



Upcoming Grant Competition: Patient-Oriented Research Capacity Building Initiatives Awards
OSSU Patient-Oriented Research Capacity Building Initiatives for Patients and their Families, Health Care Providers, Policy Makers, Managers, and Researchers and Research Trainees

This is a call for Letters of Intent from the Ontario SPOR SUPPORT Unit's (OSSU) Working Group on Training and Capacity Building (WGTCB) for patient-oriented research capacity building initiatives.

Ontario SPOR SUPPORT Unit

The Ontario SPOR SUPPORT Unit (OSSU) is a collaboration between 12 leading Ontario health research centres supported by the OSSU Coordinating Centre.

The majority of OSSU funds support the delivery of the six core functions of the Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) by the 12 OSSU Research Centres:

- Data platforms and services
- Methods support and development
- Health systems, knowledge translation, and implementation
- Real world clinical trials
- Career development in methods and health services research
- Consultation and research services

More information about OSSU can be found at <http://ossu.ca/>

OSSU Working Group on Training and Capacity Building

The mandate of the OSSU's Working Group on Training and Capacity Building is to carry out the core function of career development and it will ensure that adequate capacity is available for patient-oriented research (POR) in Ontario.

Patient-Oriented Research Capacity Building Initiatives Award

The purpose of these awards is to build capacity for the conduct and use of patient-oriented research in Ontario among patients and their families, health care providers, policy makers and managers, and researchers and research trainees.

SPOR defines patient-oriented research as a continuum of research that engages patients as partners, focuses on patient-identified priorities, and improves patient outcomes. It is conducted by multidisciplinary teams in partnership with relevant stakeholders and aims to apply the knowledge generated to improve healthcare systems and practices.

This call aims to solicit proposals for online patient-oriented research capacity building initiatives for patients, health care providers, policy makers and managers, and researchers and research trainees to develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills required for the conduct and use of patient-oriented

research. The knowledge, attitudes, and skills outlined in this call were identified through an environmental scan and survey of existing patient-oriented research capacity building initiatives in Ontario, and are referred to here as priority areas.

The gaps in knowledge, attitudes, and skills could be addressed through the development of new capacity building initiatives, or, by building on existing capacity building initiatives and infrastructure in Ontario by evolving the existing initiatives and/or scaling them up. Curricula proposed in answer to this call may be new curricula or may build on existing curricula. Proposed curricula are encouraged to cover more than one priority area. In addition, initiatives should be designed, where possible, for mixed groups of trainees (a mixture from the four sections of target stakeholder groups [patients and their families, health care providers, policy makers and managers, and researchers and research trainees]).

This call focuses on gaps that can be addressed through online initiatives that will be widely available to people interested in the conduct of and use of POR across Ontario. This will allow the greatest number of Ontarians who participate in POR to access the initiatives and build their capacity in POR. Examples of online initiatives include webinar series, self-directed online courses, facilitated online workshops, etc. Applicants are responsible for the online hosting and delivery of their initiative. The WGTCB and OSSU will be partners in the promotion and recruitment of learners for successful initiatives.

Priority Areas

Proposed initiatives must be designed for at least one of the following priority stakeholder groups: patients and their families, health care providers, policy makers and managers, and researchers and research trainees. Initiatives designed for more than one target stakeholder group are encouraged, but some proposed initiatives may be better suited to single group audiences.

Proposed initiatives must be for online capacity building initiatives that are widely available and that address the priority areas outlined below for the conduct and use of patient-oriented research. These priority areas should be addressed from a patient-oriented perspective, based on the SPOR definition of patient-oriented research.

Priority areas:

1. Steps to engaging patients in research in the full breadth of environments that Ontario patients and families experience.
2. How to participate in designing research studies, research advisory committees, research ethics boards, and research priority setting processes.
3. The history of ways that patients and their families have been involved in research.
4. Broad understanding of patient and family caregiver experiences with their health conditions and with health care.
5. Health of the Ontario population.
6. Knowledge and understanding of Ontario's health system.
7. Ethics for patient-oriented research.

