

Information Session:

Research Preparation and Reciprocity Grant

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Introduction of the grant admin group team.

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Introduction of attendees

The Plan for the session

Request that people provide input on what they've heard – is there anything that we are not aware of? Does this seem like it will fit with activities you have in mind? If you decide not to apply, will you let us know why/what would be a more appealing offering?

- Background/intent
- Eligible organizations
- Eligible expenses
- Grant period and expected meetings
- Application Process walk-through
- Q+A

Background/intent

This grant grew out of our previously offered "Information Research Grant". We considered that grant a success and it led to two important outputs: BWSS and CityHive documents.

As part of the process of evaluation of the grant cycle, we viewed that process through the lens of both our Truth and Reconciliation commitments as librarians within universities and through the values stated in the Community Scholars Program Theory of Change. In our ToC, we assert that we take an approach that

- values knowledge exchange;
- promotes (open) access to research;
- encourages and strengthens university/community connections;
- is relational and grounded in context;
- and values diverse ways of knowing and learning.

We recognized that the previous grant focused on textual resources and on a particular and narrow western paradigm of knowledge building that didn't pay much attention to relationships nor to what might be thought of as the approach to and the path after research activities.

As we built on the success of the previous grant and imagined the next one, we came to the decision that in this offering we would both think more expansively about the kinds of activities that this grant would support and at the same time limit eligibility for the grant to organizations that are both Indigenous-serving and Indigenous-led and have one or more enrolled Community Scholars.

At the same time, we have been able to negotiate with the publishers who support the Community Scholars Program to allow participants from Indigenous organizations, communities, and collectives, thus broadening participation. We thought that this grant tied in nicely with this moment in the CSP's history.

The goal of the grant is to build capacity for research activity in eligible Indigenous organizations.

Eligibility

Applying organizations must be based in BC.

Applying organizations must be both Indigenous-led and Indigenous-serving and they must have one or more registered Community Scholars.

The Community Scholar(s) does not need to be the person applying for the grant.

If your organization doesn't currently have a CS, there is still time to register before the grant application deadline, which is February 14th. [<https://www.lib.sfu.ca/about/overview/services-you/community-scholars/community-scholar-application>]

If your organization doesn't meet the above eligibility, we don't discourage partnership with an eligible Indigenous-led/Indigenous serving organization, and the funding will need to move through that organization.

If your organization doesn't meet the eligibility for this grant, we are still interested in hearing from you about your research intentions, needs, and sticking points. We can offer librarian consultation on research strategies, referral to other resources or people, exploration of other granting opportunities, and potentially other supports.

Eligible expenses

The grant is intended to support research capacity in organizations. It is likely that it will be a complement to an existing or planned larger research project. It can support activities that prepare an individual or organization for research and/or activities that support reciprocity of research... we are thinking about sharing of research knowledge with impacted parties.

Research Preparation might look like:

Expenses associated with

-kitchen table conversations about what the research need is (could support room expenses, food, honoraria/stipends for participants in those conversations).

- hiring an artist to create an object needed for appropriate conversations.
- increasing the hours of a part time staff member or hiring a youth researcher to conduct a literature review or create an annotated bibliography.
- some kind of cultural preparation for a staff member that is necessary to undertake a research project.

Research Reciprocity might look like:

Expenses associated with

-kitchen table conversations about what the associated project revealed (again, room costs, food, honoraria for participants in those conversations)

-costs associated with the production of a report

-costs associated with a conference (registration fees, travel costs).

*if you are hiring someone, backfilling someone, augmenting someone's hours, any staff time must be paid at a living wage.

The ideas presented above for possible expenses are ideas that we have imagined. These are not meant to be exhaustive lists. It's possible that you have other expenses associated with research preparation and reciprocity that we have not anticipated.

Grant period and expected meetings

The deadline for the application is February 14th.

The applications will be adjudicated by a group composed of someone from SFU's Community Engaged research initiative who was on the adjudication panel last time, an Indigenous librarian, and one of the past recipients of the previous version of the grant (ie, arms length from the grant administration team)

We can make up to 2 grants at \$6000.00 each.

