

ANNOUNCING FUNDING RECIPIENTS FOR HEALTHY AGING RESEARCH IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

The Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research congratulates the recipients of awards and grants under the NL Healthy Aging Research Program (NL-HARP) for the 2011-2012 funding cycle. This research program was established in 2009 under the Provincial Healthy Aging Framework and is funded by the province's Department of Health and Community Services. This year, NL-HARP awarded approximately \$186,000 to support seven successful applicants.

"The research projects funded this year focus on a variety of issues including hearing loss, fall prevention, and seniors' nutrition. Their findings will help inform the development of effective policies and contribute to the health of our aging population," said the Honourable Susan Sullivan, Minister of Health and Community Services, in announcing this year's awards.

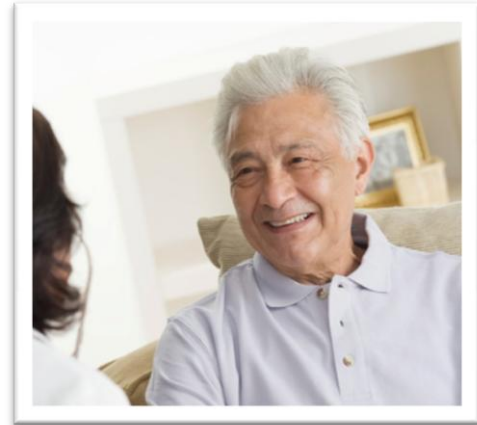
ABOUT THE AWARDS

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador established NL-HARP to facilitate research on aging and to address priority directions of the Provincial Healthy Aging Policy Framework, which include: recognition of older persons, celebrating diversity, supportive communities, financial well-being, health and well-being, employment, education and research.

In the past four years, NLCAHR has administered approximately \$730,000 in funding through the Newfoundland and Labrador Healthy Aging Research Program.

Sincere thanks to the many researchers who applied for funding under the Program. Thanks also to the members of our Peer Review Committee for their careful review of all applications. The Committee was impressed with the high quality of applications in this year's round.

The successful applicants are:



NL-HARP Awards Recipients Announced

Project Grants:

Dr. Jacqueline Hesson, *Cytomegalovirus immune risk phenotype and cognitive functioning in the oldest old.* \$39,804

Dr. Jeanette Byrne, *Fall prevention in seniors in the greater St. John's area: a qualitative and quantitative examination of a fall prevention program.* \$16,620

Dr. Guangju Zhai, *Metabolomics of aging – identification of metabolic biomarkers of aging.* \$40,000

Seed Grant:

Dr. Peter Wang, *Assessing dietary intake and adequacy of elderly residents of Newfoundland – a pilot study.* \$20,000

Master's Research Grants:

Ms. Elizabeth Wallack, *The impact of a Skype-delivered dementia caregiver intervention on caregiver burden.* \$5,000

Ms. Lin Liu, *Dietary intake and eating patterns of elderly people in Newfoundland and Labrador.* \$5,000

Doctoral Dissertation Award:

Ms. Roberta Didonato, *How age-related hearing loss impacts memory for medical adherence in the older adult.* \$60,000
(\$30,000 per year for 2 years)

RESEARCH TALKS: NLCAHR LAUNCHES LECTURE SERIES

The Centre is launching a new lecture series to highlight research topics selected by our Research Affinity Groups. **Research Talks**, our 2012 Series, consists of Spring and Fall lectures by leading Canadian researchers:

Dr. Ivy Bourgeault was invited by our Research Affinity Group on Women's Health/ Gender and Health. In April, she will discuss her research on the migration of health workers to Canada.

Registered Dietician and Critical Obesity Studies expert **Dr. Jacqui Gingras** is the lecturer selected by our Research Affinity Group on Eating Disorders, Disordered Eating, and Body Image. Details of her October talk TBA.

Newfoundland & Labrador Centre for
**APPLIED
HEALTH
RESEARCH**
www.nlcahr.mun.ca

presents:

April 24, 2012 at 7:30pm
Room IIC2001
Main Auditorium
Bruneau Centre
Memorial University

Health Worker Migration

The Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research and our Women's Health/Gender & Health Research Affinity Group are pleased to welcome **Dr. Ivy Lynn Bourgeault**, Professor, Interdisciplinary School of Health Sciences at the University of Ottawa and CIHR Research Chair in Health Human Resource Policy.

