



CCDS SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM - 2009

The CCDS Small Grants program was established in 2001 to facilitate involvement of new researchers and assist community-based disability-focused research initiatives. CCDS provides two grants on an annual basis. The grant funded by CCDS is named the George Dyck Memorial Small Grant in honor of our late President, George Dyck who served on the board from 2002 until his death in June 2008. The second grant is funded by the Society for Manitobans with Disabilities Foundation.

Goals of the Small Grants Program

- To facilitate research partnerships between researchers, consumer-directed disability groups, and/or other community groups.
- To encourage research on disability that uses a Participatory Action Research approach.

CCDS Research Priorities 2009-2010

The following is a list of four priorities for research at CCDS, which were developed by the Research Committee in consultation with the Board and community.

1. Research related to aboriginal people with disabilities, particularly with respect to aboriginal women with disabilities, with an aim to influence policy development regarding the inclusion of aboriginal people with disabilities on the disability agenda.
2. Research related to disability and aging (aging with a disability or aging into disability). This includes issues related to women with disabilities who are aging.
3. Research related to visitability/universal design.
4. Research related to youth with disabilities, particularly related to community integration/reintegration, education, and technology.

For the 2009 call for proposals, CCDS will give priority to projects submitted by new researchers (people beginning their research careers) with the focus on topics based on the above-mentioned CCDS research priorities. However, established researchers dealing with priority issues and new researchers focusing on other areas of research will be considered providing they meet the small grants selection criteria. Funding will not be granted for research that has already been completed.

Value of each grant and number of awards

A maximum of \$5,000 will be awarded per grant/project. No individual may be a member of the research team for more than one small grant project. Two awards will be made in 2009 assuming the proposals meet the standards of excellence sought.

Eligibility Criteria Include:

A. *Participatory action research methodologies*

- include research, education, and action which result in change that will benefit persons with disabilities;
- demonstrate prior consultation with persons experienced in the area;
- meaningfully involve community members who have demonstrated their support for the project;
- respond to community needs and circumstances, affecting the planning, implementation and dissemination phases of the study.

The research process should include people with disabilities affected by the research question. It may be appropriate to use non-traditional methods of data collection such as art, story telling, or drama.

It may also be appropriate to include other people who play roles that are important to understanding the research area being studied, such as parents of children with disabilities. Representatives from all partner groups should agree that the proposed research question(s), methodology, and projected outcomes are appropriate.

B. *Social Model of Disability*

According to the social model of disability, the barriers that people with disabilities encounter and the exclusion they so often experience are primarily a reflection of societal attitudes and structures rather than a result of their impairments.

C. *Partnerships*

Community groups may be non-profit agencies or its programs regardless of group size and/or budget. In addition, community groups may be several individuals who, although

not in receipt of funds or not incorporated, have come together linked by a common interest/goal. Community groups should include members of the community which is affected by the issues being researched.

Researchers include both those individuals affiliated with a university or educational institution, and/or those who work in the community and have demonstrated experience with community-based research. Researchers and community groups must demonstrate an understanding of and commitment to the social model of disability and the use of participatory action research methodologies.

The nature of the partnership needs to be clearly identified, including roles and responsibilities. The partners need to have jointly developed (or plan to develop) a set of guiding principles. Different contributions and skills need to be acknowledged and the process must be inclusive and participatory.

D. Project Time Lines

CCDS small grants are expected to be completed within one fiscal year. Interim narrative and financial reports are required after the project has been in operation for six months and a final narrative and financial report is required at the conclusion of the project. Ethics approval is expected to have been obtained within three months of notification that an applicant has been awarded a grant. If these requirements are not met, the grant may be withheld or terminated.

Application Guidelines

Applications should be a maximum of 5 pages (12 point font and single spaced). Please ensure that your name and the name of your organization (if applicable) appear on the title page of the proposal. The title of the study should appear on the top of the first page of your proposal. Applications will not be considered unless they are complete.

Applications should:

- contain a detailed description of the proposed research's objectives and significance for persons with disabilities, including a review of the relevant literature (not more than 750 words). (No longer than 1½ page)
- include a description of the proposed research partners including their research experience and community-based experience and outline each partner's role and contribution to the proposed project. (No longer than ½ page)
- outline the research design and methodology, its theoretical basis, project time lines

- and how the research is participatory. (No longer than 1½ pages)
- include a description of how results of research will be shared with academic, disability and other communities (e.g., service providers, corporate, government sectors). Applications should also outline whether the research results have national significance for disability research (No longer than ½ page)
 - contain a description and justification of the budget. {No more than 1 page} Please note that computers and other research equipment are not eligible for funding. The costs of hiring student research assistants may be considered, but costs associated with paying full-time academics or covering teaching buy-outs for academics at post-secondary institutions will not be eligible.
 - include a cover letter containing the names of two persons well suited to review the proposal. Your letter must indicate that reviewing your proposal will not place these persons in a conflict of interest situation. Note, however, that the reviewers you recommend may not necessarily be contacted.
 - A minimum of one and a maximum of three letters of support are to be submitted with your small grant application. These letters should address the capacity of applicants to carry out their proposed research project.

Submission Deadline and process

Please submit applications to CCDS by Friday, November 27, 2009:

- a) E-mail full proposal (including a cover letter), budget, and letters of support to <ccds@disabilitystudies.ca> and <wattersc@mts.net>
- b) Mail three hard copies of the proposal (including a cover letter), budget, and letters of support to:
Small Grants Program
Canadian Centre on Disability Studies
56 The Promenade, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 3H9.

Awards will be announced after December 15, 2009.

All projects involving human participants will need ethical approval either through CCDS' Ethics Review Committee or a university ethics committee. Awards will not be distributed until ethical approval has been obtained.