

NLCAHR Awards Program 2009: Call for Applications

NLCAHR is pleased to announce the launch of the 2009 Research Grants and Awards Program.

The program offers the following fellowships and awards for research on topics related to applied health research:

- ... Masters Fellowships
- ... Doctoral Fellowships
- ... Post-Doctoral Fellowships
- ... Project Grants
- ... Development Grants

The deadline for all applications is April 6 2009. Please consult the NLCAHR Awards Guide for information on eligibility.

www.nlcahr.mun.ca/funding

Hold the Date: NLCAHR Gender and Health Research Forum

NLCAHR will be hosting a Gender and Health Research Forum in St. John's on October 19 2009.

The conference, which is funded in part by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, will bring together researchers, students, health decision-makers and community members to examine new research on sex and gender as it relates to the health of the body, healthy workplaces, and healthcare policy and delivery.

To join our email update list for this event, contact us at nlcahr@mun.ca.

Additional details will be posted on the NLCAHR website as they become available.

www.nlcahr.mun.ca

Grants and Fellowships Awarded for Healthy Aging Research

The Newfoundland and Labrador Centre For Applied Health is pleased to announce the first round of grants and fellowships under the Health Aging Research Program (NL-HARP). NL-HARP was established by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador in 2008; the aim of the program is to provide the province's research community with incentives and opportunities to focus their attention on research questions related to healthy aging in this province.

Applications were reviewed by a special Peer Review Committee and grants were awarded to the best applications in each category based on quality and relevance to the program priorities.

The recipients of this year's awards are:

NL-HARP Project Grant

- ... **Dr. Marshall Godwin**, Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University
"Assessing Criterion Validity and Developing Population Norms for the Simple Lifestyle Indicator Questionnaire (SLIQ) in the Elderly"

NL-HARP Master's Research Grants

- ... **Fang Liu**, Community Health and Humanities, Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University
"Measuring Health Status of Aging Population with Disabilities in Newfoundland and Labrador"
- ... **Ellen Haskell**, Department of Sociology, Memorial University
"More Sunsets: The Social Organization of the RV Sub-Culture"

NL-HARP Doctoral Dissertation Award

- ... **Geoff Power**, School of Human Kinetics and Recreation, Memorial University
"Muscle Fatigue Resistance in Old and Very Old Women"

NL-HARP Post-Doctoral Fellowship

- ... **Kate Dupuis**, PhD Candidate, University of Toronto
"Investigating the compensatory use of emotion as context in younger and older adults"

NL-HARP Seed Grants

- ... **Dr. Wendy Young**, School of Nursing and Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University
"Development of an age-friendly communities research team"
- ... **Dr. Victor Maddalena**, Faculty of Medicine, MUN
"Palliative and End of Life Care in Newfoundland's Deaf Community"

NLCAHR congratulates the successful applicants. A new round of healthy aging research funding opportunities will be launched in June 2009.

Details: www.nlcahr.mun.ca/funding/aging



Dr. Marshall Godwin



Dr. Wendy Young

Gathering Data on Baie Verte Miners

A group of Memorial University researchers and community partners has created a registry to collect employment, exposure and health information from people who worked at the Baie Verte asbestos mine.

The web-based registry is a joint effort of SafetyNet, the United Steelworkers, the NL Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission, and the Baie Verte Peninsula Miners' Action Committee.

The health effects of exposure to asbestos have been widely recognized for more than 50 years.

Asbestos was mined and milled at Baie Verte between 1955 and 1992. While efforts have been made over the years to collect information on asbestos exposure of mine employees, the data are stored at multiple sites and are at risk of loss, destruction, and possibly unauthorized access.

The creation of a formal registry collects all available data together in a single place under conditions that will guarantee preservation and ethically appropriate access. These records will also be studied and compared to evaluate the health effects of working with asbestos.

To date, the team has collected information on over 1000 miners, and they hope to reach their target of 2500 registrants by the end of 2009.

www.bvminers.ca

Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research

95 Bonaventure Avenue
 Suite 300
 St. John's, NL CANADA A1B 2X5

Editor: T. Mackenzie
 E-mail: nlcahr@mun.ca
 Tel: 709.777.6993

www.nlcahr.mun.ca

Research Highlights

NLCAHR Research Affinity Groups Awarded Research Grants

Two groups of researchers who began collaborating through NLCAHR's Research Affinity Groups have secured funding to further their research.

A research team formed from the NLCAHR Research Affinity Group on Aging received a \$10,000 seed grant from the Centre for Urban Health Initiatives for a comparative study on the Health Literacy of Ethnic Seniors in Toronto and St. John's. The funding will be used to establish links and build research partnerships with community organizations and work with community groups to have Canadian health literacy instruments translated. The team will also collect baseline data on health literacy in St. John's and Toronto and assess the feasibility of submitting a grant to design, implement and evaluate culturally sensitive health literacy programs for ethnic seniors. It is expected that these culturally sensitive health literacy programs will help ethnic seniors develop the skills they need to find, understand and communicate health information.

The Principal Investigator for this project is Dr. Wendy Young, who is working in partnership with the Seniors Resource Centre of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Newfoundland and Labrador Health in Pluralistic Societies group.

A second research team, formed from NLCAHR's Research Affinity Group on Environment and Health, has been successful in securing funds for the project 'Bio-monitoring for Environmental Lead Exposure in Children From Pre-1960s Housing in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.'

Older residential areas in St. John's have elevated lead levels in soil and house dust, the residual effects of historical lead paint use and coal burning. Young children are especially susceptible to health effects related to lead exposure. This study will measure lead exposure in young children living in a range of housing ages in St. John's; measurement of residential lead levels in the sample households will permit the team to evaluate exposure sources and pathways. They hope that this information will inform decision-making on exposure reduction and mitigation and help target educational initiatives in city neighbourhoods.

The project, led by Principal Investigator Jacinthe David (Health Canada) and co-investigators Trevor Bell (MUN), Dr. David Allison (Eastern Health) and Marc Kawaja (Public Health Agency of Canada) has been funded by the Chemicals Management Plan Monitoring and Surveillance Fund of Health Canada.

NLCAHR's research affinity groups facilitate collaboration among individuals with an interest in a specific research theme. There are now nine active research affinity groups on topics such as aging, eating disorders, gender and health and quantitative research methods.

Details: www.nlcahr.mun.ca/research/affinity.php

Notebook

NLCAHR Congratulates...

Dr. Wendy Young, School of Nursing and Division of Community Health and Humanities, for her appointment to the Heart Truth Leadership Council, which is working to raise heart and stroke awareness among women.

Dr. Guang Sun, for receiving a 5 year CIHR operating grant of \$806,520 for his project: "Finding the endocrine and genetic determinants of obesity: The Newfoundland study." The project was originally funded by a three-year NLCAHR project grant.

Recommended Reading

Value for Money: Making Canadian Health Care Stronger. Health Council of Canada, February 2009

Details: www.CanadaValuesHealth.ca

Policies for Healthy Ageing: an Overview. OECD, Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, Health Committee, February 2009

Details: [www.oelis.oecd.org/olis/2009doc.nsf/ENGDATCORPLOOK/NT00000BDE/\\$FILE/JT03259727.PDF](http://www.oelis.oecd.org/olis/2009doc.nsf/ENGDATCORPLOOK/NT00000BDE/$FILE/JT03259727.PDF)

Grants, Fellowships and Conference Opportunities

For up-to-date information on health research-related conferences and funding opportunities, see the NLCAHR website: www.nlcahr.mun.ca

Post your notices here...

Send your health research-related notices for inclusion in our quarterly newsletter. Our next newsletter: June 2009.