



Royal Roads
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF RESEARCH

NEWSLETTER

Research Calls and Funding Opportunities

July 24, 2026

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Funding and Award Opportunities

Call for expressions of interest:

IDRC - Supporting STISA 2034: SGCI Multilateral Research Call advancing Africa's Science, Technology and Innovation priorities

Expressions of Interest deadline: September 25, 2026

Value: \$50,000 to \$300,000 (Canadian dollars)

Duration: Up to 36 months

The [Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa \(STISA-2034\)](#) is the African Union's continental framework for driving socio-economic transformation through science, technology and innovation (STI). STISA-2034 places STI as central to Africa's renewal in the face of global challenges such as climate change, pandemics, and economic shocks. Its mission is to harness STI to accelerate Africa's transition into a knowledge-based, innovation-driven continent.

The strategy identifies five priority sectors:

- Agriculture – addressing food and nutritional security
- Health – ensuring emergency preparedness for healthy lives and promoting nutrition
- Artificial intelligence and Digital Technologies – towards an integrated and more connected Africa
- Energy – access to affordable and reliable energy
- Environment – addressing biodiversity loss and water scarcity and building the climate resilience of economies and communities

This call is funded by the participating African science granting councils (SGCs) , the Government of Norway, the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), Wellcome Trust and Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) . IDRC manages the call on behalf of the funders and councils, and it is expected that grants will be issued by the respective national science granting councils.

Objectives

A call with five different streams will support a cohort of multi-country flagship projects to:

- Produce new knowledge and innovations that address Africa's challenges based on AU's STISA-2034 and national research priorities.
- Support research and innovation that include well defined pathways to policy uptake and application.
- Support a more integrated African STI ecosystem, linked to policy and with lasting partnerships.

Research streams

1. Health
 - A. Developing and testing new models for resilient health systems, particularly related to primary care
 - B. One Health preparedness and infectious disease resilience
 - C. Exploring the use of traditional knowledge to combat communicable and noncommunicable diseases
2. Agriculture
 - A. Climate resilience and agroecological production systems
 - B. Inclusive precision agriculture, post-harvest systems, and value addition supporting small-scale farmholders
3. Artificial Intelligence and Digital Technologies
 - A. Applications
 - B. Learning and entrepreneurship
4. Energy
 - A. Diversified, renewable, and optimized energy sources and systems
 - B. Innovation for energy storage, efficiency, and smart systems
 - C. Local and regional commercialization, manufacturing and partnerships
5. Environment
 - A. Water security, biodiversity and natural resource governance
 - B. Water security, climate resilience and adaptation

Project scope and funding guidelines

Where possible, grants will be issued to the recipient institutions in each country by their respective SGCs.

Each consortium must involve at least three different participating institutions from three different SGCI countries. The project duration cannot exceed 36 months, including all research activities and final reporting. Only one institution per country may be a co-applicant.

Information webinar

The webinar will be recorded and made available on the call webpage following the session. The existing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document will also be updated with responses to questions raised during the webinar.

Date	Time	Registration link
Thursday, August 13, 2026	8:00 – 10:00 am EDT (UTC-4) 5:00 – 7:00 am Pacific	Register here

For more information: [Visit the IDRC Supporting STISA 2034 web page.](#)



Call for proposals: Partnership Engage Grants

Proposal deadline: **September 15, and December 15, 2026**

Value: \$10,000 to \$50,000

Duration: 1 year

Partnership Engage Grants are expected to respond to the objectives of the [Research Partnerships program](#).

These grants provide short-term and timely support for partnered research activities that will inform decision-making at a single partner organization from the public, private or not-for-profit sector. The small-scale, stakeholder-driven partnerships supported through Partnership Engage Grants are meant to respond to immediate needs and time constraints facing organizations in non-academic sectors. In addressing an organization-specific need, challenge and/or opportunity, these partnerships let non-academic organizations and postsecondary researchers access each other's unique knowledge, expertise and capabilities on topics of mutual interest.

SSHRC welcomes applications involving [Indigenous research](#), as well as those involving [research-creation](#).

For tools and resources to assist in the planning and implementation of your partnership, see SSHRC's [Partnerships Tool-Kit](#).

