



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

SSHRC  CRSH

Overview of Funding Opportunities within the Insight Program

Spring 2011



Scope of Presentation

Part 1: Changes at SSHRC

- Program Architecture Renewal
- the Partnerships and Research Portfolios

Part 2: Insight Grants

- Relationship to Standard Research Grants program and Insight Development Grants
- Application and evaluation processes
- Tips and questions



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

SSHRC  CRSH

CHANGES AT SSHRC



Program Architecture Renewal

Goals:

- greater overall program coherence;
- simplified application process;
- flexible funding options for individuals and teams
- new approach to multidisciplinary

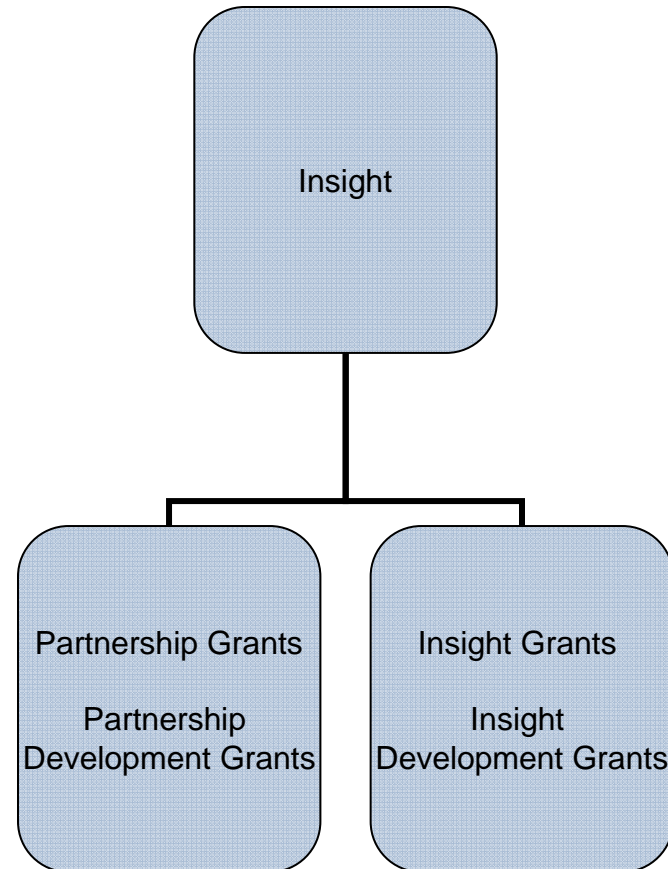
Structure

Three programs:

- Talent
- Insight
- Connection

Two funding streams:

- Individual researchers and informal groups or teams
- Formal partnerships





Funding Stream : Formal Partnerships

- Partnership Grants
- Partnership Development Grants

These funding opportunities are administered by the team within the Partnership portfolio

Partnership Grants:

- To support research and/or knowledge mobilization conducted in the context of a new or existing formal partnership

- What's a partnership?
 - disciplinary, interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral partnerships
 - networks for research and/or related activities
 - partnered knowledge mobilization
 - other

- What makes a partnership a formal partnership?
 - an agreed-upon governance and/or management structure
 - a mutually determined methodological approach with established roles and responsibilities
 - a memorandum of understanding
 - intellectual property arrangements
 - letters of agreement
 - other

Partnership Grants: Participants

- Who can be a partner?
 - a Canadian or foreign postsecondary institution
 - a government department
 - a for-profit or not-for-profit organization or foundation
 - partnered Chairs
 - partnered Research Centres

- Who are the partners partnering with?
 - principal investigator
 - co-applicant(s)
 - collaborator(s)
 - other contributors

Partnership Grants: Features

- **Applicant:** Institution
- **Duration:** 4 to 7 years
- **Value:** Typically \$500,000 to \$2.5 million but lower or higher amounts can be requested
- **Minimum contributions:** Cash or in-kind contributions equal to a minimum of 35% of SSHRC funding over the life of the grant are required
- **Two-stage application process:**
 - Letter of Intent
 - Formal Application



Partnership Grants: Contributions

Stage 1—LOI: Applicants should include a plan to secure, over the course of the grant and over and above the budget requested from SSHRC, a minimum of 35% in additional resources

Stage 2—Formal Application: Applicants must demonstrate they have begun the process of securing the minimum 35% of additional resources and must also provide a plan for securing the rest. The minimum 35% must be confirmed by the mid-term evaluation of the project.

