



Michael Smith Foundation for
Health Research

Health of Population Networks

Background

Development of the Networks

Phase 1 of the Networking Infrastructure Program focuses on population-based health research networks. Proposals detailing the implementation plans for eight networks were submitted to MSFHR for review in November 2004. MSFHR convened a Review Panel to review the proposals and provide constructive feedback and recommendations to help position the networks for success. The panel included health researchers from outside of BC with experience in developing networks and other research programs. In January 2005, MSFHR commenced infrastructure funding to eight health of population networks.

Progress Review

In March 2007, MSFHR convened a Review Panel to review the progress to date of the eight Health of Population Networks. The Panel met with representatives of each of the Networks and reviewed written background documentation including the original funding proposals, progress reports, and requests for additional funding. The Panel also had written reports from external content experts who had assessed the progress of each individual network. The Panel provided feedback on the Networks' performances, and made recommendations regarding award increases, from the previous level of \$250,000 per year per Network up to a maximum of \$500,000 per year per Network. The Panel found that all eight Networks had shown considerable progress to date and recommended varying levels of award increases based on the Networks' individual reviews.

2008 MSFHR Cross-Network Satisfaction Survey

MSFHR contracted an independent agent, RA Malatest Ltd, to survey the satisfaction and perceptions of Network participants and non-participants. The survey was conducted from April 2 - May 2, 2008. MSFHR would like to thank all those who participated in the survey. [Read the survey results](#) (PDF)

Evaluation Process

Rigorous review processes are a cornerstone of MSFHR's operations and help to ensure that MSFHR is accountable to the government of the province of British Columbia for the money it invests in health research. The vast majority of MSFHR's review processes are associated with assessing funding applications and making funding recommendations. MSFHR also periodically convenes review panels to assess its programs and/or processes, and make recommendations for improvement. [Read the Infrastructure Programs Review Process](#) (PDF)

Review Panels

Progress Review Panel

March 5 and 6, 2007

Dr. Roy Cameron (Chair), PhD
Executive Director
Centre for Behavioural Research and Program Evaluation
University of Waterloo

Ms. Erica Di Ruggiero, MHSc, RD
Associate Director
CIHR Institute of Population and Public Health
Department of Public Health Sciences, University of Toronto

Dr. Carole Estabrooks, RN, PhD
Canada Research Chair in Knowledge Translation
Professor, Faculty of Nursing, University of Alberta

Dr. Marielle Gascon-Barré, PhD
Vice-President and Scientific Director
Fonds de la recherche en santé du Québec (FRSQ)

Dr. Penny Hawe, MPH, PhD
Professor
Department of Community Health Sciences, University of Calgary

Dr. Donald Wasylenki, MD, MSc, FRCPC
Psychiatrist-in-Chief, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto
Professor and Chair, Department of Psychiatry and Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto
Senior Consultant, Health Systems Research and Consulting Unit, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

Formative Review Panel

November 25 and 26, 2004

Dr. Roy Cameron (Chair), PhD
Executive Director
Center for Behavioural Research and Program Evaluation
University of Waterloo

Dr. Howard Bergman, MD
Director
Quebec Aging Health Network
Fonds de la recherche en santé du Québec

Dr. Stephen Bornstein, MD

Director

Newfoundland and Labrador Center for Applied Health Research

Madeline Boscoe, RN

Executive Director

Canadian Women's Health Network

Dr. Jean-Pierre Brun, MSc, PhD

Director

Quebec Workplace Health Network

Fonds de la recherche en santé du Québec

Dr. Eva Kehayia, MA, PhD

Vice Chair/Co-leader

Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Rehabilitation

McGill University