Types of partnerships

Following are some possible formal partnership approaches. Applicants are in no way limited to these approaches and are welcome to combine some of the features described below.

- Cross-sector co-creation of knowledge and understanding: Partnerships to foster innovative research, training and the co-creation of new knowledge on critical issues of intellectual, social, economic and cultural significance.
- Partnered knowledge mobilization: Partnerships designed to synthesize, apply and mobilize new and existing social sciences and humanities research knowledge in accessible ways to build institutional capacity and to increase the national and international impact and stature of Canadian research.

Joint initiatives

SSHRC collaborates with organizations from across the not-for-profit, private and public sectors to support and promote training, research and connection activities in the social sciences and humanities. SSHRC's joint initiatives are designed to reflect its strategic objectives and mandate, inform decision-makers, and, in certain cases, address specific needs of its partners.

The following joint initiatives are associated with this funding opportunity: [Mitacs Accelerate—Grants](#)

For more information: [Visit the SSHRC Partnership Engage Grants web page.](#)

Call for proposals: Destination Horizons Grants 2026

Proposal deadlines: **September 22, 2026 and January 22, 2027**

Value: Up to \$15,000

Duration: 1 year

Destination Horizon Grants support researchers affiliated with eligible Canadian postsecondary institutions to build capacity, foster existing partnerships, and further develop networks and/or consortia with European Union (EU) and other [associated countries](#)' researchers, with the ultimate goal of applying to [Horizon Europe](#)—Pillar II calls for proposals.

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding program for research and innovation, with a budget of €95.5 billion. It offers significant opportunities to access new knowledge, partners, markets, customers and suppliers. In November 2023, the Government of Canada closed substantive negotiations with the European Commission to join Horizon Europe as an associated country under Pillar II: Global challenges and European industrial competitiveness. While Canadians could previously participate in all Horizon Europe calls that were open to international partners, they would have had to largely secure their own funding to participate in a given project. With associated country status, Canadians can now access funding directly from the EU.

Destination Horizon Grants proposals are expected to respond to the objectives of the [Research Partnerships program](#).

Destination Horizon Grants are not intended to support implementation of Horizon Europe projects. Instead, the grants support activities between researchers that facilitate:

- disciplinary and/or interdisciplinary exchanges;
- scholarly exchanges;

- intersectoral exchanges between academic researchers and practitioners from the public, private and/or not-for-profit sectors; and/or
- international research collaboration and scholarly exchanges between researchers affiliated with Canadian postsecondary institutions and researchers, students and non-academic partners from the EU and other associated countries.

Matching funds

SSHRC will not fund the full cost of any Destination Horizon Grant. Additional support in the form of eligible cash contributions equivalent to 100% of the amount requested from SSHRC must come from the host institution. Applicants must demonstrate their ability to secure at least the minimum matching funding. Applicants must do so by including a letter of support from the host institution that clearly confirms the amounts and types of contributions the host is providing.

Applicants can draw on complementary funding from SSHRC research grants and/or from other research funding agencies, but must make clear in their budget proposal there is no duplication of financial support for the same budget expenses. While such funds can be used in this complementary way, these funds cannot be counted toward the requirement for matching funds.

Subject matter

Most SSHRC funding is awarded through open competitions. Proposals can involve any disciplines, thematic areas, approaches or subject areas eligible for SSHRC funding. See the guidelines on [subject matter eligibility](#) for more information. Projects whose primary objective is to conduct research activities (e.g., literature reviews, field work, data collection, interviews, etc.) are not eligible for funding under this funding opportunity.