Partnership Development Grants

- To foster new research partnership activities (research and/or knowledge mobilization) involving existing and/or potential partners; or
- to design and test new partnership approaches that may result in best practices or models that can be adapted by others or scaled up at a regional, national, or international level.
- Partner = same as above except Partnered Chairs and Partnership Research Centres are not possible
- Evidence supporting formal partnership = as above

Partnership Development Grants: Features

- **Applicant:** Principal investigator
- **Duration:** 1 to 3 years
- **Value:** Typically \$75,000 to \$200,000 but lower or higher amounts can be requested
- **Institutional and partner contributions:** Cash and/or in-kind contributions must be secured during life of the grant, however there is no minimum contribution
- **Application process:** One-stage application

Funding Stream: Individuals and small teams

- Insight Grants
- Insight Development Grants

These funding opportunities are administered by individuals working in the Research Portfolio

Insight Development Grants

- To support research in its initial stages conducted by new and/or regular scholars
- To enable the development of new research questions, as well as experimentation with new methods, theoretical approaches, and/or ideas (may include case studies, pilot initiatives, and critical analyses of existing research)

Insight Development Grants: Features

- **Applicant:** Principal investigator alone or with a team
- **Duration:** 1 to 2 years
- **Value:** Up to \$75,000
- **Funding:** 50% of the budgetary envelope is reserved for New Scholars
- **Application process:** One-stage application

Insight Development Grants: Applicants

➤ New scholars

- must demonstrate that they have not applied successfully, as principal investigator or project director, for a grant through any of SSHRC's funding opportunities

In addition, they must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- have completed their highest degree no more than five years before the competition deadline (SSHRC considers only the date of completion of the first doctorate);
or
- have held a tenured or tenure-track university appointment for less than five years;
or
- have held a university appointment, but never a tenure-track position (in the case of institutions that offer tenure-track positions);
or
- have had their careers significantly interrupted or delayed for family reasons.

Insight Development Grants: Applicants cont'd

- **New scholar research**
 - Grants are developmental in the sense of their offering a chance for new scholars to develop their career
 - research can be but need not be wholly new - extension of thesis research is possible

- **Regular scholars**
 - have either established or had the time and opportunity to establish a record of research achievement
 - are able to apply even if already holding a SSHRC grant (likely related to their ongoing program of study)

- **Regular scholar research**
 - novelty of research more significant for regular scholars. Indeed they must clearly demonstrate how proposed research differs from previous research
 - Enables them to conduct work in new areas, in new ways, to do pilot studies, etc., without being penalized for lack of experience

Insight Grants

- to support research proposed by scholars and judged worthy of funding by their peers and/or other experts
- to provide opportunities for the training of future researchers
- to contribute to the advancement of theory and/or methodology
- to support disciplinary and multidisciplinary research activities
- to promote knowledge mobilization within and beyond the academic community

Insight Grants: Features

- **Applicant:** Principal investigator alone or with a team
- **Duration:** 5 to 7 years
- **Value:** min. \$7,000, up to \$500,000 (with a maximum of \$200,000 in any given year)
- **Funding:** No separate envelope for New Scholars
- **Application process:** One-stage application

Evaluation and adjudication: all programs

- The clarity and consistency that were the goals of program architecture renewal extend to our modified evaluation and adjudication procedures where it is now the case that the same essential variables are utilized for all programs



Evaluation Criteria

- Challenge - Aim and importance of the endeavour
- Feasibility - The plan to achieve excellence
- Capability - The expertise to succeed

Weighting of Criteria

	Partnership Development Grants	Partnership Grants	Insight Development Grants	Insight Grants
Challenge	50%	40%	50%	40%
Feasibility	20%	30%	20%	20%
Capability	30%	30%	30%	40%

Specific Evaluation criteria (Insight Grants)

Draft!

