INSIGHT GRANTS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Peter Anderson and Beth Scarlett
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Presentation Outline

↘ **Updates**

↘ **Eligibility Overview**

↘ **Committee Structure**

↘ **Merit Review Process**

↘ **Joint Initiatives**

↘ **Application Preparation**

↘ **Support research in official languages**

↘ **Questions and Answers**

Updates

Insight Grants Deadline

- October 1, 2023, at 8 p.m. (Eastern) (check internal deadlines)

  *The online application system remains open until 8 p.m. (eastern) on October 3, 2023 due to the statutory holiday on September 30 (which is a Saturday).

Tri-agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee

Joint Initiative Mitacs Accelerate Updates

INSIGHT GRANTS

APPLICANT
Principal Investigator
Co-applicants and/or Collaborators

DURATION
2 - 5 years

VALUE
$7,000 - $100,000 (Stream A)
$100,001 - $400,000 (Stream B)

FUNDING
No separate envelope for Emerging Scholars

Multiple Applications

Normally, researchers may not apply as an applicant for an Insight Grant and an Insight Development Grant within the same calendar year.

- **An exception** approved by SSHRC in 2017 : researchers who applied **unsuccessfully** for an Insight Development Grant in February can apply for an Insight Grant in October. SSHRC extends this exception to the multiple applications regulations for the foreseeable future. For example, researchers who applied for an Insight Development Grant in February 2023 and **were not successful** may apply for an Insight Grant in October 2023.
- A researcher who applies for an Insight Grant in October 2023 can apply for an Insight Development Grant in February 2024, provided that the objectives of the research are significantly different.

Multiple Applications

Grant Retention:
No limit to the number of applications on which a researcher may be listed as a co-applicant or collaborator.
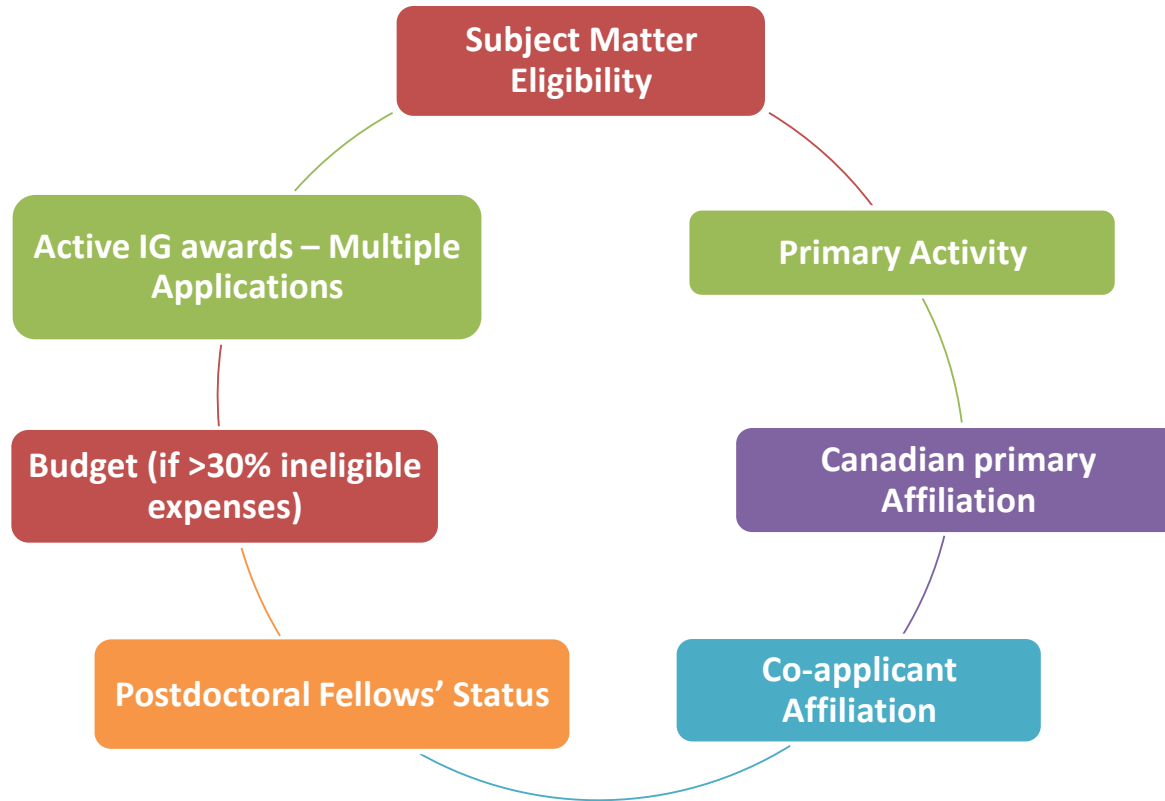
Re-application:
A current grant holder may submit a new application for the same type of grant, but only in their grant's final year (year in which the grant holder receives the final installment of their grant).