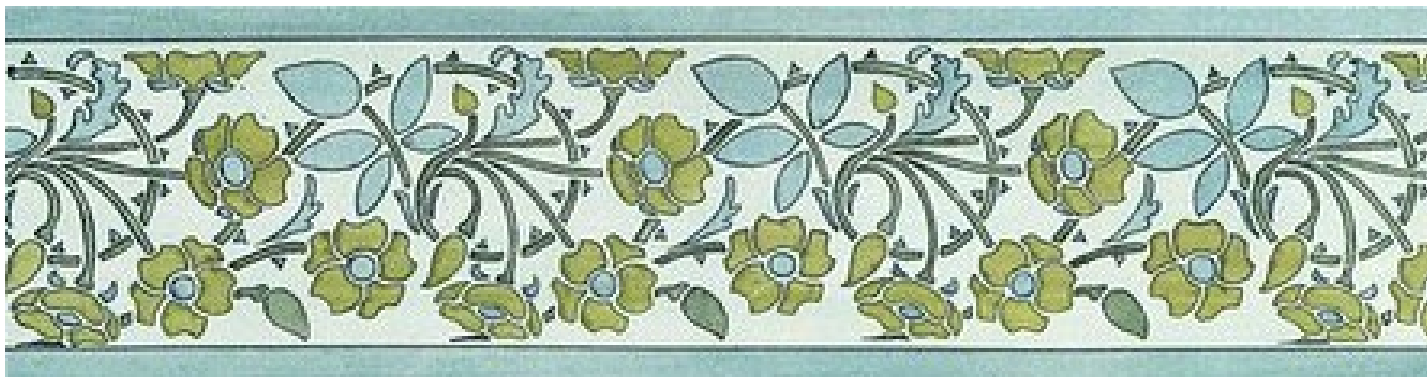
Applicants

Applications can be submitted by an individual researcher or a team of researchers (consisting of one applicant and one or more co-applicants and/or collaborators). Applicants must be affiliated with a Canadian postsecondary institution that holds institutional eligibility at the time of application. Researchers who maintain an affiliation with a Canadian institution that holds institutional eligibility, but whose primary affiliation is with a non-Canadian postsecondary institution, are not eligible for applicant status.

Webinar

To learn more about the application process, applicants are invited to listen to the webinar recording from the previous competition. The recording is available in [English](#) and in [French](#).

For more information: [Visit the Destination Horizons Grants web page](#)



Call for proposals: SSHRC Insight Grants

Proposal deadlines: **October 1, 2026**

Value: Stream A: \$10,000 to \$125,000
Stream B: \$125,001 to \$500,00

Duration: 2 to 5 years

Insight Grants support research excellence in the social sciences and humanities. Funding is available to both [emerging scholars](#) and [established scholars](#) for research initiatives of two to five years. Insight Grants are expected to respond to the objectives of the [Insight Research program](#). SSHRC welcomes applications involving [Indigenous research](#), as well as those involving [research-creation](#).

Stable support for long-term research initiatives is central to advancing knowledge. It enables scholars to address complex issues about individuals and societies, and to further our collective understanding. Insight Grants support research proposed by scholars and judged worthy of funding by their peers and/or other experts. Insight Grant research initiatives can be undertaken by an individual researcher or a team of researchers working in collaboration.

Applicants choose from one of two streams, depending on the amount of funding required. Both streams will be adjudicated by the same committees, and will receive the same rigorous level of [merit review](#). The deadlines and application process are identical for both; however, the targeted success rate for Stream A is higher than for Stream B.

[Associated supplements and joint initiatives](#)

SSHRC collaborates with organizations from across the not-for-profit, private and public sectors to support and promote training, research and connection activities in the social sciences and humanities. SSHRC's joint initiatives are designed to reflect its strategic objectives and mandate, inform decision-makers, and, in certain cases, address specific needs of its partners.

The following joint initiatives are available for this funding opportunity:

- [Department of National Defence Research Initiative](#)
- [John R. Evans Leaders Fund](#)
- [Mitacs Accelerate—Grants](#)
- [Sport Participation Research Initiative](#)

[Future Challenge Areas](#)

Applicants are encouraged to explore SSHRC's current [Future Challenge Areas](#) and consider how their research may align with these forward-looking themes. While Future Challenge Areas are not part of the merit review criteria and do not involve additional funding, they can help applicants think creatively about the future implications of their work. Review the Future Challenge Areas and related [evidence briefs](#) for inspiration as you prepare your application.

