



MOVEMBER TEAM GRANTS IN PROSTATE CANCER

Part 1: Overview Information

Participating Organization(s)	Prostate Cancer Canada
Funding Opportunity Title	Movember Team Grants in Prostate Cancer
Description	<p>Prostate Cancer Canada (PCC) invites applications for investigator-initiated Team Grants. Proposed research must have significant impact on our understanding of prostate cancer and aim to accelerate the progress to a practice or policy change. Proposed research projects may address any of the broad areas of prostate cancer research, including (but not limited to) prostate cancer biology, treatment, diagnosis, survivorship, and prevention. Basic, translational, clinical, and/or population-based studies in any of these research areas are appropriate. Each submission must demonstrate a multidisciplinary approach to address an issue in prostate cancer. PCC will only consider projects that are completely focused on prostate cancer.</p> <p>Each Team Grant application must consist of independent investigators based in three or more eligible institutions and include a minimum of three highly-integrated research projects.</p> <p>In addition, each Team Grant must develop and institute a formal program for training and education of post PhD and post MD fellows, graduate/undergraduate students and others in a multidisciplinary environment.</p> <p>NOTE: Randomized Clinical Trials as sole focus are not eligible under this funding mechanism; however, a clinical trial may be included as a major project within a larger research program.</p>

Important Dates

Program Launch Date	September, 2014
Expression of Interest Deadline	November 3, 2014
Review of EOI	November/December 2014
Notification of outcome of EOI review	December 15, 2014
Application Deadline	March 16, 2015
Peer Review	April/May 2015
Anticipated Award Notification Date	June 2015
Earliest Start Date	July 1, 2015

Required Application Instructions

This funding opportunity has a two phase application process. Phase 1 requires the completion of an Expression of Interest (EOI). Phase 2 requires the completion of a full application **upon invitation**.

It is critical that all applicants follow the instructions outlined in the **Submission Information** section of this document (**Part 2: Section V**). All applications must conform to the specific requirements. PCC reserves the right to reject any application that does not conform.

Part 2. Full Text Announcement

Section I. Funding Opportunity Description

Description

The goal of the Movember Team Grant program is to support Canadian research programs in prostate cancer that generate new knowledge that improves our understanding of prostate cancer and accelerates progress to a practice or policy change.

Prostate Cancer Canada invites grant applications for investigator-initiated Team Grants in any area of prostate cancer research. Team Grants support integrated, multidisciplinary research programs involving outstanding independent investigators who share knowledge and resources while working towards a unifying overall scientific goal. Therefore, every Team Grant application must propose a well-defined program of research (minimum 3 highly-integrated projects) that encompasses several disciplines and research aspects of prostate cancer unified by a central research theme and overall objective. All disciplines and research aspects of the program must be clearly interrelated and synergistic so that the research ideas, efforts, and outcomes of the program as a whole will be realized more rapidly and more efficiently than if the individual disciplines and aspects of the program were to be funded as a series of separate operating grants.

Each Team Grant application must include a formal training and education program for post PhD and post MD fellows, graduate/undergraduate students and others in a multidisciplinary environment.

Eligible Team Grant applicants will be made up of at least three independent investigators, one of which will be identified as the Program Director. All identified independent investigators must contribute substantially to the primary research goal of the program.

This opportunity is proudly funded by the Movember Foundation.



Objectives

The primary objective is to support new, innovative endeavours in prostate cancer research including (but not limited to) studies of prostate cancer biology, treatment, diagnosis, survivorship, and prevention. Basic, translational, clinical, and/or population-based studies in all of these research areas are appropriate. *NOTE: Randomized Controlled Trials (RCT) will not be considered under this funding opportunity unless the trial is a component of a larger program.*

Specific objectives are:

- To support high quality innovative prostate cancer research that will lead to significant advancements in our understanding of prostate cancer and aim to accelerate the progress to a practice or policy change;
- To support multidisciplinary groups of prostate cancer researchers;
- To support high quality research which is best approached through collaboration;
- To support programs of potentially significant impact, where the group research environment will maximize the chances of success;
- To provide a high quality training environment;
- To support the production of new knowledge leading to the translation of research findings into improvements in the health of Canadians and the Canadian cancer care system.

Minimum Number of Independent Investigators (Required): Each Team Grant application must consist of at least three independent investigators based in different institutions. The involvement of early career investigators is highly encouraged. Inter-city and inter-province collaboration is particularly encouraged.

Minimum Number of Research Areas (Required): Teams must include investigators from at least 2 of the following areas: biomedical, clinical, population health, and health services/economics.

