THE MARATHON OF HOPE CANCER CENTRES NETWORK CLINICIAN SCIENTIST APPLICATION GUIDE 2026

Key Dates

1	Submission of Registration of Intent (ROI)	Thursday January 22nd, 2026 (11:59 pm Eastern Time)
2	Submission of Full Application	Tuesday February 17th, 2026 (11:59 pm Eastern Time)
3	Peer-Review of Applications	March – May 2026
4	Decisions Announced	June 2026
5	Funding Starts	July 1, 2026

Competition Website

Applicants can find competition details and document templates at
https://www.marathonofhopecancercentres.ca/funding_opportunities

Submission Format

Registration of Intent: Applicants must submit the Registration of Intent (ROI) electronically before the deadline (date stamped by 11:59 pm Eastern Time on the deadline date) to the email address moh@tfri.ca. TFRI will review all received ROI and invite eligible applicants to submit their full applications.

Full Application: Applicants must submit the Full Application electronically before the deadline (date stamped before 11:59 PM Eastern Time on the deadline date) to the email address moh@tfri.ca.

The electronic document(s) attached to the email must be either (1) a PDF formatted file, or (2) a Microsoft Word document (docx format). Our email system only accepts documents of up to 25MB in size. If larger, please separate the application into smaller files and send them in sequence.

Naming of Electronic Files

The applicant is asked to replace 'APPLICANTNAME' in the file name with their last name followed by first name, i.e. '2026 MOHCCN CS FULL APPLICATION – SMITH John.docx'.

Acknowledgment of the ROI and Full Application

You should email the contact at the end of this Guide if you do not receive an acknowledgment of your submission 1 business day after the deadline.

Format of the ROI and Full Application Document
The Microsoft Word Template documents have been formatted in the desired format for clarity and ease for reviewer to read. It is recommended that this formatting is retained.

- Page Margins: Top, Bottom, Margins all 1 inch ("normal" setting in Word)
- Font: Rigid Square 11 pt (acceptable replacements: Calibri, Times Roman, Arial, or Aptos at 11 pt)
- Line Spacing: 1.5
- Paragraph Spacing: 6 pt between paragraphs
- For more information about MOHCCN logos, template, visual guidelines, and fonts, please see: Logos, templates and visual guidelines.

Material in square brackets is designed to be replaced by the Applicant's text in black. Maximum page limits provided in the document templates must be observed. TFRI reserves the right to remove pages and material in excess of the limits.

REGISTRATION OF INTENT (ROI)
The ROI stage of the competition is to evaluate the applicant's eligibility.

1. Host Research Institute
Give the full name of the research institute which will administer, and under whose authority, the project will be carried out.

2. Current Title/Role with Host Institute
Give the full name of your current title/role with Host Institution or have a letter of commitment from the eligible Canadian hospital or academic health sciences centre confirming date of appointment (which can EITHER be no more than one year later than the start of the award OR be no more than five calendar years before the start of the award), and indicate provision of direct support for the applicant to spend dedicated time for research.

3. Name of sponsoring program
The applicant must discuss sponsorship of their project with one of the eligible sponsoring programs funded by MOHCCN. The eligible sponsoring programs are the 5 Network Consortia (BC Cancer Consortium, Ontario Cancer Consortium, Marathon of Hope - Québec, Atlantic Cancer Consortium, and Prairie Cancer Consortium). Provide here the

full name of that program. Alternatively, the applicant may be sponsored by one of the Pan-Canadian projects funded by MOHCCN.

4. Project Leader/Mentor Name to verify sponsorship support

Provide the name of the individual who has agreed to sponsor the applicant's proposal. The leader/mentor has to be a researcher(s) (clinician and/or scientist) currently associated with a MOHCCN-funded study.

5. MOHCCN Clinician Scientist CV

Include your curriculum vitae in the format required by MOHCCN that is available from TFRI MOHCCN website under Clinician Scientist Award.

6. One Paragraph Scientific Summary

A short paragraph to state the objective / hypothesis of the study; methodology / technology to be employed; and desired outcomes.

FULL APPLICATION

1. Signatures

Awards are made only with the consent and knowledge of the administrative head of the Institution where the research will be carried out. The signatures indicate that the Applicant and officials at the Host Institution have read and understood the obligations of funding received from MOHCCN.

2. Lay Summary

If awarded, the lay summary will be used in the TFRI MOHCCN website to describe the project to the public. Thus, it is important that the lay summary use as little technical language as possible and is written at the level of a Grade 8 student. As succinctly as possible, please consider using the following format: objective, previous research, project methods, and impact and relevance to patients.

3. Scientific Summary

This technical summary of the proposal should outline scientific objectives of each component of the proposal, including strategies and methodologies to be used in the research. Essential collaborators should be identified, and it is essential to outline the plan to integrate the results of this proposal with the sponsoring program.

4. Scientific Proposal

A maximum 20-page allowance is permitted to describe the science proposed. Up to an additional 5 pages can be used to present diagrams, figures and photographs. Recommended headings are provided in the table of contents page. Within the 20 pages, the applicant has flexibility to present the most compelling case for his / her project. A list of references is additional to the maximum of 20 pages. Only the list of references can be presented in single line spacing (the body must be 1.5 line spaced).

The table of contents page is also not part of the page count, but should be completed to assist the reviewers find headings within the proposal rapidly. The applicant should replace the '#' symbol in the table of contents page with the actual page number in the final document before submission. The sponsoring program should be provided time to review, comment and suggest revisions to the scientific proposal before it is submitted.

