

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Newfoundland and Labrador- Regional Partnership Program (NL-RPP)

Strategic Plan

The purpose of the Regional Partnership Program (RPP) of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) is to provide partnership funding for health research deemed fundable by CIHR national peer review but below the budgetary cut-off for full funding. CIHR provides up to \$1M, annually, to fund these projects which requires match funding from an appropriate partner. For the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador the primary funding partner is the Industrial Research and Innovation Fund (IRIF) which is funded by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and managed by the Research and Development Corporation.

The Newfoundland and Labrador-Regional Partnership Program (NL-RPP) aligns with the objectives of the CIHR (Bill C-13) specifically: “to excel, according to internationally accepted standards of scientific excellence, in the creation of new knowledge and its translation into improved health for Canadians, more effective health services and products and a strengthened Canadian health care system”.

In Newfoundland and Labrador the RPP aims to:

1. Support excellence as judged by competition and peer review at the national level.
2. Involve the academic centres, provincial government and Health Authorities in health research in the province.
3. Encourage team building and collaborative research in order to build critical mass in areas of strategic importance and advantage to the province and Memorial University.
4. Build on regional strengths.

In Newfoundland and Labrador the RPP will support applications to the CIHR which:

1. Help achieve the goals and objectives of the University’s strategic plan and help to inform the development of government policy.
2. Grow existing and develop new and innovative health research programs in all four pillars of health research: Biomedical, Clinical, Health Systems and Services and Population and Public Health.
3. Increase capacity in all four pillars of health research: Biomedical, Clinical, Health Systems and Services and Population and Public Health.
4. Increase training and support of highly qualified personnel, including graduate students.

Priority (in the order given) will be to support:

- Investigator Initiated Open Competition:
 - New operating grants (for up to 3 years)
 - Renewal operating grants (for up to 1 year)
- Targeted strategic initiatives, supported by the CIHR Institutes and within the available limits of the NL-RPP budget.
- Trainee awards (fellowships)
- Trainee awards (studentships)
- New Investigator awards