[Webinar](#)

Date	Time	Language	Link
August 20, 2026	10:00 am to noon Eastern 7:00 to 9:00 am Pacific	French	Registration and webinar link - French
August 20, 2026	1:00 to 3:00 pm Eastern 10:00 am to noon Pacific	English	Registration and webinar link - English

For more information: [Visit the Insight Grants web page](#)

Call for proposals: SSHRC Connection Grants

Proposal deadlines: November 2, 2026

Value: Events: \$10,000 to \$25,000
Outreach activities: \$10,000 to \$50,000

Duration: 1 year

Connection Grants are expected to respond to the objectives of the [Research Partnerships program](#).

These grants support events and outreach activities geared toward short-term, targeted knowledge mobilization initiatives. These events and activities represent opportunities to exchange knowledge and engage with participants on research issues they value. Events and outreach activities funded by a Connection Grant can often serve as a first step toward more comprehensive and longer-term projects.

Connection Grants support workshops, colloquiums, conferences, forums, summer institutes, documentaries or other events or outreach activities that facilitate:

- disciplinary and/or interdisciplinary exchanges in the social sciences and humanities;
- scholarly exchanges between those working in the social sciences and humanities and those working in other research fields;
- intersectoral exchanges between academic researchers in the social sciences and humanities and researchers and practitioners from the public, private and/or not-for-profit sectors; and/or
- international research collaboration and scholarly exchanges with researchers, students and non-academic partners from other countries.

Only a Canadian institution that holds institutional eligibility can administer funds. However, the intellectual leadership and governance for Connection Grant activities can come from within the research community and/or from within the not-for-profit sectors.

SSHRC welcomes applications involving Indigenous research, as well as those involving research-creation. To this regard, Connection Grants support events and outreach activities related to research-creation and Indigenous research.

[Research Data Management Capacity Building Initiative](#)

Through this initiative, SSHRC is committed to funding up to 10 meritorious Connection Grant proposals per competition to help the social sciences and humanities research community develop, adopt and disseminate research data management standards, practices, tools and skills. Learn more about the [Research Data Management Capacity Building Initiative](#).

For more information about Connection Grants: [Visit the SSHRC Connection Grants web page](#)



Call for proposals: SSHRC Partnership Development Grants

Proposal deadline: November 16, 2026

Value: \$75,000 to \$250,000

Duration: 1 to 3 years

Partnership Development Grants are expected to respond to the objectives of the [Research Partnerships](#) program.

These grants provide support over one to three years to teams/partnerships, led by an applicant / project director, to:

- develop research and/or related activities in the social sciences and humanities—these can include [knowledge mobilization](#) and the meaningful involvement of students and [emerging scholars](#)—by fostering new partnerships with existing and/or potential partners; or
- design and test new partnership approaches for research and/or related activities that can result in best practices or models—these can either be adapted by others or have the potential to be scaled up to a regional, national or international level.

Partnership funding is intended for formal partnerships between postsecondary institutions and/or organizations of various types. For more information, see the definitions for [formal partnership](#) and [partner organization](#).

The quality of training, mentoring and employability plans for students and emerging scholars will be evaluated as an important part of the proposed initiative. [SSHRC's Guidelines for effective research training](#) explain how students and emerging scholars can meaningfully participate in proposed initiatives.

SSHRC invites [applicants](#) and their partner organizations who wish to propose formal disciplinary, interdisciplinary, interinstitutional, international and/or cross-sector partnership arrangements to apply for support through this funding opportunity. Funds are available to support a variety of formal partnership development initiatives in all the disciplines and themes that meet [SSHRC's subject matter eligibility guidelines](#).

SSHRC's [Partnerships tool kit](#) offers tools and resources to assist with the planning and implementation of your partnership.

Types of partnerships

There are two categories of partnerships that can request support:

- **existing partnerships** to foster new research and/or research-related partnership activities that are distinct from the partnership's previous/ongoing partnership activities; and
- **new partnerships** to foster new research and/or research-related partnership activities that are undertaken by partnerships in their initial stages.

Following is a list of possible formal partnership approaches. Applicants are in no way limited to these approaches, and are welcome to combine some of the features described below.

