

Northern Cancer Control Strategy: Discovery Grants – Call for Proposals

The Northern Cancer Control Strategy* (BC Cancer Agency, Northern Health & PHSA) in partnership with UNBC, have created a number of small seed grants to support the 'Discovery' grant competition. The 'Discovery' seed grants are meant to initiate innovative cancer-related research in Northern B.C. Any UNBC, UBC, Northern Health, PHSA or BC Cancer Agency faculty or staff member (as of September 01, 2011) is eligible to submit a research project proposal. Through a competitive evaluation, approximately 4 'Discovery' grants of \$2,000 each will be awarded by the Northern Cancer Control Strategy in 2011/2012.

The primary goal of this research competition is to assist investigators to convert novel ideas into practice changes or pilot data to support research grant applications, presentations or publications. 'Discovery' grant recipients will be expected to present research progress reports or results during the tenure of the grant. 'Discovery' grants are not portable if the investigator leaves UNBC, UBC, Northern Health, PHSA or BC Cancer Agency.

Project proposals submitted for a 'Discovery' Grant do not have to fit within one of the Northern BC Cancer Research theme priorities, but there may be a greater chance of success if it does (*see adjudication criteria on the next page under Question 4*).

The Research Themes are:

- Rural and northern access to interventions across the cancer care continuum (i.e. prevention, screening, early diagnosis, treatment, support, rehabilitation and palliative care)
- Aboriginal cancer care across the cancer care continuum (i.e. prevention, screening, early diagnosis, treatment, support, rehabilitation and palliative care)
- Integrated approach to cancer prevention, screening and/or early detection in rural and northern regions
- Palliative cancer care models for rural and remote areas

If you have a research idea you would like to pursue, please submit your project proposal to Candice Manahan, Research Facilitator by December 01, 2011. (CManahan2@bccancer.bc.ca, 250 565-8835). An adjudication process will occur in December 2011 by a group of representatives from each of the partnering organizations. Successful projects will be notified in January 2012. The funds will be awarded early 2012 and will be used within one year. Project funds requested can be up to \$2,000.

'Discovery' Grant Proposals cont'd

CALL FOR PROPOSALS - INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Provide a project description (**maximum** 4 pages, single spaced, 12 point font).
2. The **FOUR** pages should include:
 - Names of Principal Investigator and Research Team
 - Lay abstract (maximum 250 words)
 - A clearly stated clinical or research question
 - A statement whether you have received or are applying for other funds for the same or a similar project
 - Background (be brief- maximum one page)
 - Methods and materials
 - Analysis plan
 - Define milestones or deliverables by which project progress can be monitored
 - Relevance and implications
 - Plans for the data (publications, subsequent grants, practice changes)
3. Provide a budget and justification for the resources you are requesting as an appendix
4. The Committee will adjudicate projects based on the following criteria:
 - Is the researcher or team able to do the work?
 - Is there a clear research question?
 - Are the methodology and analysis plans sound and feasible?
 - Is there a feasible plan to turn pilot data into a subsequent grant or practice change?
 - Will this project promote local Northern BC cancer research initiatives?
 - Are the research implications of this project important?
 - Is the budget appropriate and justified?

In writing your proposal keep in mind that the review committee is interdisciplinary and your proposal will receive greater support if it is understandable by individuals outside your topic area.

5. Please email your proposal to Candice Manahan by December 1, 2011.

You are encouraged to discuss your proposals with Candice Manahan prior to submission. If you require guidance with your research proposal, up to 4 hours time can be made available for this. If you require this service, please arrange a meeting with Candice Manahan (cmanahan2@bccancer.bc.ca, 250 565-8835).

* The \$106 million Northern Cancer Control Strategy is a joint partnership between Northern Health, BC Cancer Agency and the Provincial Health Services Authority. It is focused on enhancing the continuum of cancer services in the North, including prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, and supportive and palliative care.