

Community Engagement and Conference Grant

Program Guide

Background

The promotion and awareness of science, research and innovation has many impacts within the public and academic communities. By helping the public to better understand science and health research, and by helping the research community to share this information, we build leaders of the future and a stronger health research and innovation environment.

The Community Engagement and Conference Grant program is designed to cover a broad spectrum of activities, including those that promote collaboration and networking in the area of health research and innovation.

Activities should align with the mandate of Alberta Innovates (AI) to promote the health, social and economic wellbeing of Albertans through research and innovation. Activities should also demonstrate the intent to promote collaboration and exchange between community groups, individuals, research groups, academic institutions, and organizations in Alberta and beyond.

Objectives

Support will be given for health research and innovation engagement or educational activities that have any of the following objectives:

- demonstrate potential for impact on health, social and economic benefit for Albertans;
- engage community groups and the general public in discussions on health research and innovation advances and challenges;
- engage the general public on issues central to outcomes of health research and innovation engagement activities, including public participation in aspects of the research process;
- build capacity in health research or innovation;
- promote the sharing and dissemination of scientific knowledge, technology expertise and/or concepts to enhance the provincial health research and innovation environment;
- encourage collaboration and networking within and outside the research community;

- contribute to the awareness, understanding, literacy and support of health research and innovation engagement activities within the academic community.

Value

Up to \$10,000; amount of funding is dependent on the scope of activity; alignment to [Al's mandate](#); funding from other sources; other competing requests received; and anticipated impact of proposed activity.

Eligibility

Eligible organizations include but are not limited to:

- community groups
- not-for-profit organizations/agencies
- academic institutions
- government
- industry
- organizations that are committed to public understanding of health research and innovation in Alberta

Some examples of eligible health research and innovation activities include, but are not limited to, those that:

- encourage public understanding and engagement in Alberta's health research and innovation enterprise;
- connect researchers, end-users and industry and showcase knowledge in a defined scientific discipline;
- bring key stakeholders, researchers and/or community groups together to discuss opportunities and challenges for improving health care in Alberta;
- connect trainees and promote scientific research in various disciplines;
- showcase leading edge clinical and research work being done in Alberta;
- encourage collaborations between researchers and community groups in Alberta and beyond its borders;
- provide professional development opportunities for individuals in academic or non-academic settings and encourage the exchange of information and networking among participants;

- provide the opportunity for Alberta institutions to host individuals with unique expertise currently unavailable within the province. This may include special knowledge, new approaches to research or management of new technology.

A broad range of activities may be considered for support from the Community Engagement and Conference Grant program. Please contact us if you have questions regarding the eligibility of your proposed activity.

NOTE: Support will only be provided for activities occurring a minimum of two months after the competition deadline.

Allowable Costs

Funds are intended to support activities associated with promoting collaboration and networking in the area of health research and innovation. These activities can be in the form of:

- hosting or sponsoring a conference, symposium, or workshop;
- hosting or sponsoring an event with a defined audience; , or
- development or enhancement of existing or potential collaborations and learning opportunities to enhance Alberta's health and health research system.

Funds may be used to offset the cost of travel and accommodations for invited speakers/guests from outside of Alberta. Funds may also be used to cover travel and accommodation expenses for Alberta-based investigators to maintain collaborations and to learn new research expertise not currently available in Alberta. Funds may also contribute to the sponsorship of specific sessions at the conference, symposium, workshop or event.

Funds will not be provided to cover costs to attend conferences, symposiums, workshops or events. Funds will also not be provided to cover costs of salaries, operational costs, door prizes, raffles, or alcohol.

AI will not cover more than 50% of the anticipated cost of the activity.

AI is a publicly funded organization that upholds the ethical guidelines of the Government of Alberta. All funding support extended by AI must adhere to the same ethical principles.

Applications

Applications will be accepted four times a year (April, July, October and January), based upon availability of funds. Submitted Applications must have an activity start date that occurs two months following the competition deadline.

Applications are to be submitted by 4:00 pm on the competition deadline day using the current online [application form](#).

NOTE: This grant receives a large number of requests per year, but can only fund a limited number of activities. For activities that occur on a regular basis (e.g. annually or bi-annually), we encourage applicants to seek alternate sources of funding since AI support may not be available on a recurring basis.

Review Process

Applications will be assessed by an internal AI review committee. All applicants will be notified of the results following the completion of the review.

AI may identify specific priority areas for the Community Engagement and Conference Grant. If the activity does not take place in Alberta, there must be appropriate justification of the benefit to Alberta.

Eligible activities that target cancer prevention may be funded through the [Alberta Cancer Prevention Legacy Fund \(ACPLF\)](#).

Acknowledgment & Reporting

Successful applicants must:

- acknowledge AI support verbally, on print and digital material (including signage, logo use, advertising, programs, delegate packages), and in any media work;
- use the AI logo in accordance with the corporation's visual identity guidelines;
- provide a summary report of the activity (template will be provided to successful applicants) following the completion of the award.