Call for Collaborative Research

The Global Institute of Psychosocial, Palliative and End-of-Life Care (GIPPEC), the University of Toronto Division of Palliative Medicine (DPM), and the Dalla Lana School of Public Health (DLSPH) at the University of Toronto are pleased to offer opportunities for collaborative research in palliative and end-of-life care.

This jointly offered opportunity is in support of collaborative and interdisciplinary research that addresses the medical, psychological, social, legal, ethical, cultural and religious challenges related to advanced and terminal disease. Proposals with a convergence of academic faculty and multiple departments that foster the emergence of collaborative research teams at clinical or academic sites at the University of Toronto and its affiliates will be favoured. Priority will be given to grants that involve interdisciplinary collaboration with co-applicants from GIPPEC, the Faculty of Medicine and DLSPH.

Grant Details

Amount:	Three awards of up to $20,000 will be offered in: 1. Clinical Innovations in Palliative Care 2. Palliative Care and Public Health
Feasibility:	Completion of the project within two years upon approval of the grant. **Recipients of the 2018/2019 Research Collaboration Grant are not eligible to apply.**
Affiliation:	Applicants from all faculties are welcome to apply, with a **principal applicant or co-principal applicant affiliated with GIPPEC, the Department of Medicine, or the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto**. Applicants who are trainees or who are new investigators (less than 10 years since their first academic appointment) will be prioritized. Criteria and application details for GIPPEC Faculty are available here.
Submission Deadline:	Friday January 31, 2020

Application

- Applicant CV
- Research proposal
- Project timeline
- Budget
- Letter of support from supervisor (research trainees only)

Research Proposal

The research proposal should be limited to three typewritten, single-spaced pages. All pertinent tables, pictures, and graphs must be included within the three-page limit. The research proposal should contain the following information, with modifications depending on the nature of the project:

- Significance and Background:
    - Importance of the problem that the proposed project addresses.
    - Implications of the proposed project to enhance knowledge, technical capability, policy and/or clinical practice.

- Impact on changes to concepts, understanding, methods, interventions, services, or policy in this field.
- Practical Considerations:
    - What is the relevance of this research project to the applicant's career goals?
    - What percentage of time would the applicant spend on this research project if awarded?
    - Was this research proposal submitted and/or will be submitted to other funding agencies/organizations? If so, please specify.

- Specific and well-formed research question

- Innovation:
    - Potential for the proposed research to challenge current conceptual or practice paradigms in the field.
    - Novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions to be developed or used; advantage(s) over existing methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions, if applicable.
    - Refinements, improvements, or new applications of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions.

- Interdisciplinary/ Interdepartmental/ Collaborative Dimensions:
    - Outline the extent to which the topic/problem posed requires an interdisciplinary, interdepartmental, and/or collaborative approach and why the research requires this approach.
    - What disciplines, departments and/or community agencies will be involved? How will they be integrated? How will the quality of collaboration be assessed?

- Specific Aims

- Methods:
    - Overall strategy, methodology, and analyses to be used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Include how the data will be collected, analyzed and interpreted, by who, as well as any resource sharing plans, as appropriate.
    - Potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success anticipated to achieve the aims.
    - Description of applicant's and team members' roles in the project. When human subjects are involved, the precautions to ensure patient safety and confidentiality and the relevance or implications for patient care should be explained.
    - Indicate where research ethics approval will come from.
    - List and describe the facilities and resources available to conduct the study.

- Potential risks and mitigation strategies

Project Timeline
Enter major milestones for your project and the expected completion date. The timeline should clearly indicate the outcomes to be achieved during the granting period.

Budget and Justification
Please provide a list of the expected cost of the project and confirm that it is covered with the amount of this award and other sources of funding, if relevant. If additional funding is required to complete this project, details of potential/secured sources should be documented.

The Budget Document should not be longer than one page. The expenses associated with the following sections should include direct (personnel, equipment, supplies, travel, other expenses) and indirect costs.

Supervisor Support Letter (trainees only)

The application should also have a brief letter from the mentor describing the trainee´s qualities and his/her suitability for the project and academic potential of the applicant. The letter should also include a brief description of the project from the Supervisor´s point of view. The maximum length of the letter should be one page.

Evaluation Criteria

Preference will be given to those faculty and/or trainees submitting proposals that involve novel areas of research collaboration. The expertise of the team leading the project will also be considered when evaluating proposals.

Proposals will be evaluated on: calibre of the candidate and research team, innovation and potential for global impact, research design, feasibility within the grant period (two years), and timeline and budget feasibility.

Review Process

All applications will be reviewed by an executive research committee or a group delegated by the committee. Successful applicants that pass the first review phase may be asked to present the project to the review panel and address the questions raised by the panel. The presentation to the review panel will include a maximum of 10 slides.

Grant Recipients

All grant recipients will be requested to submit a half page statement reflecting on the impact of the "Grant for Collaborative Research" has on your research and a list of publications resulting from the grant at the end of the funding period. Any publications or communications that result from this funding activity should include: "This research is supported by the Collaborative Research Grant through the Division of Palliative Medicine and the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto, and the Global Institute of Psychosocial, Palliative and End-of-Life Care (GIPPEC)."

 All grant recipients will be required to present their project at a GIPPEC seminar. Grant recipients from the Department of Medicine will be required to present at the annual Division of Palliative Medicine Research Day. Grant recipients from DLSPH will be required to present at the DLSPH research day.

Funds not spent within the two-year funding term are to be returned to the organizations for future granting opportunities. Half of the funds will be paid out in June 2020. A financial report showing the expenditure of the funds is required at the 6-month point (December, 2020) for the release of the remaining funds and at the end of the funding term.

Submission of Completed Applications

Completed applications can be submitted online or sent as one PDF file to gippec@uhn.ca. Please direct any questions to gippec@uhn.ca