8. How to search for appropriate sources of research evidence, including key types of pre-appraised research evidence.
9. Identify and express needs for information about health conditions and how to access care and support in ways that are understandable to multiple stakeholder groups.
10. How to participate in research studies, research advisory committees, research ethics boards, research priority setting processes, and in the design of patient-oriented research and decisions support systems.
11. Use of AMSTAR to assess the quality of a systematic review.
12. Steps in commissioning research to fill gaps in patient-oriented research evidence in Ontario.

In addition, applications for these awards should reflect the principles outlined below:

- Programs include patients in the development and delivery of initiatives
- Programs are accessible in English and French (if possible)

Patient-Oriented Research Capacity Building Initiatives Awards LOI Requirements

1. Applicants must propose online capacity building initiatives that are widely available and that build capacity for the conduct and use of patient-oriented research among patients and their families, health care providers, policy makers and managers, and/or researchers and research trainees.
2. Initiatives must be pedagogically rigorous.
3. Initiatives must involve at least two member centres of the OSSU. For more information about OSSU research centres, go to <http://www.ossu.ca/about-us/research-centres/> or refer to the table at the end of this document.
4. Applicants must describe how patients will be involved in a meaningful way in the design and implementation of the initiative. Applicants should also highlight other stakeholder engagement, including industry partnership, where possible.
5. Applicants should describe their plan for the online hosting of their initiative, including the sustainability of the initiative beyond its development.
6. OSSU funds must be spent in Ontario, with only [Tri-Council eligible expenses](#) allowed.
7. Proposed budgets should be a maximum of \$35,000 total over 2 years.
8. After review, selected LOIs will be invited to submit a full application (approximately 6 pages).

Indirect costs are NOT eligible for Patient-Oriented Research Capacity Building Initiatives Award funding and should not be included in project budgets. OSSU will provide support for indirect costs to host institutions through the OSSU's own indirect costs approach. Questions regarding the eligibility of specific expenses can be discussed with the WGTCB and OSSU.

Submission Format

The following format must be followed for all submitted applications – excess text will be deleted and not considered in the review process.

- Names and affiliation of Principal Applicant and up to one Co-Principal Applicant.

- The title of the initiative should include the initiative name and target stakeholder group(s).
- The body of the LOI must include the target stakeholder group(s), the priority areas being addressed by the initiative, pedagogical approach and description of the initiative, patient engagement plan, online platform and preliminary sustainability plan, preliminary budget, and potential OSSU partners.
- The body of the LOI must be no more than three (3) pages maximum. 1-inch margins on all sides, letter sized paper in portrait format.
- 12 point Calibri font with standard (non-compressed) character spacing.
- Single line spacing.
- Page numbers and last name of Principal Applicant in the footer of each page.
- In addition, applicants must provide a Lay Summary in 200 words or less of the proposed initiative in non-technical terms. It must be written in plain language and should be tested for understanding with patients, families, or care givers prior to submission.

LOI Submission Deadline

LOI must be submitted electronically to sara.wuite@schulich.uwo.ca by 4:00pm EST on Wednesday, June 1, 2016. Applicants will receive confirmation of receipt of their submission by the next business day.

Important Dates

EVENT	ACTION	DATE
Competition Launch	Call for Letter of Intent (LOI)	Monday, April 18, 2016
LOI Submission Deadline	Applicants submit LOI by email: sara.wuite@schulich.uwo.ca	4pm EST Wednesday, June 1, 2016
LOIs invited for full proposal	Selected applicants notified to submit full research proposal	Thursday, June 30, 2016
Strengthening Workshop	Support for full proposals	*Thursday, September 29, 2016
Full Proposal Submission Deadline	Applicants submit full research proposal by email	4pm EST Monday October 24, 2016
Award Winners Announced	Successful applicants notified and awards announced	Thursday, November 24, 2016

*Please hold this date should your LOI be successful. This event will take place in Toronto.