1. **Challenge: The aim and importance of the endeavour (40%)**
 - **Elements considered :**
 - originality, significance and expected contribution to knowledge
 - literature review
 - theoretical approach or framework
 - methodological approach
 - training and mentoring to be provided to students, emerging scholars, and other highly qualified personnel
 - potential influence and impact of the research initiative within and/or beyond the social sciences and humanities research community
2. **Feasibility: The plan to achieve excellence (20%)**
 - **Elements considered:**
 - program design and strategies and timelines for the conduct of the research activity in terms of the research objectives
 - requested budget, justification of proposed costs, and indications of other resources (time, human, and financial), including leveraging of cash and in-kind support from the host institution and/or from partners, where appropriate
 - knowledge mobilization plans, including effective knowledge dissemination, knowledge exchange and plans to engage within and/or beyond the research community
 - expertise of the applicant and/or team to carry out the proposed research.
3. **Capability: The expertise to succeed (40%)**
 - **Elements considered:**
 - quality, quantity and significance of research activity (such as publications, funded research, etc.) and other outputs relative to the applicant's stage of career;
 - evidence of other contributions such as commissioned reports, professional practice, public discourse, public policies, products and services, development of talent, experience in collaboration, etc.; and
 - potential for future contributions based on prior outputs.

Adjudication components

- There are two basic adjudication components - external assessments and committee/committee member evaluations and again, they are used variably for the specific funding opportunities as per the following chart

Adjudication

	Partnership Development Grants	Partnership Grants	Insight Development Grants	Insight Grants
Type of Adjudication Committee	Multi-disciplinary / multi-sectoral	Multi-disciplinary / multi-sectoral	Multi-disciplinary	Multi-disciplinary
Number of Readers	3	3	3	2/3
Use of External Assessments	NO	NO-LOI YES-Formal (3-6)	NO	YES

Adjudication Committees

- Multidisciplinary/Multisectoral committees
 - expertise drawn from the academic community, and the public, private, and/or not-for-profit sectors, as appropriate

- Why?
 - follows general research trend
 - Blue ribbon panel recommendation
 - helps fulfill goals of simplicity and flexibility



Insight and Insight Development Grants: Research Groups at Application stage

- **Group 1:** History; medieval studies; classics; literature; fine arts; philosophy; religious studies; and related fields
- **Group 2:** Anthropology; archaeology; linguistics; translation; political science; public administration; law; criminology; geography; urban planning and environmental studies; and related fields
- **Group 3:** Business and management; economics; and related fields
- **Group 4:** Sociology; demography; communication studies; journalism; media studies; gender studies; cultural studies; library and information science; and related fields
- **Group 5:** Education, psychology; social work; career guidance; and related fields

Committee Members

- Number of committee members is a function of applications received. We aim for an equitable and a reasonable distribution of work
- Specific members chosen for their broad ranging expertise/experience and their scholarly stature
- We also seek balance in terms of:
 - university size (small, medium and large)
 - geographical region
 - language
 - gender

Committee Members as Readers

- Minimum of two
- Readers are assigned based on expertise and suitability
- Optional cross-committee evaluation
 - For multi- or interdisciplinary proposals to be considered by a committee member from another discipline, applicants must indicate secondary and tertiary disciplines and areas of research, and include a rationale
 - applications will go to the committee most suited to its primary focus/discipline
 - additional expertise from another committee will be sought, when deemed appropriate

External Assessments

- For applications with requested budgets of less than \$300,000, SSHRC will seek two external assessments. Three external assessments will be sought for applications with budget requests from \$300,000 to \$500,000
- Suggested assessors
- Seek to avoid conflicts of interest and therefore assessments from:
 - a close friend
 - a relative
 - a research collaborator
 - a departmental colleague
 - a student previously under the applicant's supervision
 - a person with whom the applicant is involved in a dispute
 - a person with whom the applicant is involved in a partnership