- Disciplinary and interdisciplinary research partnerships
- Cross-sector co-creation of knowledge and understanding
- Networks for research and/or related activities
- Partnered knowledge mobilization

Date	Time	Language	Registration and webinar links
September 24, 2026	11:00 am to 1:00 pm Eastern 8:00 to 10:00 am Pacific	English	Link not yet available. Visit the web site for more information
September 25, 2026	11:00 am to 1:00 pm Eastern 8:00 to 10:00 am Pacific	French	Link not yet available. Visit the web site for more information

For more information: [Visit the Partnership Development Grants website](#)

Call for proposals: SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis Grants: Changing Nature of Security and Conflict

Proposal deadline: **December 3, 2026**

Value: Stream 1: \$10,000 to \$40,000 for one year
Stream 2: \$10,000 to \$78,000 for one year
(NordForsk's increased contribution to projects in Stream 2 (international) reflects the higher cost of doing research in Nordic countries)

Duration: 1 year (Results announced March 2027)

SSHRC, in partnership with NordForsk, is pleased to launch a Knowledge Synthesis Grants (KSG) competition to mobilize, examine and synthesize social sciences and humanities research on The Changing Nature of Security and Conflict. The resulting syntheses will help identify roles the academic, public, private and not-for-profit sectors could play in promoting more inclusive and equitable societies; and could inform development of effective tools and technologies, robust policies, and sustainable practices needed to support the path toward a diverse and inclusive future for all. SSHRC encourages Indigenous-led and Inuit Nunangat-based research approaches that reflect community priorities, land-based knowledge, and Northern sovereignty. Proposals co-developed with Indigenous Peoples and Northern communities are strongly welcomed.

SSHRC and NordForsk have partnered on this funding opportunity to support research that will foster a deeper understanding of the state of knowledge about the global challenge of The Changing Nature of Security and Conflict. This competition includes two streams:

- Stream 1 (domestic) will be reserved for applications submitted by an applicant affiliated with an eligible Canadian institution. SSHRC may fund up to 16 grants of \$10,000 to \$40,000 per project for one year each.
- Stream 2 (international) applications must include two applicants, with one based in Canada and one based in one of the Nordic countries, as well as a co-applicant from a different Nordic country. The applicants and co-applicant must be affiliated with eligible institutions in their respective countries. SSHRC, along with NordForsk, may co-fund up to 15 grants of \$10,000 to \$78,000 per project for one year each. If you are looking for a new or additional Canadian or international team member for this funding opportunity, add your research interests and contact information to the [networking form](#).

Knowledge Synthesis Grants

KSGs support researchers in producing knowledge synthesis reports and evidence briefs that:

- support the use of evidence in decision making and the application of best practices; and
- assist in developing future research agendas.

Applicants must address the following three objectives in their proposals:

- State of knowledge, strengths and gaps
 - critically assess the state of knowledge of the future challenge theme under consideration from a variety of sources, as appropriate;
 - identify knowledge strengths and gaps within the theme;
 - acknowledge Indigenous knowledge systems and research methodologies when appropriate; and
 - identify the most promising policies and practices related to the theme.
- Research data
 - assess the quality, accuracy and rigour (i.e., methodological approaches) of current work in the field; and
 - identify strengths and gaps in the quantitative and qualitative data available.
- Knowledge mobilization
 - engage cross-sectoral stakeholders (academic, public, private and not-for-profit sectors) and/or First Nations, Inuit and Métis rights holders throughout the project to mobilize knowledge related to promising policies and practices; and
 - use effective knowledge mobilization methods to facilitate the sharing of research findings with cross-sectoral stakeholders and Indigenous rights holders.

This KSG funding opportunity is guided by the following questions:

- Drawing on domestic, international and/or cross-sectoral evidence, what can researchers tell us about these issues?
- How might the findings guide public policy, practice and research agendas for Canada (Stream 1) and Canada and/or the Nordic countries (Stream 2) in the immediate and long term?

SSHRC and NordForsk welcomes applications involving [Indigenous research](#), as well as those involving [research-creation](#).

Expected outcomes

Knowledge syntheses are comprehensive analyses of literature and other forms of knowledge on a particular question or issue. All types of knowledge synthesis approaches, tools and protocols, such as scoping reviews, systematic reviews and narrative syntheses, are encouraged under this funding opportunity. Synthesized results can include qualitative, quantitative or multimethod research.