Please refer to SSHRC's Regulations Regarding Multiple Applications for more information.

Eligibility Verification

- Subject Matter Eligibility
- Primary Activity
- Canadian primary Affiliation
- Co-applicant Affiliation
- Postdoctoral Fellows' Status
- Budget (if >30% ineligible expenses)
- Active IG awards – Multiple Applications

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

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Canada

Subject Matter Eligibility

- SSHRC does not support most health-related research, such as clinical research, research related to therapy, diagnostic tools, rehabilitation and epidemiology. Research in psychomotor and kinesiology, and clinical education for health care professionals are also ineligible.

- Health-related research: investigators should consult CIHR's mandate **first** to explore eligibility. CIHR has policies and procedures in place to adjudicate the full range of social sciences and humanities research proposals related to health research.

- For eligibility-related advice, applicants may send a summary (including the proposed objectives) to the IG inbox: insightgrants@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Discipline-based / Groups of disciplines

Multi/Interdisciplinary

Indigenous Research

Committee Structure

Insight Grants	Committees
01	Philosophy
02	History
03	Fine arts, research-creation
04	Literature
05	Medieval, classics, religious studies
07	Economics
08	Sociology, demography and related fields
09	Geography, urban planning and related fields
10	Psychology
11	Political science and public administration
12	Education and social work
13	Anthropology and archaeology
14	Business, management and related fields
15	Linguistics and translation
16	Communications, media studies, gender studies, library and information science, related fields
17	Law and criminology
21	Indigenous research
22	Multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary humanities
23	Multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary social sciences
24	Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review (TAIPR)

Inter/Multidisciplinary Applications

↘ Inter/Multidisciplinary Humanities

↘ Inter/Multidisciplinary Social Sciences

↘ Request for Inter/Multidisciplinary Evaluation (mandatory, max 1 page)

↘ For Inter/Multidisciplinary Humanities and Social Sciences committees: Relevant expertise may also be sought from a larger pool of Insight Grants committee membership.
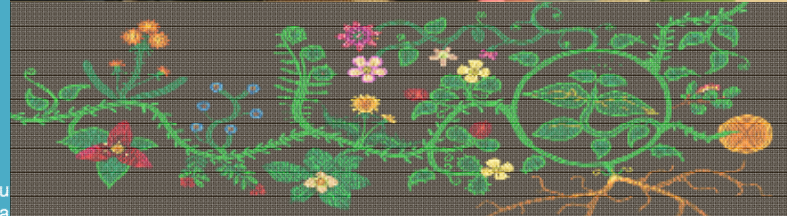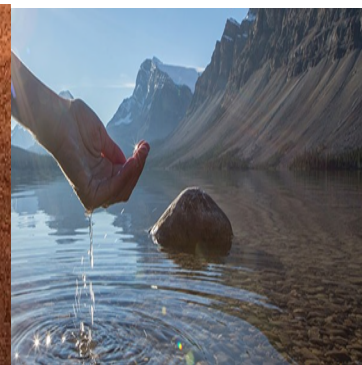
INDIGENOUS RESEARCH COMMITTEE

SSHRC is committed to supporting and promoting social sciences and humanities research by and with Indigenous Peoples, including First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples.

Committee 21 welcomes research proposals in any SSHRC-eligible academic field or domain of knowledge that is grounded in Indigenous worldviews or related to Indigenous Peoples.