Formal Training and Education Program (Required): Each Team Grant application must institute a formal program for training and education of post PhD and post MD fellows, graduate/undergraduate students and others in a multidisciplinary environment.

Minimum number of Projects (Required): Each Team Grant program must be composed of a minimum of three highly-integrated research projects.

Shared Infrastructure Support Core(s) (optional): Applicants may propose one or more Shared Infrastructure Support Cores (i.e. tumour banks, biostatistics hubs, etc...) if needed for the proposed research. Each Shared Infrastructure Support Core must provide support and enhance the productivity, cost-effectiveness, and/or research outcome of the proposed research program and provide the opportunity for downstream leveraging. We encourage the utilization of existing infrastructure, such as biobanks, whenever possible. New cores may be proposed to support the proposed research; however, a compelling argument must be put

forward as to why these are necessary as opposed to using any existing cores and why they are critical to the success of the overall program.

Section II. Award Information

Funding Instrument	Grant
Application Types Allowed	New Application or Re-Application
Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards	The total amount available for this funding opportunity is \$10M.* Please note that the number of awards is contingent upon availability of funds, and the submission of scientifically meritorious applications.
Award Budget	There is no yearly maximum, however budget request must average \$1M/year over the term of the grant for up to five years; e.g. 5 years=\$5M, 3 years =\$3M.
Award Project Period	The maximum period is 5 years. Please note that the initial award period will be for 3 years with the final 2 years of funding conditional upon a successful interim review at Year 3 of the program.

**The amount available for this program is subject to funds raised. Should funding levels decrease, PCC reserves the right to reduce, defer or suspend financial contributions to grants received as a result of this funding opportunity.*

Section III. Eligibility Information

Eligibility to Apply

For your application to be eligible you must have:

1. A single **Program Director** who is an **independent investigator**;
2. At least 2 other applicants (**Principal Investigators**) who are independent investigators from different institutions from the Program Director;
3. The Program Director and Principal Investigators must be formally affiliated with **eligible institutions**
4. The proposal must consist of at least 3 highly-integrated projects

The **Program Director** is an independent investigator who will:

- be responsible for the direction of the proposed activities; and
- assume the administrative and financial oversight for the entire program;
- assume the financial responsibility for their own portion of the program at their own institution; and,
- receive all related correspondence from PCC.

An **independent investigator** is an individual who:

- has an academic or research appointment which:
 - must commence by the effective date of funding; and
 - allows the individual to pursue the proposed research project, to engage in independent research activities for the entire duration of the funding, to supervise trainees, and to publish the research results; and
 - obliges the individual to conform to institutional regulations concerning the conduct of research, the supervision of trainees, and the employment conditions of staff paid with PCC funding.
- will assume financial responsibility for their portion of the award at their own institution and will be responsible for reporting this information back to the Program Director as well as to PCC.

Number of Applications

Investigators cannot be named as a Principal Investigator on more than one application at the Full Application stage.

Section IV. Guidelines and Review Process

General PCC Guidelines

PCC policies and guidelines as outlined on the PCC website will apply to the applications submitted and awards made in response to this RFA.

PCC reserves the right to amend the review process at any time. Any changes that are made to the process will not adversely affect the rigor and equity of the process. Every effort will be made to inform applicants of changes in a timely manner.

Allowable Costs

The following expenditures will be considered eligible for funding received through this funding opportunity:

- Research operating costs for the proposed research program, which must be distinct in its objectives from those for which group members currently receive funding;
- Purchase of small equipment and maintenance contracts for common services and shared infrastructure essential to the proposed research program (maximum budget to be no more than 5% of the total annual budget per grant year);
- Costs of data collection, database and maintenance of information holdings directly related to the proposed research program;
- Costs of regional, national and international networking activities, including collaboration, planning, and knowledge exchange activities, directly related to the proposed research program.

- Salaries of research assistants, technicians, program coordinator and other personnel who will enhance the collaborative research productivity of the program team;
- Stipends paid to trainees (e.g., undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral fellows) shall be in accordance with institutional policies, up to a maximum of \$21,000 per annum for graduate students and \$50,000 per annum for postdoctoral fellows.

Non-Allowable Costs

The following expenditures are NOT eligible for funding received through this funding opportunity:

- indirect costs associated with the conduct of research (including, but are not limited to, heating, lighting, ethics review, CTA application, intellectual property and commercialization activities).

