



March 2010 » E-news

NSHRF NEWS

NSHRF Announces the Results of the 2009-10 Competitive Capacity Grants

We are pleased to announce the results of the 2009-10 Competitive Capacity Grants. The purpose of the competitive Capacity Program is to create and support a vibrant and productive health research environment in Nova Scotia. In total, 13 researchers are being funded from across the province. Congratulations to all of our funded applicants.

The list of funded applicants is available in the Funding/Programs, Funded Applicants section on our website: <http://www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?id=1180&siteid=1&lang=1>

NSHRF Funding Opportunity - Student Award for Parkinson's Research (George Turnbull Student Research Award)

The Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation in partnership with the Parkinson Society, Maritime Region is pleased to announce a funding opportunity for graduate students conducting research on Parkinson's disease: Student Award for Parkinson's Research (George Turnbull Student Research Award).

Application deadline is Friday April 30, 2010 by 4:00 PM. Funding will be announced by June 30, 2010.

The Student Award for Parkinson's Research (George Turnbull Student Research Award) description document and the application forms are available on our website: www.nshrf.ca

NSHRF Peer Review Observer Program 2010

The Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation is now accepting applications for the 2010 Peer Review Observer Program. The purpose of the Peer Review Observer Program is to provide the opportunity for researchers and for those with an interest in health research to learn about the peer review process through first-hand observation of the NSHRF Peer Review Committee during its deliberations.

Application Deadline: April 30, 2010

For more information, please visit our website: www.nshrf.ca

NSHRF Board of Directors and Research Advisory Committee Meeting Highlights

Meeting highlights from the NSHRF's Board of Director's meeting held on February 16, 2010 and the Research Advisory Committee meeting held on January 22, 2010 are now available.

Board of Directors Highlights:

<http://www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?id=1004&siteid=1&lang=1>

Research Advisory Committee Highlights:
<http://www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?ID=1260&siteid=1&lang=1>

KARes Program

Nova Scotia has a vibrant and strong health research community. The work being conducted by the province's health research community is advancing knowledge in many different areas. The **Knowing About Research (KARes) Program** was created by the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation (NSHRF) in response to requests from our research community on how they might help in creating an enhanced understanding and awareness of the health research activities in this province.

This program is intended to provide information that will be helpful for members of the health research community in creating relationships with their elected representatives. Information about **KARes** is available on our website:

<http://www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?id=1357&siteid=1&lang=1>

Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research. A discussion paper for a 10-year plan to change health care using the levers of research

This discussion paper drafted by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) proposes the following nationwide Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research as a broad outline for consultation. Patient-oriented research refers to the continuum ranging from the initial human studies of a new drug or device to research evaluating the implementation of simple or complex interventions in the health-care system. The proposed Strategy includes the evaluation of new and current diagnostic approaches, treatments, devices and practices (often referred to as clinical research), as well as the synthesis, dissemination and integration of this new knowledge into the health-care system. A major focus will be to compare new discoveries with existing therapies to determine which interventions are most beneficial,

The paper is available on CIHR's website: <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/41232.html>

External Funding Opportunities

The NSHRF provides an updated listing of health research opportunities **external** to the Foundation. This section is updated regularly with new information. The Opportunities section can be found following this link:

<http://www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?id=1236&siteid=1&lang=1>

IN PROFILE: NOVA SCOTIA RESEARCH

Prenatal Genetic Testing

Investigator: Victoria Seavilleklein
Department of Philosophy
Dalhousie University

Prenatal Screening refers to an ultrasound of the back of the fetus' neck and Maternal Serum Screening, a blood test most commonly given to mothers who are 15 to 16 weeks into their pregnancy. The purpose of testing is to estimate the probability of the fetus having certain conditions, such as Down syndrome and Spina Bifida.

Dr. Victoria Seavilleklein, a PhD graduate from the Department of Philosophy at Dalhousie University, looked at the two main values offered for supporting the use of Maternal Serum Screening; autonomy (women's choice) and public health. Dr. Seavilleklein explains, "It is possible to analyze these values to determine the justification of doctors routinely offering the testing to their patients."

Dr. Seavilleklein believes that autonomy for women to make choices about their reproductive lives is important and offering the screening can be justified. However, the majority of women don't make informed decisions about screening and there are a lot of pressures to have the testing. Dr. Seavilleklein cautions the screening should be available but not be routinely offered to all women.

To read more, visit: <http://www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?ID=1333&siteid=1&lang=1>

DID YOU KNOW?

Looking for a colleague, possible collaborator, or expert source of information? Find them 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.

Visit www.nshrf.ca and click on the link on the left side of our home page for easy step-by-step instructions.

KEEP IN TOUCH

To keep abreast of announcements from NSHRF, all you have to do is drop by www.nshrf.ca. To receive a text version of this newsletter or unsubscribe from this mailing list, please contact info@nshrf.ca.