Knowledge Synthesis Grants are not intended to support original research. Rather, they are intended to support the synthesis of existing research knowledge and identify knowledge gaps. This call is particularly focused on the state of research produced over the past 10 years.

In support of these objectives, Knowledge Synthesis Grants will help identify roles that the academic, public, private and not-for-profit sectors, including Indigenous rights holders, can play in developing and implementing robust policies, best practices and tools.

Signals of change and thematic questions

The questions and subthemes listed below aim to demonstrate, through some examples, the breadth of the global challenge of The Changing Nature of Security and Conflict. As this is not intended to be an exhaustive list, we welcome proposals on all other topics/issues relevant to this future challenge area.

- Emerging technologies and innovation
- Intergenerational equity and inclusion
- Environmental considerations
- Geopolitical and international perspectives
- Strengthening public-private sector collaborations

The call for proposals invites applications from researchers in any discipline that can inform and contribute to the objectives of this funding opportunity. Future challenges cross multiple sectors and research disciplines and require broad collaboration to address them; applicants are encouraged to submit proposals that feature multidisciplinary research teams.

Webinar

Date	Time	Language	Webinar link
October 8, 2026	11:00 am - noon Eastern 8:00 – 9:00 am Pacific	Bilingual	Registration and webinar link

For more information: [Visit the SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis Grants call web page](#)

Thinking of applying for any of these opportunities?

[Please click here to fill out our Proposal Notice of Intent \(NOI\) form.](#)

Please contact the [Office of Research Services](#) and we will assist you in the development of your proposal.

Note that the principal investigator for any grant application submitted through Royal Roads University must be a core faculty member at RRU.

Questions about your author rights, publishing, or promoting your research?

Contact [Cassandra Larose](#), Scholarly Communications Librarian, phone: 250-391-2600, ext. 4324.

Questions about your data management plan?

Contact [Rebekah Prette](#), Librarian, Business Information and Data Services, phone: 1 778-247-4144.

Spotlight

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Research: Podcast: Diversity in Research

The Diversity in Research podcast offers an exploration of diversity in research and research collaborations. Based in Europe, the hosts discuss how we make research environments more inclusive and why doing this helps us to solve global challenges through research. Spanning topics from [Mental Health Literacy](#) to the [Global Dynamics of Open Data](#), these podcasts offer a diversity of viewpoints and guest speakers.

Check out all the episodes here: [Diversity in Research Podcast](#).

Expansion of Indigenous Scholars Awards and Supplements Pilot Initiative

The [Indigenous Scholars Awards and Supplements Pilot Initiative](#) (ISAS) is now available to Indigenous doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers, in addition to Indigenous master's students. The newly expanded initiative is administered by the [Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada](#) (NSERC) and the [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council](#) (SSHRC).

Launched in [2022](#), the ISAS initiative was developed in response to the government's commitment to strengthen Indigenous research capacity and provide dedicated funding to support promising master's students, enable greater mentorship of emerging researchers, and increase opportunities for Indigenous Peoples at Canadian postsecondary institutions. The expansion of the initiative to all levels of funding helps improve access and builds on the commitment to support Indigenous research and research training for Canada's First Nations, Inuit and Métis scholars.

This initiative launches at the same time as the Canada Research Training Awards Suite (CRTAS) programs. The doctoral and postdoctoral competitions launch on July 8, 2026, and the master's competition launches on September 2, 2026.

- Indigenous applicants applying for either a Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – [Master's](#) or [Doctoral](#) award, or a [Canada Postdoctoral Research Award](#), will be able to apply for the ISAS initiative at the same time.
- The award values of the Indigenous Scholars Awards match the current values of the CRTAS programs:
 - \$27,000 for the Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Master's program—for one year;
 - \$40,000 per year for the Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Doctoral program; and
 - \$70,000 per year for the Canada Postdoctoral Research Award program.
- The Indigenous Scholars Supplement is valued at \$5,000 at the master's and doctoral levels, and \$10,000 at the postdoctoral level. Recipients can use the funds for travel to northern and remote communities, childcare, eldercare and/or to help offset other costs associated with their research.

For more information: [Visit the ISAS web page.](#)

Questions about anything in the Research e-bulletin? Contact the [Office of Research Services](#)