Conditions of Funding

Successful applicants funded through this funding opportunity must fully comply with the following conditions:

- Acknowledgment of the funder's support in all publications and presentations that result from the funded research. In addition, PCC would ask that PCC staff is notified prior to publication of a research paper.
- The Program Director will be required to submit to PCC annual written progress reports that include a list of all publications resulting in whole or in part from this grant.
- Financial statements must be submitted to PCC annually no later than 45 days after the end of each grant year by the Program Director and all Independent Investigators receiving funds from PCC.
- The Program Director will be required to submit to PCC a final written report with a final financial statement.

Performance Indicators

Performance indicators will be developed in order to evaluate the success of the Movember Team Grants.

Review Process and Evaluation for EOIs

A committee will be assembled to review the submitted EOIs to ensure only those applications that conform to the programs guidelines and have a high potential for success are invited to submit a full application.

EOIs will be evaluated based on the following evaluation criteria:

1. Overall objective and extent of innovation of the program of research.
2. Significance of the research on our understanding of prostate cancer.

The EOI Review Committee may also make suggestions to the applicants on how to strengthen their Full Applications.

Section V. Submission Information

Please read all instructions before applying.

- The application process for this funding opportunity is comprised of two phases: Phase 1 - Expression of Interest (EOI) and Phase 2 - Full Application (upon invitation).
- To complete your Expression of Interest submission, please follow the instructions found below.
- Please ensure that your EOI submission is complete (includes all required sections) and is submitted online on time to PCC.

Phase 1 – Expression of Interest Submission Requirements

Your Expression of Interest must be submitted online by **5:00 PM (ET) on November 3, 2014**.

The online application is available at: <http://pcc-teamgrants.fluidreview.com/>

General EOI Submission

1. **Title** of the proposal
2. **New Application or Re-Application?**
 - For Re-Applications, provide a response to previous critiques (maximum 400 words) and upload previous reviews, one document
3. **Lay Summary** (maximum 250 words): Provide a brief summary in non-scientific language of the proposal.
4. **Applicant table:** Using the spreadsheet provided, Applicant Table, available in the Resources section of the online application, list all applicants with their affiliations and expertise keywords. The list need not be final at the Expression of Interest stage. Attach the completed spreadsheet.
5. **Objectives** (maximum 400 words): List the objectives of the proposal.
6. **Project Information:** The Research Program Proposal must include an overall description of the research program (maximum of 1,500 words not including references) and must clearly outline the following elements:
 - Background;
 - A brief description of the importance of the research hypotheses or questions to be addressed and expected findings;
 - List of the research disciplines and/or aspects that make up the research program;
 - The nature of the team and extent of collaboration between investigators, with an explanation of the anticipated value added to the research program through the synergy of the research team;

- The capacity of the research team to carry out the program of research proposed;
- The research training and mentoring environment that will provide a superior experience for undergraduate, graduate and/or post-doctoral trainees, including those with a health professional background;
- A plan, including proposed organizational structures for engaging and linking with those who will ultimately use the research findings;
 - Applicants should be considering their KT plans from the inception of their project
- The nature and extent of the host institutions' financial and other forms of long-term commitment to the team's research, and to ensuring a favourable environment for carrying out the research activities;
- If the team involves partners, the proposed roles of partners in the planning and execution of the research program and the dissemination and utilization of the research results;
- Summaries of each of the highly-integrated projects (minimum 3 projects)
- Summaries of Shared Infrastructure Support Core (if applicable) and must clearly outline how the Core will enhance the productivity, cost-effectiveness, and/or research outcomes of the proposed research program and provide the opportunity for downstream leveraging.
- Other items that can be attached:
 - Reference bibliography: Provide a short bibliography for any references cited in the Expression of Interest. Attach one document.
 - Tables and Figures (maximum 5 pages). Attach one document.

7. **CVs:** Attach one document that includes brief 2-page free-form CVs for the Program Director and each Principal Investigator. This include training and education, degrees, positions and honours, a list of relevant publications (past 5 years) and information on grants and awards held (source, type, title, amount/year, duration).

Please note: Any additional materials will be removed and will not be sent to the review committee. This includes letters of support, excess figures, updates on publications, updates on other support received, letters confirming academic appointments, reprints, etc.

Phase 2 – Full Application Submission Requirements

Only applicants who are successful in the EOI phase will be invited to submit a Full Application. Instructions for completing the Full Application will be sent to applicants who are successful in the EOI phase.

Contact Information

For questions relating to this RFA please contact:

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About Prostate Cancer Canada

Prostate Cancer Canada is the only national foundation dedicated to the elimination of the disease through research, education support and awareness.

Our goals are twofold – to fund research that will uncover better diagnostic and treatment options and to provide comprehensive support services for those living with prostate cancer.

For more information, visit prostatecancer.ca.