Multidisciplinary committee composed of Indigenous and non-Indigenous members who are specialists in Indigenous research

For further information, see the <u>Guidelines for the Merit Review of Indigenous Research</u>

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Research Council of Ca

Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review

A pilot mechanism that provides a shared interdisciplinary peer review process and committee for research projects including disciplines supported by more than one agency.

- Applicants must apply via the agency responsible for the dominant component of their proposed research project: Insight Grants, Insight Development Grants, CIHR Project Grants, NSERC Discovery Horizons Grants.

- Relevant applications must represent research across disciplines and subject areas pertaining to two or more of the (1) social sciences and humanities, (2) natural sciences and engineering, and (3) health and wellness, and clearly articulate interdisciplinary approaches.

- Relevant applications will be reviewed by a common interdisciplinary committee with broad expertise. Committee members are recruited from across research areas supported by all three agencies.

Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee: Evaluation

- This shared committee uses a harmonized evaluation process, including evaluation criteria, that differs from the usual Insight Grants process.

- Three equally weighted [evaluation criteria](#):

    - Merit of the Proposed Research
    - Anticipated Outcomes
    - Applicant(s) Record

- **How to submit**: submit to the agency that is responsible for the dominant research discipline or area. For SSHRC applicants, select Committee 24 on your application form and complete a one-page request for inter/multidisciplinary evaluation.

- For more information, please consult the committee's [landing page](#), [Committee Peer Review Guide](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

OVERVIEW OF THE MERIT REVIEW PROCESS

- Committee membership
- Merit review components and process
- Evaluation criteria and scoring
- Communication of results and feedback

Committee Membership

Experts drawn primarily from the academic community, as well as the public, private, and/or not-for-profit sectors, as required.

Number of committee members is determined based on the number of applications received.

Representation of the committee in terms of:
- research expertise (disciplinary or sub-disciplinary)
- sizes of institution
- geographical region
- language
- stage of career
- gender

Merit Review Components and Process

- 2 Committee members are assigned as **Readers**

- 2 **external assessments** per application (where possible)
    - Suggest Assessors (maximum 3, Conflict of Interest)
    - Exclude evaluators
    - Merit review committees consider **but are not bound by** the judgments of the external assessors.

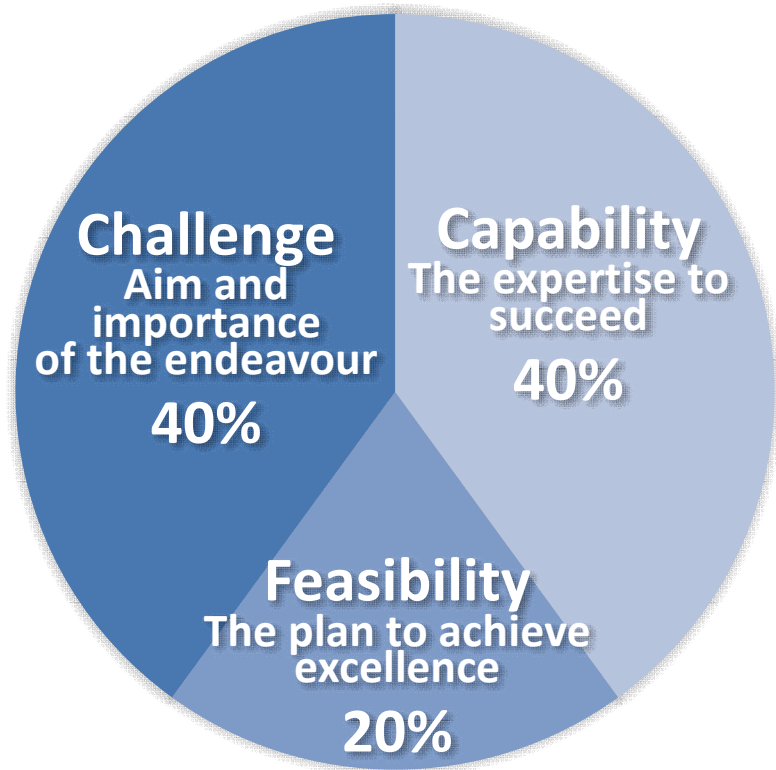| Calibration Exercise | Submission of preliminary scores | Preliminary ranking | Flagging process | Committee discussion | Final ranking |

Evaluation and Scoring

NOTE	DESCRIPTION
5 – 6	Very good – excellent
4 – 4.9	Good – very good
3 – 3.9	Satisfactory – good
Below 3	Unsatisfactory

Communication of Results

Results communicated to individual applicants via the SSHRC Extranet.

