

The Translation and Society Team Awards Guidelines

SCN will provide up to \$175,000 to support high-calibre ELSI research teams to undertake innovative, high-impact research that facilitates the translation of stem cell-based research for the benefit of society.

About the Stem Cell Network:

Supporting and building Canada's stem cell and regenerative medicine research sector has been the *raison d'être* of the Stem Cell Network (SCN) since its inception in 2001. Its work has been supported by the Government of Canada from the beginning, and most recently with an \$18 million commitment to fund research and training through 2019-22.

SCN is a national non-profit that supports stem cell and regenerative medicine research, training the next generation and outreach across Canada. SCN's goal is to translate science from the lab to clinical applications, commercial products and public policy for the benefit of Canadians. SCN is supported by the Government of Canada and works in partnership with industry representatives, health charities, government and non-government organizations to build on Canada's leadership in the sector. Since 2001, SCN has directed an investment of over \$100M of strategic funding that has benefitted approximately 170 world-class research groups and 3,000 trainees, and has catalyzed 19 clinical trials.

The Translation and Society Team Awards:

SCN is pleased to invite full proposals under Round 2 of the Translation and Society (T&S) Program. Round 2 of the program will support out-standing research teams ready to undertake ELSI (Ethical, Legal and Social Implications) research projects that focus on key opportunities and impediments to progress in the translation of innovative stem cell research. Project topics may include but are not limited to: regulatory modernization, legal and policy challenges of emerging technologies, ethical governance, market access pathways, reimbursement, health system adoption, patient knowledge and engagement, privacy, data collection and usage, public education or awareness for consumers. Successful projects will incorporate a Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) development program designed to build the next generation of ELSI research leaders. Where appropriate, SCN encourages ELSI research projects to include wet lab investigators on project teams.

Awards of up to \$175,000 for 18-months will be available through this program (August 1, 2020 – January 31, 2022). The application will require a strategic plan and a budget justification that corresponds with the plan. In addition, a separate detailed budget for the requested SCN funding is required. Partnerships with foundations, institutions, health charities or industry are an important and mandatory component of the project proposals. Partnerships and leveraged funding (in-kind and/or cash) will increase the application's ranking. All project applications will be subject to peer review and assessment by the Stem Cell Network's Research Management Committee. Successful projects will provide the SCN office with project reports as requested and will be regularly monitored by SCN's Research Management Committee to ensure appropriate progress is being made.

Specific Criteria:

Projects must:

- Be forward-looking and address significant clinical translation challenges that may impede stem cell-based therapies and emerging technologies from moving from bench to bedside;
- Be driven by expert ELSI teams that may include investigators not previously funded by SCN;
- Feature the development of ELSI Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) as a key pillar of the proposal;
- Demonstrate strong potential for uptake and use of the research outputs by specific receptors;
- Enable Canada to compete within a global research environment, or strengthen Canada's international leadership in ELSI research;
- Build Canadian knowledge and strength in the translation of stem cell research; and
- Include non-federal partnerships that provide in-kind and cash contributions.

General Requirements:

- Projects must be relevant to stem cells and regenerative medicine.
- Projects must demonstrate research excellence and innovation.
- Projects must be in the translational space.
- Projects should integrate sex and gender considerations into the research, when appropriate.
- Project milestones and deliverables must be realistic and reasonable based on the supporting budget.

- Projects should be collaborative in nature - supported by dynamic teams that are diverse and reflective of Canadian society and of *all* research career stages.
- International collaboration is also encouraged to strengthen the research activity and potential global impact.
- A well-designed trainee education plan that brings new talent into the stem cell ecosystem must be described within the application.
- A knowledge mobilization plan must be submitted and describe how the research will be made accessible to knowledge users outside of academia. Please note it is expected that the [Tri-Council Open Access Policy](#) will be followed to ensure research results are made publicly accessible.
- A plan for data management must be described, if relevant. The [Draft Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy](#) should be used as a guide for developing this plan.
- Each Project must be distinct from any other application(s) submitted to SCN to avoid 'double dipping' across SCN's research funding programs
- Investigators requesting funds from SCN must be based at a Tri-Council eligible institution and must themselves be eligible to receive Tri-Council funding

The full application package for the **Translation and Society Team Awards** consists of:

1. The application form (document 1)
2. Investigator CVs (document 2)
3. Letters of support (document 3)
4. Project budget for requested SCN funds (document 4)
5. Institution and investigator signatures form (document 5)

The deadline to submit the full application package to info@stemcellnetwork.ca is **Wednesday, April 1, 2020 11:59pm PT.**

A confirmation email will be sent within 48 hours of SCN receiving the submitted application package. If a confirmation email is **NOT** received from SCN within 48 hours of submission **it is the responsibility of the lead applicant** to contact SCN and ensure that the application package has been received by SCN.