

What are Funding Agencies Looking for in KMb? What works? What doesn't?

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Background:

- Grants: British Academy; CIHR; Physician Services Incorporated; SSHRC (doctoral; standard x2; Presidential Fund);
- Interdisciplinarity:
 - Engagements with natural sciences;
 - Engagements with health sciences;
 - Cross-appointed with Obstetrics and Gynecology;
 - Work in multidisciplinary teams (basic, clinical, physical (PE-NET, Anatomy and Cell Biology); legal; ethics; social scientific);
 - Laboratory work (microbiology).

Current Funding:

- 1) **The Origins of Sociable Life (SSHRC Standard):**
 - Collaboration with microbiologists; earth systems science (SSHRC Standard);
 - Stakeholders: social scientists; publics; scientists;
 - Deliverables: science/social science collaboration; graduate training; knowledge generation; multi-discipline undergrad course; book + publications; DVD etc.
 - Leading to collaboration with environmental science, geography and geology --> ESRC.

Current Funding:

- 2) **Contacting Patients for Health Research: Translating Ontario's PHIPA Provisions into Ethical Practice (PSI):**
- Use of PHI by researchers without patient knowledge or consent;
 - Collaboration with family physicians, ethicist, clinical researcher;
 - Stakeholders: patients; family physicians; health researchers; govt. organizations; REBs;
 - Deliverables: guidance for research; inform REB on existing standards; CIHR Privacy Best Practices; hospitals; researchers; agencies (PHIPA, Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner; REB).

Current Funding:

- 3) **Health Research and Society: A Sociological Analysis of Ethical, Public Understanding and Knowledge Translation Issues (SSHRC Standard):**
- Two case studies;
 - Collaboration with family physicians, ethicist, clinical researcher;
 - Stakeholders: patients; family physicians; clinical researchers; research nurses; journalists;
 - Deliverables: guidance for health research scientists; increased PUOS (what research findings means; how treatment options are determined); Increased KT efficiency (tacit knowledge); “virtuous learning loop”.

Current Funding:

4) **Capturing the Outcomes and Impacts of Publicly Funded Health Research (SSHRC Presidential Fund):**

- Link between PE and pCVD;
- Collaboration with clinical researchers;
- Stakeholders: family physicians; clinical researchers; patients;
- Deliverables: guidance on PUOS and KT.

SSHRC:

■ Presidential Fund:

- “Capturing the Impact of Publicly Funded Research”;
- 3 years; 17 funded projects across Canada; 3 closed meetings;
- *Impacts/KM/KT*;
- Controversial --> bottom line (public/government demand for return on investment; public demand for access);
- Broad definitions (**not** only economics);
 - Emphasis on “quality of life”;
 - Challenges: “chasing two rabbits” problem (institutional versus granting agency); overcommitment (SSHRC abolished RTS); social science versus clinical researcher support.

So What is SSHRC Looking For?

- KMb as graduate training:
 - 70% of SSHRC funding goes directly to graduate students;
 - Pointless to apply without this as central 'deliverable';
- Interdisciplinarity (but cautionary - who are the assessors);
- KMb ('outreach'): reaching publics, govt. etc.
- Proven record:
 - For graduate students, join a multidiscipline team.

CIHR: Opportunities for SSH, Communities?

- Applicants asked to state how the proposal ‘bring[s] together, in a meaningful collaboration, researchers from different disciplines’ and ‘*challenge[s] current research thinking and paradigms* and/or address[es] unexplored areas’ (2005);
- Clinicians want to do KT, but don’t know how to do it and/or consider KT a ‘top-down’ process;
- Opportunity for social scientists: PUOS; KT; ethics; transdisciplinarity;
- Lessons learning from health sciences: constant applications; personal assistants(!); language.