Results packages contain:
- *Notice of Decision*
- *External assessments received*
- *Committee Evaluation Form (if discussed)*
- *Notice of Award (if applicable)*
- *Terms and Conditions of the Award (if applicable)*

INSIGHT GRANTS RESULTS (2018-2022)

	Oct. 2018	Oct. 2019	Oct. 2020	Oct. 2021	Oct. 2022
Number of Committees	22	22	25	26	26
Number of eligible applications	(A) 615 (B) 750 T: 1,365	(A) 602 (B) 823 T: 1,425	(A) 496 (B) 717 T: 1,213	(A) 427 (B) 657 T: 1,084	(A) 413 (B) 732 T: 1,145
Overall success rate	(A) 50.9% (B) 41.7%	(A) 45,50% (B) 37,20%	(A) 56,65% (B) 49,65%	(A) 56.44% (B) 48.55%	(A) 50.60% (B) 41.12%
Requested amount	$ (A) 52,048,696 (B) 188,427,889	$ (A) 50,788,162 (B) 212,906,940	$ (A) 41,705,518 (B) 183,039,458	$ (A) 36, 349,321 (B) 174,565,729	$ (A)35,855,352 (B) 197,280,970
Average requested	$ (A) 84.632 (B) 251,237	$ (A) 84,365 (B) 258,696	$ (A) 84,083 (B) 255,285	$ (A) 85,127 (B) 265,701	$ (A) 86,817 (B) 269,510
Awarded amount	$ (A) 24,745, 659 (B) 66,264,204	$ (A) 22,703,076 (B) 68,980,028	$ (A) 23,184,285 (B) 80,816,747	$ (A) 19,452,722 (B) 77,223,393	$ (A) 17,243,859 (B) 72,226,162
Average awarded	$ (A)79,659 (B) 211,706	$ (A) 82,857 (B) 225, 424	$ (A) 82,506 (B) 227,013	$ (A) 80,717 (B) 242,080	$ (A) 82,507 (B) 239,954

Joint Initiatives

Department of National Defence Research Initiative

- A joint initiative of SSHRC and Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC of Department of National Defence- DND)

- Supports social science and humanities research aligned with areas of interest in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and DND

- Fosters effective, evidence-based strategies, policies and programs in research areas identified by DRDC

- Supplements valued at up to $20,000 per year for three years, up to a total of $60,000 maximum, will be awarded to successful Insight Grant recipients in addition to the annual value of the Insight Grant.

Department of National Defence Research Initiative

1. Personnel – Recruitment & Selection

- Selection tests

2. Readiness – Training & Development

- Emerging learning & training modalities

3. Social Processes in the Workplace

- Restorative engagement in organization
- Diversity, gender and armed forces
- Working effectively in diverse organizational teams and in cross-cultural settings
- Transition to civilian life
- Socio-cultural change in military organizations
- Psychosocial Well-Being of Minority Groups in the Workplace

4. Operational Effectiveness

- Individual, social and cultural dimensions of radicalization
- Ethical dimension of using artificial intelligence in defence and security
- Human Dimensions of Cybersecurity
- Social and cultural demands of military operations
- Gender perspectives on operations, defence, and security
- Civil-Military relations

Sport Participation Research Initiative

- SPRI: Joint Initiative with Sport Canada

- Supports research on matters related to enhancing participation in sports

- How to apply: select the SPRI joint initiative and clearly indicate how the proposed research applies to the SPRI objectives

- Application adjudicated by SSHRC peer review committees

- If application is ranked above the fifth and sixth sextiles, it is referred to Sport Canada.

Sport Participation Research Initiative

- Grants: $7,000 - $250,000 over 3 years (max $100,000/year).

