



For immediate release — Tuesday, June 15, 2021

## **Breadth of institutional research on display with award of \$3.7 million of federal funding across disciplines**

University of Lethbridge research projects from across the institution were supported with more than \$3.7 million in funding as the Government of Canada announced a major investment in Canadian science, engineering, social sciences and humanities research.

Today, at the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, announced investments of more than \$635 million to support more than 4,800 lead researchers and their teams. This support includes more than 3,400 new grants and grant extensions through the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada's (NSERC) Discovery Grants program, and 1,315 research projects across Canada through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's (SSHRC) Partnership Grants, Partnership Development Grants, Insight Grants and Insight Development Grants. As well, there were 156 new or renewed Canada Research Chairs (CRC) confirmed at 36 institutions across Canada.

"The investment of nearly \$4 million in our institution's research activities is an investment in our people who drive innovation, spark inquiry and author solutions to some of the biggest issues facing society today," says Dr. Robert Wood, the University's interim vice-president (research). "That each of our five Faculties is represented in these funding announcements shows the depth and breadth of the research activities taking place here on campus and affirms our position as one of the country's leading comprehensive research institutions."

In all, 30 different projects are receiving funding support through either SSHRC or NSERC, with values ranging from small awards that support community outreach STEM activities in Destination Exploration (grants of \$4,600 and \$5,000) to large funding awards for projects such as Dr. Inge Genee's SSHRC Insight Grant supporting her work in the Department of Modern Languages (\$344,779 for *Documenting contemporary and historical variation in Niitsi'powahsin (Blackfoot)*) and Dr. Majid Mohajerani's NSERC Discovery Grant supporting his Department of Neuroscience study (\$720,000 for researching *Spontaneous activity, memory replay and the default mode network*).

“From math and computer science to neuroscience, kinesiology, physics & astronomy, chemistry and biochemistry, philosophy, education, music, business, psychology, health sciences, religious studies and English, our researchers are pushing boundaries, training students and making a real difference in society,” says Wood.

The Government of Canada says the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the invaluable contributions researchers make to our country and throughout the world.

“More than ever, this past year has shown that society cannot move forward without the strong contribution of researchers from across Canada and beyond,” says Ted Hewitt, president of SSHRC and Chair of the Canada Research Chairs Program Steering Committee. “Advancing knowledge and insight within and across all disciplines — including social sciences, humanities, natural sciences, engineering and health — is essential to tackling the challenges we face and finding the solutions we need to make Canada healthier, safer, more innovative and more prosperous.”

A full list of funded projects is available [online](#).

-- 30 --

Contact:

Trevor Kenney, News & Information Manager  
403-360-7639 (cell)  
[trevor.kenney@uleth.ca](mailto:trevor.kenney@uleth.ca)  
@uLethbridge