CALL FOR EOIs - COVID-19 HOT SPOTS (COVID-19 IMMUNITY TASK FORCE)

Dear Colleagues:

For those with an interest in population-based research, note the following funding opportunity focused on novel data relating to COVID-19 infection and immunity in three types of COVID-19 “hot spots”: 1) geographic areas, 2) long-term care facilities, 3) occupation groups.

OVERVIEW

The federal COVID-19 Immunity Taskforce has announced a call for Expressions of Interest (EOIs) on projects related to COVID-19 hot spots. Most COVID-19 deaths in Canada have been in long-term care facilities. Cases have clustered in select neighbourhoods, and those working in jobs which require routine direct interaction with the public appear at greater risk of infection. Understanding the factors that give rise to these “hot spots” is critical to informing the design and assessing the effectiveness of efforts aimed at reducing disproportionate risk.

An overall funding envelope of $30M is available from this funding opportunity for population-based studies.

For more info, and tips on what EOIs are expected to focus on, see here.

Those invited to the full proposal stage will be invited to a mandatory proposal preparation workshop, to be held on Oct 6. Full proposals are expected to be 10-12pgs in length.

KEY DATES

- RSO Deadline for EOI: Noon, Sept 17
- Funder Deadline for EOI: Sept 21
- RSO Deadline for full proposals: noon, Oct 7
- Funder Deadline for full proposals: Oct 12

SUBMISSION PROCESS
Approvals for this opportunity is being managed by RSO through RMS, rather than through the RFAA form. If you haven’t yet used RMS, the RMS team is organizing a number of orientation and refresher sessions. You can sign up for a session by contacting the RMS team.

Process:

1. Complete the Pre-Award record in RMS and “Submit for academic approvals” (Under Save & Progress) in good time to allow for approvals from your Dept Head and/or ADR prior to the RSO deadline. You do not need to attach a draft EOI to obtain ADR approval, but connect with your department head on timelines and requirements. Start the approvals process as soon as possible and ensure you receive all required approvals in advance of the RSO internal deadline of noon on Sept 17, 2020.

2. Complete the attached EOI form and submit it to the funder here by Sept 21.

Please do let me know if you have any questions about this funding opportunity. I will be available to provide feedback on draft applications.

Be well,

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