Please join this very special guest speaker as she shares her research about the migration of health professionals to Canada, their integration into the workforce, and the need for a pan Canadian Health Workforce Observatory.



Dr. Ivy Bourgeault



RESEARCH TALKS

a series of free public lectures featuring leading Canadian researchers

CURRENT PROJECTS: The Contextualized Health Research Synthesis Program (CHRSP)

Research teams working under NLCAHR's Contextualized Health Research Synthesis Program are currently synthesizing and contextualizing evidence about a variety of topics that will help guide decision makers in the provincial healthcare system. In 2012, CHRSP is scheduled to release reports on the following research questions:

- **Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for Difficult Wound Healing:** What does the scientific literature tell us about the clinical and economic effectiveness of hyperbaric oxygen treatment for problem wound healing (i.e., diabetic and non-diabetic pressure ulcers, delayed radiation-induced injury, thermal burns, skin grafts and flaps, and post-organ transplantation revascularization), considering the expected patient populations and given the social, geographic, economic and political contexts of Newfoundland and Labrador?
- **Chronic Disease Management:** Is there reliable scientific evidence to support team-based management of chronic disease and, if so, given the NL context (in terms of geography, demography, fiscal resources and health system capacities) what is the most effective and efficient way to organize, implement, and sustain team-based care for individuals with diabetes and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) so as to derive the best possible outcomes for patients, providers and the health system?
- **Telehealth:** Considering the demographic, geographic, economic context, as well as the health system capacities, in Newfoundland and Labrador, what does the scientific literature tell us about the clinical and economic effectiveness of telehealth patient-specialist consultations compared to face-to-face standard care, in the fields of non-emergency dermatology and cardiology?
- **Age-friendly Acute Care:** What programs and/or services are associated with improved outcomes for seniors admitted as inpatients to acute care hospitals?
- **Community-based Service Models for Seniors:** What does the scientific literature tell us about the characteristics and the effectiveness of models of coordinated primary medical and community care, including health and social services, to support community-dwelling older persons with ADL/IADL disabilities and mild to complex chronic health conditions, including dementia, and their caregivers, in terms of health and economic outcomes for the clients, care givers and health system, in the context of Newfoundland and Labrador?

Our CHRSP teams are composed of researchers, decision makers, health economists, experts in research synthesis, and subject experts that work together to identify and address health research issues of pressing interest to Newfoundland and Labrador. As our CHRSP reports are released, findings are shared through dissemination events and made available on [our website](#).



EVENTS ROUND-UP

CIHR Town Hall at Memorial University

- **Theme:** Dr. Jane Aubin, CIHR Chief Scientific Officer and VP Research, hosts a CIHR Town Hall to discuss reform of the Open Suite of Programs and peer review and to seek feedback and exchange on CIHR's current thinking.
- **Date:** March 28, 2012 from 1:30pm to 3:30pm
- **Location:** Faculty of Medicine Lecture Theatre B, First Floor, Health Sciences Centre, St. John's, NL
- **RSVP:** Jan Hopkins (janiceh@mun.ca)
- [Details](#)

Newfoundland and Labrador Injury Prevention Coalition (NLIPC) Provincial Gathering

- **Theme:** Addressing the social determinants of health and injury, this provincial gathering invites anyone interested in the health, well-being and safety of the people of Newfoundland and Labrador to join the discussion.
- **Date:** April 2, 2012 from 9:00am to 3:00pm
- **Location:** The Fluvarium, Pippy Park, St. John's, NL
- **RSVP:** injurypreventioncoalition@gmail.com
- [Details](#)

2012 CADTH Symposium

- **Theme:** Evidence Matters: Outcomes, Efficiency, Impact
- **Date:** April 15-17, 2012
- **Location:** Ottawa, ON
- [Details](#)

Sus-IT Canada Symposium

- **Theme:** This symposium, which is being organized by Dr. Wendy Young, Canada Research Chair in Healthy Aging, will explore how technology design choices and access can help older people enjoy better quality lives.
- **Date:** May 10, 2012
- **Location:** Room 3454 School of Nursing, HSC, St. John's
- For details, please contact: youngw@mun.ca

For more information about forthcoming conferences and events, visit our [website](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

CIHR Operating Grant: Programmatic Grants in Food and Health

Objectives: research designed to improve nutritional health status at the individual and population level
Funding: \$2,000,000 for each of the following categories: Biomedical Research; Human/Clinical Health and Population Health.

