbourhoods: A Time-Geography Approach

Principal Investigator: Dr. Hugh Millward

A statistical analysis of various data sets [Compendium of Physical Activities (CPA) Tracking Guide, the STAR survey, and three cycles of the General Social Survey on Time Use (GSS-TU) data] allows Dr. Millward to examine relationships between several variables and the impact they can have on daily physical activity.

In 2009, the focus was on aspatial relationships initially. He and his team looked at how time spent daily on physical activity varied by type of activity, by personal and socio-demographic characteristics (such as sex, age, income, education), by season, and by daily weather. A regional geographic approach was also taken and investigated how physical activity varies as one progresses outwards from the city centre, through urban, suburban, and rural zones.

During 2010 there was a more specific focus on the localized geography of physical activity, looking at the home locations of the participants, and also at the locations of the activities themselves. Travel to activity locations and travel during physical activity (both recreational travel and "active transportation") were also studied.

In Fall 2010 the research focussed primarily on walking, and its relationship to geographic locations of home, work, and retail/service facilities. To date, the empirical research shows that walking activity, though greatly affected by socio-demographic variables, also varies considerably by urban-rural zones. The team is currently assessing the empirical effects of neighbourhood design and density on walking activity, for both home and work neighbourhoods.

DID YOU KNOW?

Looking for a colleague, possible collaborator, or expert source of information? Take a look through the [Nova Scotia Directory of Health Researchers](#), available online at the NSHRF website.

If you are a Nova Scotian researcher working in a discipline either directly or indirectly related to health, please take a minute to add your name to the roster through your [Canadian Common CV](#).

KEEP IN TOUCH

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