Preparing your Insight Grant application

- **Application composition**
 - similar to SRG and IDG
 - SSHRC CV for applicant, co-applicants and collaborators with mandatory attachments
 - Response to previous critiques (optional)
 - Summary of proposed research (1p.)
 - Detailed description of proposed research (6 pp.)
 - Bibliography/references (no page limit)
 - Description of research team and plans for student training (4 pp.)
 - Funds requested from SSHRC (1p.) and budget justification (2 pp.)
 - Funds from other sources (if applicable)
 - Intended outcomes of proposed activities (1p.) and Expected outcomes summary (1p.) - **NEW!**

- **General considerations:**
 - do not submit a “premature” proposal; project must be quite fully worked out and feasible
 - present a well-written and carefully crafted proposal; edit and proofread it; consider its tone

- **CV(s)**
 - organize your publications as per instructions; indicate refereed items and those stemming from previous SSHRC grants
 - avoid “inflating” the c.v.
 - career interruptions/special circumstances

- **Response to previous critiques**
 - opportunity to justify a choice made with regard to research plan, perhaps

Preparing your Insight Grant application cont'd

- **Summary of proposed research**
 - much used page; be clear, thorough and use accessible language
- **Detailed Description**
 - provide clear and precise objectives: why are you doing the research? why is it important?
 - include complete literature review that serves to situate what you will be doing
 - outline theoretical or conceptual framework
 - ensure methodology makes sense in terms of objectives and personnel involved
 - explain all key terms and concepts
- **Description of team/student training plans**
 - applicant should demonstrate the need for the team and outline each person's role; member are assessed in terms of what they are to do
 - MYTH: SSHRC favours team applications
- **Outcomes**
 - will be used for statistical and reporting purposes but also by committee
- **Budget and Budget justification**
 - be reasonable and justify proposed expenditures
 - read Tri-council financial administration guide and check list of eligible and ineligible expenses in advance
 - budget should clearly relate to research objectives

Submitting your application

- Leave enough time!
- Complete all mandatory fields
- Attach all mandatory electronic uploads (application)
- Ensure all co-applicants and collaborators (i.e., participants with SSHRC CVs) have submitted their "Accept Invitation Form"
- Verify and correct data until the "Verification Report" indicates successful verification
- Click on the "Submit" button (Submit to Research Administrator) for institutional approval
- PhD students and postdoctoral researchers may submit their applications directly to SSHRC

Feedback provided

- Applicants receive
 - notice of decision
 - external assessments obtained
 - summary of the adjudication committee's comments
 - committee statistics

Co-operative funding arrangements

- **Sport Participation Research Initiative Grants**
 - funding for policy-relevant research related to Canadians' participation in sport
 - selected from the "recommended but not funded" (4a) list
 - interested applicants must select "Sport Participation Research Initiative" from the drop-down list on the Insight Grant application form

- **Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) Infrastructure Funding**
 - infrastructure funding possible through CFI's Leaders Opportunity Fund
 - requests and enquiries should be directed to CFI
 - interested applicants must select "Canada Foundation for Innovation Leaders Opportunity Fund" from the appropriate drop-down list on the Insight Grant application form

Important Deadlines

Internal university deadline - contact your research office!

- Insight Grants - October 15, 2011
- Partnership Development Grants - Nov. 30, 2011
- Insight Development Grants - February 1, 2012
- Partnership Grants
 - LOI Feb. 15, 2012
 - Formal Nov. 1, 2011 (current competition; Nov. 1, 2012 for next)

Statistics for first Partnerships competitions

➤ Partnerships

- 151 eligible (LOI) applications
- 31 invited to submit a full proposal
- 71% primarily related to objectives of Insight
- 29% primarily related to objectives of Connection

➤ Partnership Development Grants

- 164 eligible applications
- 45 proposals funded
- 51% primarily related to objectives of Insight
- 49% primarily related to objectives of Connection
- Partners from all sectors but primarily not-for-profit and public/government; evidence of willingness to collaborate internationally

Statistics for first Insight competition

➤ Insight Development Grants

- 630 eligible applications
- applicants applied to one of five broad research areas
- 9 committees subsequently created based on disciplines implicated in the proposals and on applicants' request for disciplinary or multidisciplinary review
- results to come in early June
- competition budget is \$10 million over two years