Funds Available

Proposed budgets should be a maximum of \$35,000 total over 2 years. Funds must be spent in Ontario. Only Tri-Council eligible expenses are allowed. Indirect costs are NOT eligible for these awards and should not be included in project budgets. OSSU will provide support for indirect costs to host institutions though the OSSU’s own indirect costs approach. Questions regarding the eligibility of specific expenses can be discussed with the WGTCB and OSSU.

Patient-Oriented Research Capacity Building Initiatives Awards review Criteria for Full Applications

Following the review of LOIs, selected Principal Applicants will be asked to submit a full application, which will be reviewed and adjudicated by an expert panel. Evaluation of Patient-Oriented Research Capacity Building Initiatives Awards applications will be based on:

Patient-Oriented Initiatives and Patient and Stakeholder Engagement

- Demonstrate how the initiative reflects SPOR's approach to patient-oriented research
- Demonstrate that people representing the initiative's target stakeholder groups will suggest plans for initiative's content and design
- Patients should be involved at all stages of the design and implementation of the initiative:
 - As initiative planning team members involved in developing curriculum content
 - In the planning of the initiative design and delivery
 - In evaluating the success of the initiative throughout and upon completion

The following are examples of patient engagement frameworks:

SPOR Patient Engagement Framework <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/48413.html>

Visual Value Model for Patient Engagement <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/45851.html>

INVOLVE from the National Institutes for Health Research <http://www.invo.org.uk/>

Relevance and Potential for Impacts:

- Initiative addresses an important gap in current capacity building initiatives for POR
- Educational objectives have been identified as important by patients (including families, caregivers, health consumers) and target stakeholder groups
- Training program will provide a high-quality capacity building environment with the potential to have a significant impact on POR in Ontario
- Opportunities to leverage and capitalize on the OSSU platform and expertise of the 12 OSSU centres/networks and other groups with expertise across Ontario
- Plan for evaluation of the program's performance against stated objectives. The program should have a system of self-assessment that will lead to continuous improvement.

Pedagogical Rigour

- Sufficient merit to ensure that the initiative goals will be met, including a clear plan for design and implementation
- Clear pedagogical foundation that informs the initiative's educational objectives and delivery methods
- Use of innovative methods to provide a unique training experience to trainees
- Quality of the applicant team based on research achievements, potential, and training/mentoring record. Applicant team reflects the mix of disciplinary expertise and perspectives consistent with the initiative's objectives.

Implementation and Sustainability

- Appropriate and accessible online platform for initiative delivery
- An appropriate environment sufficient to support the conduct of the initiative
- Clear plan for how participants will be recruited to complete the training
- Initiative sustainability including commitment of the applicants' institution(s) to facilitating and furthering the plans and goals of the capacity building initiative and to sustaining the successful elements of the training program after OSSU funding ceases.

Further Contact

For further information or questions regarding the OSSU WGTCB Patient-Oriented Research Capacity Building Initiatives Awards, please contact:

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OSSU Research Centres and Contact Details

OSSU Research Centre	<u>URL</u>
Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis	http://www.chepa.org/
Centre for Rural and Northern Health Research	http://www.cranhr.ca/
Clinical Trials Ontario	http://www.ctontario.ca/
Health System Performance Research Network	http://www.hsprn.ca/
INSPIRE-Primary Health Care Research Network	http://www.phcresearchnetwork.com/
Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences	http://www.ices.on.ca/
Ontario Brain Institute	http://www.braininstitute.ca/
Ontario Child Health SUPPORT Unit	http://www.ochsu.ca/
Ontario Drug Policy Research Network	http://odprn.ca/
Ottawa Methods Centre and Provincial KTE Network	http://www.ohri.ca/programs/clinical_epidemiology/MethodsCentre/
Population Health Research Institute	http://www.phri.ca/
Women's College Hospital: Women's Xchange	http://womensxchange.womensresearch.ca/