- Funds conference participation at annual Sport Canada Research Initiative Conference (up to $20,000, in addition to the value of the grant).

- Funding conditions: participate in the annual Sport Canada Research Initiative Conference and provide knowledge transfer paper.

Sport Participation Research Initiative

SPRI Target Areas

Participation

Values & Ethics

System Performance

Major Games & Events

Economic & Social Development

CFI Initiative

- Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) : funding of Infrastructure and research support.

- Submit separate proposals to SSHRC and to the CFI which will merge before they are assessed.

- Institutions can submit proposals requesting up to $800,000 from the CFI, with a maximum total eligible cost of $2 million. The CFI funds up to 40 percent of a project's eligible infrastructure costs. Institutions must secure the remaining 60 percent of the required funding.

Mitacs Accelerate (1)

- NEW! Beginning in the 2023 calendar year, SSHRC applicants to Insight Grants, Partnership Engage Grants (starting with June competition), Partnership Development Grants, and Partnership Grants – Stage 2 can simultaneously apply for Mitacs Accelerate internships.

- Mitacs Accelerate supports the research internships of students and postdoctoral researchers with Canadian non-academic organizations (i.e., for-profit corporations, eligible not-for-profit corporations, municipalities, and hospitals). Each internship is cost-shared by Mitacs and the organization hosting the internship(s).

[Mitacs Accelerate](#) (2)

NEW! **How to Apply**

- Applicants must select "Mitacs Accelerate" from the joint initiative list in the SSHRC application form and submit a completed Accelerate application form to Mitacs within one week of the deadline of the SSHRC funding opportunity.

- Applicants will also be asked to provide summary information in their SSHRC application about the proposed internship(s).

- SSHRC merit review committees will consider the associated Mitacs internships as part of the application's overall training and mentoring plans, but they will not be evaluating the Accelerate applications.

Belmont Forum

↘ Funding agencies of the following countries have committed to working proactively to enhance co-operation and co-ordination of global environmental change research:

- *Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, India, Japan, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States.*

↘ Develop proposals that involve their international colleagues and partners that speak to the BF themes.

↘ SSHRC award holders working in areas related to the BF can use their existing research funds to participate as collaborators on applications being submitted to the Belmont Forum's calls for proposals.

Application Preparation

Application Preparation

- Response to Previous Critiques
  - Opportunity to justify a choice made with regard to research plan or explain how previous feedback was used to improve the current proposal

- Summary of Proposed Research
  - Important introduction; be clear, thorough, use accessible language

- Detailed Description
  - provide clear and precise objectives
  - include a complete and up-to-date literature review
  - outline theoretical / conceptual framework
  - ensure methodology makes sense in terms of objectives and personnel involved

Knowledge Mobilization Plan

- Be creative, ambitious and provide justification.

- Where feasible, reach out to the community or public.

- Describe how you will maximize the results of your research and ensure their results' sustainability. See Guidelines for Effective KM.

Tri-Agency Open Access Policy

- Peer-reviewed journal articles based on agency-funded research must be made freely accessible within 12 months of publication, via:
  - *Online repositories*
  - *Open-access journals*

- The Tri-Agencies also encourage the open publication of books. Open access fees for books are an eligible expense.

- Open access costs are assessed with the quality and appropriateness of the knowledge mobilization plans. Applicants should be precise and provide justification for the amount requested.

- **New:** A review of the Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications is underway. The agencies invite members of the community to complete an online survey. An updated policy will be released by the end of 2025. Grants received prior to the publication of the revised policy must continue to respect the current policy.

Description of Team and Student Training (1)

- Demonstrate the need for the team

- Describe each person's role and justify their inclusion in the research project

- Work assigned to students must be meaningful

- Refer to *Guidelines for Effective Research Training*

Postdoctoral fellows' contribution and salaries

- The goal of Insight Program is to support research excellence. The principal investigator has primary responsibility for the overall intellectual direction of the research and research-related activity.

  The salaries of highly qualified personnel, including postdoctoral researchers, should be properly justified within the context of the research program. If a disproportionately high % of requested budget is allocated to a postdoc salary that is not adequately justified, the committee may question the overall feasibility of the proposed research and may consider giving a lower score on the Feasibility.