We expect to contact the selected applicants in mid-March. We will hope to transfer money from SFU Library to the successful applicants' organizations before the end of March.

In April, we will invite both successful applicants to an initial kick-off meeting with the grant administration group (that's us – Kealin, Dana, myself, and possibly Jonathan as his schedule allows).

At this kick-off meeting we will also set up a series of other check-ins for the group throughout the year.

During these check-ins we will hear from you about your progress with your goals, any surprises, and ways we can support you with librarian research consultation, referral, or something else.

We expect the funded activities to be concluded by December 2025. We will have a wrap-up meeting at the end of the grant period during which we would like to have a conversation about the impact of the grant to help us to continue to improve on what we do.

We previously turned a similar conversation into a blog post, and there may be an opportunity for this if it is mutually agreeable. [<https://www.sfu.ca/ceri/blog/2024/community-scholars-program-highlight-cityhive.html>] We are eager to acknowledge and help to share your insights from this process with other Community Scholars and with a wider community, with the understanding that some of the insights may not be appropriate for sharing beyond your organization.

*We will contact every applicant once the grants have been offered and accepted. If your organization is not one of the successful applicants, we will offer a follow-up conversation to see if there are other ways that we can offer support – whether this is a research consultation with a librarian, referral to other grant opportunities, or something we haven't yet imagined.

The application process

Applications will be accepted through the survey link [<https://www.lib.sfu.ca/about/overview/services-you/community-scholars/indigenous-research-preparation-and-reciprocity-grant>]

The first few questions (1-6) are for eligibility screening and contact information.

Question 7 and 8 require uploaded documents

Q7= what are you proposing to do with the grant? Describe what the research topic is, why it's important, how this money will contribute.

Proposal (please upload) – please provide a description of the area/topic to be researched, the activities of research preparation and/or research reciprocity that you will undertake, and the proposed plan for the work that this grant will support, including any outputs.

As appropriate, please comment on

- *How this work will advance or achieve objectives related to your organization's broader research capacity.*
- *How this work connects to the larger research agenda of your organization, or to standards or frameworks in your area of work/practice/service. For example, how will this work help you to advance organizational goals related to sustainable development goals, a climate framework you're operating under, or other driving forces.*
- *How the outputs and/or the process of this work will build lasting capacity in your organization.*
- *How this work will have impact beyond your organization.*

2-3 pages as an upload of a word doc or pdf.

Q8 – how you're going to undertake the work you described in Q 7. Budget plus timeline.

1ish page as an upload of a word doc or pdf.

Q9 – 13 - a series of acknowledgements about how the granting period process will go, plus the opportunity to let us know if you would agree to be an adjudicator if we offer this grant again.

How will the proposals be evaluated?

Proposals will be evaluated for completeness, value, and feasibility.

Strong proposals will:

- Address an important issue for the organization, the sector, or the area of practice.
- Facilitate action on other activities of importance to the organization (ie does it make possible something that would otherwise be difficult or impossible?).
- Grow capacity within the organization.
- Have impact beyond the individual organization.
- Contribute to larger goals or frameworks that the organization is operating within.
- Align with CSP approach —while acknowledging that some proposals may be concerned with sensitive or community-held information that requires particular contexts or supports for sharing, if sharing may be appropriate --
 - values knowledge exchange;
 - promotes (open) access to academic research;
 - encourages and strengthens community/university connections;
 - is relational and grounded in context;
 - values diverse ways of knowing and learning

Q+A

Comments:

Participant 1: appreciates the breadth of expenses that are being considered here, and the consideration of protocols superseding the desire for open access – this has been a noted problem they’ve experienced with other grants.

Participant 2: Additionally – in the future perhaps we could consider opening the application up to individuals looking to participate but aren’t a part of an organization.

Participant 3: Perhaps we can connect those individuals with organizations that could support them and the work they’re interested in.