

**Call for Proposals**  
**SSHRC SIG Indigenous Research Capacity Development (IRCD) Program**  
**Deadline: February 3, 2020**

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Lakehead University is pleased to announce the continuation of a program in support of community-engaged research with Indigenous communities and partners. We invite all Lakehead faculty members in the humanities, arts, and social sciences to submit applications to the 2020 Indigenous Research Capacity Development (IRCD) Program.

This ongoing initiative highlights Lakehead's ongoing commitment to implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls for Action and Universities Canada Principles on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Indigenous Education. This initiative will support funding for two-year collaborative research initiatives that are aligned with Lakehead University's commitment to Social Responsibility and Community Engagement with Indigenous Partners as outlined in the 2018-2023 Strategic Plan.

Lakehead University will provide funding for the following types of research initiatives:

1. start-up funds associated with the establishment of a new Indigenous Research Centre (up to \$15,000 will be provided over a two-year period);
2. research funds to support community-engaged research where there is evidence of an existing partnership with an Indigenous-led organization or community(ies); up to \$15,000 will be provided over a two-year period);
3. seed funds to support partnership development activities with indigenous communities, including travel, meetings, workshops, etc. (up to \$7,500 will be provided over a two-year period).

Proposals for the establishment of research centres must provide a detailed five-year plan to address sustainability and demonstrate a commitment to becoming a Senate approved research centre. Funds should be spent within two years of approval; approvals for extensions will only be considered in cases where an extension would support the program's principles of equity, diversity and inclusiveness (i.e., additional time required to ensure genuine community engagement and participation with Indigenous partners).

Funding for this research initiative is made possible through the SSHRC Institutions Grant (SIG) Small Universities Supplement program; the objective of the SSHRC SIG is to enable small universities to develop and strengthen focused research capacity in the social sciences and humanities. Proposals must demonstrate how this funding will lead to a successful and competitive external SSHRC application within one year following the end of the grant.

Centres and researchers funded previously through the previous SSHRC Aid to Small Universities Grant or IRCD program are encouraged to apply as long as they have completed the previous project, continue to meet the eligibility criteria and provide a performance activity report outlining results and outcomes achieved with the previous grant.

**Application Process:** Applications must be submitted via the Romeo Research Portal no later than 4:30 pm February 3, 2020. Appendix A provides a description of the information that will be required in the Romeo application.

**Selection Process:** An internal peer review committee will be established to evaluate and rank proposals; the Committee will include community representatives from Indigenous communities. Should you have any questions, please contact Anne Klymenko, Director, Office of Research Services, at ext. 8223 or [aklymenk@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:aklymenk@lakeheadu.ca).

### **Evaluation Criteria**

**Challenge—**The aim and importance of the project (60%):

- strategic value of the chosen research development area to the Indigenous partner, and clarity of alignment between the proposed research and Lakehead’s 2018-2023 Strategic Plan;
- evidence that Indigenous communities/organizations are/will be genuine partners in the initiative as per the Chapter 9 of the TCPS2;
- expected contribution to knowledge;
- appropriateness of the research methods/approach; and
- potential influence and impact within and/or beyond the social sciences and humanities research community.

**Feasibility—**the plan to achieve inclusive research excellence (20%):

- probability of effective and timely attainment of an increase in research capacity at Lakehead University and within Indigenous research communities;
- quality of the proposed community-engagement plan;
- appropriateness of the requested budget and justification of proposed costs;
- an indication of financial and in-kind contributions from Indigenous partners and other sources, as appropriate.

**Capability—**Track record and the potential to succeed (20%):

- the track-record of the proposed research team working with indigenous communities;
- indication of human, financial and institutional resources available and to be committed;
- where applicable, evidence of outputs and outcomes resulting from previous related funding.

Evidence of Indigenous community-engagement in formulating the research questions and designing the research methods.

### **Appendix A**

Proposals should be no more than approximately 2,500 words (the equivalent of approximately five typed pages @ 500 words per page) and include the following information:

1. **Research Project Summary** (100 words), written in lay language describing the uniqueness and importance of the proposed research program;

2. **Objectives** (500 words) – Describe the short-term objectives of your project and how the project will contribute to your long-term research plan.
3. **Context** (600 words) – Describe the background of your proposed project/group including, relevant prior research and/or meetings or events that have occurred.
4. **Methodology** (800 words) – Describe specifically what will you do to meet the objectives of your project/group.
5. **Community-Engagement Plan** (500 words) - Indicate how your proposed project or the work of your proposed team aligns with Chapter 9 of the TCPS2.
6. **Budget and budget justification** (template in Romeo)
7. **Letters of support from partners** (not included in five typed pages)
8. **SSHRC Common CV** (not included in five-page total)