Deadline: Letters of Intent- May 14 2012; Applications- January 11, 2013

CIHR Innovation Team Grants: Community-Based Primary Healthcare

Objectives: develop and compare innovative models for Community-Based Primary Healthcare (CBPHC) for prevention and management of chronic disease; reduction of access inequities and health outcomes for vulnerable populations; and/or optimization of outcomes in specific subpopulations or with specific interventions identified by funding partners for this opportunity.

Funding: Up to \$31,665,000/ 5 years
Deadline: Letters of Intent- May 1 2012; Applications- October 15 2012

CIHR Partnership Awards

Objectives: recognizing partnerships that create innovative approaches to research questions, that develop research agendas responsive to the health needs of Canadians, and that translate research knowledge for the benefit of all Canadians.

Funding: \$25,000 for a one-year research grant

Deadline: May 1, 2012

See details about these and other funding opportunities on [our website](#).





AGING: On March 28, 2012, from noon to 1:30pm at the NLCAHR Boardroom, the Research Affinity Group on Aging will hold a meeting featuring a presentation by Lisa Adams on "The Use of Acute Hospital Services by Seniors With and Without Mental Illness: A Quantitative Investigation."

RURAL, NORTHERN AND ABORIGINAL HEALTH: This Research Affinity Group is now planning its Spring Seasonal Meeting for a date to be announced.

MENTAL HEALTH: This new Research Affinity Group will be launched in Spring 2012.

Please check [our website](#) for updates.

The following groups are currently active:

- Aging
- Autism
- Eating Issues, Disordered Eating and Body Image
- Oral Health
- Rural, Northern and Aboriginal Health
- Women's Health/Gender and Health

To join a Research Affinity Group, or participate in a meeting via teleconference, please contact Tyrone White or call 777-7973.

OUR RESEARCHERS PUBLISH

EXERCISE AND AGING: Geoff Power, the recipient of a Doctoral Dissertation Award funded by the Newfoundland and Labrador Healthy Aging Program and administered by NLCAHR, recently had his research featured in a [Globe and Mail article](#) about the effects of exercise on "using or losing" motor units in our muscles as we age. Mr. Power is a graduate of Memorial University's Faculty of Human Kinetics and Recreation. He is currently a doctoral student who leads a research team at the Canadian Centre for Activity and Aging at the University of Western Ontario. His research into muscle loss and aging has also been featured in the [New York Times Health Blog](#). The original study looked at motor unit survival in life-long runners; follow-up research, published last month in the journal *Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise*, explored the "use it or lose it" hypothesis in terms of how exercise might mitigate muscle loss as we age. Both original studies can be found [here](#).

EATING DISORDER INTERPROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING: Members of the Centre's Research Affinity Group on Eating Issues, Disordered Eating and Body Image have been undertaking a province-wide capacity building initiative. In the January 2012 issue of [ACCESS](#), the newsletter of the Association of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador (ARNNL), researchers Pamela Ward, Joanne Simms and Denise English published an article about the Eating Disorder Interprofessional Community Capacity Building (EDICCB) program. This program involved effective collaboration between nurses, other health professionals and key stakeholders to develop and deliver a provincial program that will increase the knowledge of health professionals dealing with families affected by eating disorders and promote interprofessional teamwork in addressing the many challenges such individuals and families encounter.

MICRONUTRIENTS STUDY: Further to our report about a publication by Memorial University graduate student Zhuoyu Sun in the September 2011 issue of the *Canadian Journal of Public Health*, a second study on micronutrients has now been published in the journal [Anti-Cancer Research 32 \(2012\)](#). This work was supported by NLCAHR through Master's fellowships to both Zhuoyu Sun and Yun Zhu. Their study looked at micronutrient intake through both food sources and supplements and examined the association of micronutrient intake with colorectal cancer risk.

APPLIED HEALTH RESEARCH NEWS is a quarterly publication of