



Centre Métropolis Atlantique
Atlantic Metropolis Centre

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January 2009 Call For Proposals for Knowledge Communication Grant AMC

Application Deadline: 6 March, 2009

Introduction

This is the first Call for Proposals (CFP) for Knowledge Communication Grants for Atlantic Metropolis Centre (AMC). We expect to provide funding of \$2,000-\$5,000 for 8-10 projects that focus upon knowledge transfer. Our total budget for this CFP is \$40,000. Applicants are invited to visit our website (www.atlantic.metropolis.net) to become better informed of the policy priorities of AMC.

Applicants who wish to make the case that their project proposal is policy relevant are urged to provide a letter of support from the government department, NGO, or other organization that they hope will benefit from their project.

The principal applicant (PA) must be formally affiliated with Atlantic Metropolis Centre and must reside in Atlantic Canada. However, unlike our calls for proposals for research grants, the PA **need not be** a faculty member at a Canadian university. Collaborators/Partners may include academic researchers, graduate students (who intend to use the funding through research assistantships), and persons in governmental or non-governmental organizations. Directors of the AMC are not eligible as PIs under this Call, although they may contribute to projects as invited.

Interested non-affiliates must fill out the *Research Affiliate Form*, which can be found on the AMC website¹. Please email the form to the AMC Coordinator, Robert Nathan, along with a recent CV and a brief (1/2 page) statement of how one's research agenda has connected with, or will connect with, the AMC. To be eligible to respond to this Call, affiliation requests must be received prior to your application. The deadline for applications is 4 p.m. AST on 6 March 2009.

Where to send your proposal: All submissions, electronic and hard copy, should be sent to:

Robert Nathan (nathan.metropolis@ns.alianzinc.ca)
Coordinator, Atlantic Metropolis Centre
#509-5670 Spring Garden Road, Halifax NS, B3J 1H6
p. (902) 422-0863, f. (902) 423-7956 www.atlantic.metropolis.net

¹ www.atlantic.metropolis.net. The *Research Affiliate Form* can be found on the page entitled "Forms and documents"

Detailed Information for this CFP

What are Knowledge Communication Projects?

Knowledge Communication Projects are activities which facilitate the (possibly two-way) communication between the Metropolis knowledge base and our community of stakeholders. The Metropolis knowledge base is the body of research generated by Atlantic Metropolis Centre over its 6 year existence. This knowledge base is embodied in our archive of working papers and current research projects. In addition, we take the broad view of Metropolis research that also includes research produced by the 4 other Canadian Metropolis Centers (see www.atlantic.metropolis.net) and http://canada.metropolis.net/index_e.html), and research produced by the international metropolis project (see http://international.metropolis.net/index_e.html). Since the primary mandate of the AMC is to support research relevant to Atlantic Canada, we are primarily though not exclusively interested in supporting Knowledge Communication projects with an Atlantic regional focus.

The stakeholders of the Atlantic Metropolis Centre include:

- government policy-makers, including our federal funders and our federal, provincial and municipal non-funding partners
- NGOs, including immigrant service providers and community services organizations;
- Those working in areas where immigration and ethnic diversity are important dynamic factors, including teachers, social workers, healthcare providers, media commentators, etc.
- Business or employer groups, such as Chambers of Commerce

We are committed to the multilateral transfer of knowledge among researchers and other stakeholders. Thus, while proposals can be submitted by non-academic Principal Applicants, all funded activities should involve either completed Metropolis research, or contribute to ongoing academic research by sharing knowledge from the field and/or identify questions or issues that should be addressed by researchers.

We are interested in supporting creative activities to facilitate knowledge transfer including those outside traditional dissemination methods pursued by academics. That is, this funding is not directed at generating more technical research papers. The following includes potential dissemination activities that we have thought might be successful:

- written documents, such as handbooks or other documents written at a greater level of generality than that typically struck by academics;
- video, DVDs, podcasts, networking and other online content, which might be more easily accessible than our traditional written methods;
- meetings, workshops, seminars, roundtables, forums, etc;
 - these events could focus on: research themes (e.g., Metropolis research on refugee settlement); research sources, such as understanding data or methods commonly used in research; or research targets, e.g., how ethnic diversity affects health services provision.
- guidebook(s) to using the existing AMC knowledge base;
- media links, including connecting AMC researchers or stakeholders with radio, print and television media;

- development of links with potential stakeholders, including for example, government policy personnel, libraries, healthcare providers, business leaders, unions, etc.

Funding Details

All projects will be funded for 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010. Transfer of funds and AMC spending rules are explained in our grant guidelines.²

Since different projects will have budgets of different sizes, AMC will evaluate them relative to their budgets. Consequently, a project with a total budget of \$5,000 will only be funded if the 'value' of its output is expected to be significantly greater than any \$2,000 project. Thus researchers should be careful to propose projects with higher budgets only if they also have greater expected outputs. Our total budget for this round is \$40,000. Projects may be augmented by funds from other partners.

Adjudication system and expectations

The review and adjudication of proposals from this CFP will focus upon non-academic forms of communication of research. Principal Applicants are asked to provide supporting evidence in the application form to demonstrate that they are able to carry out the project that they have proposed. This material should be provided, along with the budget rationale, in the section entitled 'Ability-to-Complete and Budget Rationale'. Such supporting evidence may include: previous history of undertaking similar projects; letters of support from institutions, NGOs, and/or academics; educational qualifications relevant to the project; any other relevant evidence.

Our adjudication committee will be comprised of an intersectoral team tailored to evaluate the potential importance of proposals for policy and practice.

Application Details

To be considered for funding, applications must be made on our special form and must include one signed hard-copy and one unsigned electronic copy. The application must be received at the office of the Atlantic Metropolis Centre 4 p.m. AST on 6 March 2009. In addition, all principal- and co-investigators must submit an electronic copy of a 2-page abbreviated CV as an attachment to their application. CV's longer than 2 pages will not be considered. It is the AMC's practice to consider only one application from any of our affiliates during any given grant competition. Note that this practice allows applicants to simultaneously be considered for both a research grant and a dissemination grant in the same year.

Proposals must be written in plain language. Applicants are not permitted to apply on behalf of others. Applicants must be candid about the division of labour in a project.

Other obligations of funded PIs:

Projects *may* generate one or more AMC Working Paper(s), which must be submitted to Robert Nathan, in a timely fashion (e.g., within three months of the completion of a project). Each submitted working paper must be accompanied by a Policy Briefing Note. Policy Briefing Notes are 1 page documents

² Please see document *Guidelines for Applicants for Research Grants (2008)*, located on the 'Forms and Documents' page of the AMC website.

written in plain language in standard formats with 4 boxed topics: Research Question, Importance, Research Findings, and Implications for Policy and Practice. To see an example, please visit the Working Paper section of the MBC website (<http://riim.metropolis.net/research/working/index.html>). Note that unlike research grants, dissemination grants are not required to produce working papers. We ask applicants for a three page report the format of which will be provided at the time a grant is awarded.



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