

NEWS RELEASE

FUNDING NOW AVAILABLE FOR GAMBLING RELATED RESEARCH

December 15, 2011 – Researchers interested in studying responsible gaming and the prevention and treatment of problem gambling in Manitoba now have up to \$1 million in new annual funding available through the Manitoba Gambling Research Program, which is financially supported and administered by Manitoba Lotteries.

“This new program is a significant addition to the gambling research capacity in our province,” says Linda Taylor, Chairperson of the Research Council, which is responsible for overseeing the funding of research. “We offer four types of grants that are now available to academics.”

Research opportunities are available to researchers across Canada. Full details about the program’s grants can be found at www.manitobagamblingresearch.com

- Large Grants of up to \$450,000 per grant
- Small Grants of up to \$50,000 per grant
- Studentship Grants of up to \$60,000 per grant
- Conference Grants of up to \$2,000 per grant

Solicitation for grants opens January 31, 2012. The Research Council will also announce solicitation for two focused research projects early in 2012. These projects will allow researchers to investigate specific questions as identified by the Research Council.

“Gambling research is still relatively young,” says Dr David Hodgins, a professor at the University of Calgary and council member for Manitoba’s program. “I can attest to the importance that this sort of program has to the local and national research community. It is very exciting to see Manitoba support gambling research.”

The funding of research grants through the Manitoba Gambling Research Program is overseen by a Research Council that consists of community and academic representatives. Provincial stakeholders also sit on the council and provide their knowledge of Manitoba’s programming in responsible gaming, and prevention and treatment of problem gambling.

“We are pleased this will increase Manitoba-based research,” said Winston Hodgins, President and CEO of Manitoba Lotteries. “This research will enable evidence-based advancement of responsible gaming programs, and problem gambling prevention and treatment.”

Full information on the Manitoba Gambling Research Program can be found online at www.manitobagamblingresearch.com. Researchers interested in applying are encouraged to visit the site for complete details of the funding categories and application details.

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Backgrounder attached.

For more information and to arrange an interview, please contact:

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BACKGROUND

- The Manitoba Gambling Research Program, funded by Manitoba Lotteries and overseen by a research council, directs \$1 million annually towards peer-reviewed Manitoba-based research on responsible gaming and problem gambling.
- Complete details can be found at www.manitobagamblingresearch.com
- The research undertaken through the Manitoba Gambling Research Program will fit within the program's research priority areas, which can be found on the program's website.

- The Research Council includes:

Linda Taylor
Chairperson

Leah Gazan
Member

Elizabeth Stephenson
Manitoba Gaming
Control Commission

Dr David Hodgins
University of Calgary

Yvonne Block
Addictions Foundation of
Manitoba

Tina Leclair
Manitoba Healthy Living,
Youth & Seniors

Anastasia Sych-Yereniuk
Member

Susan Olynik
Manitoba Lotteries

- Research proposals and reports are peer reviewed to ensure their relevance and quality.
- **Large and Small Grants** provide academics the opportunity to pursue research projects that enhance understanding of topics within the program's research priority areas.
- **Studentship Grants** strengthen gambling research capacity in Manitoba.
 - Masters Program: \$15,000 per year, maximum of two years
 - Doctoral Program: \$20,000 per year, maximum of three years
- **Conference Grants** provide Manitoba academics with the opportunity to participate in gambling related conferences.
- **Focused Research Projects** allow researchers to investigate specific questions as identified by the Research Council.
- The program is administered by Manitoba Lotteries. The Research Council reports to the Manitoba Lotteries Board.
- In 2010/11 Manitoba Lotteries contributed \$4.2 million to responsible gaming and problem gambling programs and research. This includes \$3.2 million for the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba's treatment and awareness programs.