Engage Grants

Supporting collaboration with community and industry partners

VIU is committed to serving the region through applied research and community engaged scholarship. The Engage Grants are part of a new suite of programs to support the realization of the Scholarship, Research and Creative Activity Plan (2017-22).

The **Engage Grants** are expected to support the **Collaborate and Build Clusters** objective of this plan. They are intended to allow VIU faculty to build or expand collaborative research projects with community or industry partners. These grants provide short-term and timely support for research activities with partners that will inform decision-making with a community or industry partner in the public, private or not for profit sector. Applications should demonstrate scholarly, research or creative activities that respond to the priority needs facing organizations in non-academic sectors. These awards will result in stronger collaboration between VIU faculty and external groups and enable the co-creation of new knowledge.

The source of funding for these awards includes: 1) Vancouver Island University and 2) the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) through the SSHRC Exchange Grants and the SSHRC Institutional Grant programs, 3) National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) through the General Research Fund (GRF). The allocation of funding from the SSHRC Exchange Grant will only be provided to SSHRC eligible faculty and NSERC GRF will only be provided to NSERC eligible faculty whereas the VIU portion can fund all other disciplines. The VIURAC committee has the ability to reallocate funding for any of the grants it adjudicates, depending on the quantity and quality of submissions received.

VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY

SSHRC ≡ CRSH
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada

NSERC CRSNG

Want to meet new partners?

Consider meeting and exploring potential projects by attending the Community Partner Series.

Eligible Expenses

1. Wages or compensation for students or community partners.
2. Travel costs associated to engagement with the community partner(s).
3. Modest knowledge mobilization activities up to $500. Conditions apply, please contact a Grant Facilitator.
4. Costs associated to hosting meetings or gatherings to conduct the project or share the results with non academic audiences.
5. Materials and supplies.
6. Promotional materials.
7. Equipment may be eligible if well justified. Any equipment purchased must be made available to other VIU faculty for research projects.

Need assistance with your proposal?

Contact one of VIU's Grant Facilitators

Bettina Ruhstein (Bettina.Ruhstein@viu.ca) or

Tamara MacNeil (Tamara.MacNeil@viu.ca) or

Roisin Mulligan (Roisin.Mulligan@viu.ca)

Apply online using

ROMEO

Criteria for Evaluation

Strength of Project in Responding to a Priority of an External Partner (60%)

1. Clear articulation of the needs, challenges or opportunity facing the partner(s) involved in the project;
2. Significance and expected contribution of the project to produce knowledge that addresses #1.
3. Appropriateness of the methods or approach outlined in the project;
4. Strategies to mobilize the results to non-academic audiences;
5. Potential for the project to create long-term benefits or impacts;
6. Potential for the project to build/enhance relationships between VIU and the partner(s) involved.

Feasibility (20%)

1. Likelihood that the proposed objectives will be met within the timeline.
2. Evidence of meaningful involvement, commitment and collaboration by the partner organization(s).
3. Appropriateness of the proposed budget and justification of resources *(refer to eligible expenses).*

Capability of the Team (10%)

1. Evidence of VIU and community partners on the project team and adequate quality of expertise to guide the project to successful outcomes.
2. Clarity of roles and responsibilities for the team members is evidenced in the workplan.

Engagement of VIU students (10%)

1. VIU students are not required to be involved in projects, however, projects that provide meaningful engagement of at least one VIU student are strongly encouraged to help build capacity in community engagement.

Proposal components:

1. Abstract (300 words) ready for sharing publicly on the web if funded.
2. Project description (max 3 pages) that includes:
   a) problem, issue or opportunity, b) brief literature to support the approach, c) methods with a timeline, d) anticipated outcomes and impacts, e) strategies to mobilize the knowledge with non-academic audiences.
3. Budget and justification (max 1 page).
4. Project team, roles and responsibilities (max 1 page).
5. Supporting references.
6. Combine all documents into one PDF and submit using ROMEO.