- According to SSHRC's policies: Insight Grant funds cannot be used to remunerate team members (applicant, co-applicant or collaborator). This includes postdoctoral fellows serving in any of these capacities.

Budget and Budget Justification

- When submitting your budget, it is important to:
  - Be reasonable and justify proposed expenditures
  - Relate it clearly to research objectives and methodology
  - Describe other sources of funding

- Applications will automatically fail on the Feasibility criterion if the committee deems that the budget should be reduced by **50%** or more. In addition, committee are asked to consider assigning a failing score on the Feasibility criterion if it deems that **30%** or more of the proposed budget is either not appropriate or not sufficiently justified.

Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration and Guidelines for Cash and In-Kind Contributions.

Impacts of COVID-19

SSHRC recognizes that COVID-19 has affected researchers' and students' capacity to conduct and plan their regular research and training activities.

- Flexibility for applicants to provide information on the impact of COVID-19:
  - Contingency plans may be included in the detailed description and will be assessed through the feasibility criteria.
  - For the Applicants, one page could be added in the Career Interruptions and Special Circumstances section in the application form. For the Co-App, this page could also be added to the Research Contributions module (5 pages instead of 4).
  - COVID-19 related expenses **are eligible expenditures**: i.e. travel cancel fees.

- Grants administration measures: extensions may be approved (must submit completed *Grant Amendment Forms* to Agency for review); postponement of the deadline for submitting financial reports and achievement report (F300 and F301).

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION (1)
BE SURE TO START EARLY IF YOU HAVE A TEAM

Applicant

1. Complete and verify application and SSHRC CV.
2. Ensure all participants have included relevant attachments.
3. Submit application for institutional approval.

Co-applicant

1. Create and verify SSHRC CV.
2. Accept the invitation and upload Research Contributions (PDF).

Collaborator

1. Fill out a profile.
2. Accept invitation.

Team members' CVs will hold up the whole application if they are not complete

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION (2)

↘ Detailed application Instructions found here: https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/instructions/insight-savoir-eng.aspx

| Complete all mandatory fields

| Attach all mandatory electronic uploads

| Verify and preview your application

| Click "Submit" for institutional approval

| Institutions forward applications to SSHRC
*Research or financial administrator responsibilities

| Leave enough time

Note: PhD students and postdoctoral fellows may submit their application directly to SSHRC. SSHRC recommends that they inform, early in the process, the Office of Research Services of the institution where they propose to hold the award and confirm that it is willing to administer the award.

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Support research in official languages

SSHRC is committed to the equitable treatment of all applications submitted to the agency in either official language. SSHRC supports Canada's official languages and Official Language Minority Communities (OLMCs) by ensuring that:

→ applications can be submitted in either official language;
→ program officers support research community members in the official language of the community member's choice;
→ a balanced representation of both official language communities in the merit review process; and merit assessment can be carried out in both languages.

For program performance, SSHRC measures application and award rates, in line with tri-agency measures on equitable access to funding opportunities for designated groups. These figures have remained relatively stable for applications in French and English over the past ten years, with variations depending on the program.

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Canada

Acfas's new Service to Assist Research in French (SARF)

What?   A Canada-wide, inter-university, French-language research grant assistance service:
- Administrative review of the research grant proposal by a grant facilitator
- Assistance in the preparation of the different sections of a research grant application
- Access to peer review in the relevant field

For whom?   French-speaking scholars working in minority settings in Canada (outside Québec)

When?   The services are now available for the upcoming 2023-2024 SSHRC grant competitions

How?   Through a partnership agreement with your institution

You would like to use SARF's services?

Speak to the research administrators of your university to organize a meeting!

For further inquiries about SARF, please contact :

Thierry Drapeau, PhD
Director

✉ **thierry.drapeau@acfas.ca**

📞 **514-849-0045, ext 236**

💻 **https://www.acfas.ca/communaute/sarf**

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EMAIL: INSIGHTGRANTS@SSHRC-CRSH.GC.CA

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TEL.: 613-995-4273
EMAIL: WEBGRANT@SSHRC-CRSH.GC.CA