Contacts and Useful information

- **On applying for and holding multiple applications:**
http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/multiple_apps-demandes_multiples-eng.aspx
- **Institutional eligibility:** For postsecondary institutions or not-for-profit organizations that are not yet eligible yet wish to administer SSHRC grants. Contact: secretariat@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca
- **Tri-council financial admin guide:** http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/FinancialAdminGuide-GuideAdminFinancier/index_eng.asp
- **Sports Participation Research Initiative:** http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/sport_can-eng.aspx
- **CFI infrastructure funding:**
<http://www.innovation.ca/en/programs/funds/leaders-opportunity-fund>



Research Portfolio Program Officers

Classics, ancient and mediaeval studies, religious studies, classical archaeology (SRG Committee 1)

Meda, Chantal

chantal.meda@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-947-2094

History (SRG Committee 2)

Corcoran, Wendy

wendy.corcoran@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-947-2095

Fine arts: history/philosophy of art, architecture, theatre, music, film, dance (SRG Committee 3)

Bruneau, Suzanne

suzanne.bruneau@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-944-5327

Linguistics, applied linguistics and translation (SRG Committee 5)

Anderson, Lorraine

lorraine.anderson@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-947-4233

Economics (SRG Committee 7)

Simard, François

francois.simard@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-995-7129

Research Portfolio Program Officers cont'd

Sociology and demography (SRG Committee 8)

Nicholls, Sarah

sarah.nicholls@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-992-5127

Geography, urban planning, environmental studies (SRG Committee 9)

Sénécal, Isabelle

isabelle.senecal@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-992-5147

Psychology (SRG Committee 10)

Emery, Patricia

patricia.emery@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-992-8206

Education 1: Curriculum; arts, civic, environmental, geography, history, mathematics and science education; second Language education; reading and writing; moral, values and religious education (SRG Committee 12)

Truchon, Geneviève

genevieve.truchon@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-947-3973

Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary studies (SRG Committee 15)

Pepe, Alan

alan.pepe@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-992-6993

Research Portfolio Program Officers cont'd

Anthropology and archaeology (SRG Committee 16)

Pepe, Alan

alan.pepe@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-992-6993

Education 2: Educational administration; adult, continuing, community and vocational education; history, philosophy, sociology and theory of education; higher education; comparative and distance education; educational technology (SRG Committee 17)

Truchon, Geneviève

genevieve.truchon@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-947-3973

Literature 1: English (from the Mediaeval to the Victorian period), French; German; Slavic (SRG Committee 18)

Dagenais, Suzanne

suzanne.dagenais@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-943-1147

Literature 2: American, contemporary literatures in English, English Canadian, First Nations, French Canadian & Québec, Romance, other languages & literatures (SRG Committee 19)

Nicholls, Sarah

sarah.nicholls@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-992-5127

Research Portfolio Program Officers cont'd

Human resources management, organizational studies; industrial relations, management
(SRG Committee 21)

Bidas, Fatima

fatima.bidas@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-943-1560

Accounting, finance, management science, productions and operations management
(SRG Committee 22)

Bidas, Fatima

fatima.bidas@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-943-1560

Law, socio-legal studies and criminology (SRG Committee 23)

Rozitis, Emily-Brynn

emily-brynn.rozitis@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-947-9657

Political science 1 (SRG Committee 24)

Rozitis, Emily-Brynn

emily-brynn.rozitis@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-947-9657

Philosophy (SRG Committee 25)

Meda, Chantal

chantal.meda@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-947-2094

Research Portfolio Program Officers cont'd

Communication, cultural studies and women's studies (SRG Committee 26)

Sweetland, Stephanie

stephanie.sweetland@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-996-5794

Education 3: Early childhood and exceptional education; educational psychology; physical and health education; measurement and evaluation; pedagogy; teaching methods and teacher education (SRG Committee 28)

Sénécal, Isabelle

isabelle.senecal@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-992-5147

Marketing, international business, management of information systems, business policy (SRG Committee 29)

Bidas, Fatima

fatima.bidas@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-943-1560

Social work, library/information science, career guidance (SRG Committee 30)

Lebrun, Luc

luc.lebrun@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-992-5146

Political science 2 (SRG Committee 31)

Rozitis, Emily-Brynn

emily-brynn.rozitis@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

613-947-9657