5. **Summary of Letters of Sponsorship, Institutional Support and Collaboration**
Complete the Table summarizing letters of agreement to sponsor and collaborate. Institutional support letters should include evidence of matching funds. Matching fund eligibility requires they not be federally derived.

These letters should be sent electronically with the Full Application by the deadline date or included within the PDF file comprising the full application. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to get these letters in time to be submitted with the Full Application. Letters should:

a. Confirm the nature and extent of Institutional support for the Applicant. Such a letter may include the commencement date of an Applicant's appointment with a Host Institution if it occurs after submission of the Full Application. Candidates in their final year of studies can apply with a university/hospital commitment to be hired (with the required matching support) by the start of the award.

b. Provide details of the Host Institution's research support provided to the Applicant. Identify the actual time or percentage of the total hours per week the Applicant will be supported to perform research (It is expected that a majority of the Applicant's time will be devoted to research).

c. Provide support from the sponsoring program of that program's plans to integrate and mentor the Applicant's research with that of the Program. Two letters are required, one from each of two different members of the sponsoring program – with a preference for one of the letters to come from a member who is not at the same Institution as the Applicant.

d. Confirm agreement to collaborate with the Applicant on specifics of the Applicant's program; e.g., access to biomaterials, access to technology and expertise, etc.

Please note:

- Letters confirming institutional support (e.g. from the department head) are expected to outline institutional commitments related to funds and resources only. These letters are not required to comment professionally on the candidate.
- Letters from mentors should clearly identify the mentor's commitment to the project and to the candidate's professional success.

6. Budget Request

The total award request cannot exceed $87,500 per year. Budget must reflect expenditures for the award amount and the match amount (1:1 match; maximum budget is $175,00 per year).

Each line item should provide the total cost per year of that item, and full narrative is expected to justify that budget request in the Budget Narrative below. Please note that all work (including all expenses) under this award must be conducted in Canada.

Eligible Costs include:
a. Salaries & Wages – Only research staff and trainees (graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, research assistants, technicians, and professional assistants) working directly under the Applicant's supervision are eligible to receive salary support from the grant. Administrative staff are not eligible, nor are annual increments.
b. Consumables – Only laboratory consumables, animals, core research facility charges, information technology costs, equipment (under $5,000), courier and research travel directly related to the Proposal should be included here.
c. Equipment over $5,000 is not eligible. However, equipment that is integral to the Applicant's research proposal can be included in the first year (only) of the matching funding.

Applicants should refer to the MOHCCN Eligible Expenditures Guideline for a list of other ineligible costs.

7. Budget Narrative / Justification

All budget line items need to be justified in the budget narrative

a. **Salaries & Wages.** List all members of the proposed research team – indicating whether current or to be recruited. Outline duties including the percentage of effort required, experience necessary or required, and proposed salary or stipend. Also list individuals who will be part of the research team who will NOT be paid from the grant. Indicate how they will be compensated (fellowship, studentship, other grants, etc.). Assess the impact of these individuals on the research proposal.

b. **Consumables.** If a line item covers a range of reagents or services, provide a breakdown of how line item costs are estimated.

8. Appendices

Please label all appendices to avoid confusion by reviewers. Please keep appendices short.

a. **Curriculum Vitae**: Please include your curriculum vitae in the format required by TFRI that is available from the [TFRI MOHCCN website](#).

b. **Certificates**: Use the table provided to list all the certificates you require to complete this research. The list of certificates may include Environmental, Biohazard/Biosafety, Radiation Safety, Animal Care, Human Ethics, Human pluripotent stem cell research and regulatory approvals from Health Canada. Certificates dated to expire before the start date of the research are not acceptable. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to obtain these certificates and provide copies to the Host Institution. The Host Institution is required to ensure that you have all current certificates for the relevant section of the proposal before providing funding to your project.

c. **Clinical Protocols, Surveys, Consents, etc.**: May be submitted for proposals where such documents are integral to the research proposal.

d. **Scientific Manuscripts**: Applicants may attach as appendices up to three manuscripts or publication that are directly relevant to the proposal

e. **Statement of Inclusion of Sex and Gender in Research Design**: Applicants are expected to include a statement in the proposal that they have considered sex- and gender-based analysis (SGBA) as appropriate. The purpose of SGBA is to promote rigorous science that is sensitive to sex and gender and therefore has the potential to expand our understanding of health determinants for all people.[1] Applicants are also invited to include a description of your inclusion of minority

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[1] Please refer to http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/50836.html for more resources.

populations, including hard-to-reach populations, as applicable. Please see the MOHCCN [Underserved and Underrepresented Populations Guideline](#) developed by the MOHCCN Canadian Spectrum Working Group for more information.

f. **Letters of cash match commitment**: see Appendix A in the Full Application document for details about eligible matched funds and expenditures. The sponsoring, eligible Canadian host institution is required to ensure eligible cash match funding is available to this Marathon of Hope Clinician Scientist Award with a similar or greater amount that will be used to augment the project's research expenses.

g. **Response to reviewer comments (re**-submissions only): Candidates who have previously submitted a Full Application to this competition and received reviewer comments are required to submit a response to reviewer comments (1-page maximum).

For inquiries, please contact:

Jessie Micholuk, MPH

Network Program Manager, MOHCCN

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