NEIHR NATIONAL COORDINATING CENTRE

Station 20 West
Suite 203 - 1120 20th Street W
Saskatoon, SK S7M 0Y8

Call for Applications: Rapid Health Research Response Funds

Deadline: December 1, 2026

Eligible regions: First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities across Canada.

Submit to: wildfires@usask.ca

Subject line: *Rapid Health Research Response Fund*

Overview & Purpose

The National Coordinating Centre for the NEIHR Networks (NCC-NEIHR) received CIHR funding (Aug 2025) to address the health and wellbeing impacts of 2025 wildfire evacuations. The scope of this project has now been expanded to include applications for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit community-led rapid research projects that address urgent and emerging health and wellbeing needs related to emergencies and disasters. We invite community-led rapid research projects (in partnership with NEIHR-connected researchers) that generate timely, actionable insights for communities, governments, policymakers, and NGOs.

- **Maximum per award: $20,000**
- **Total envelope for 2026 applications: $400,000**
- **Project duration:** Must be **completed within 4 months** of funds transfer
- **Ethics:** Applicants must comply with local/community protocols and distinctions-based data governance (e.g., OCAP®, Métis Data Principles)

Eligibility

- **Applicants:** NEIHR connected researchers in collaboration with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit community partners are encouraged to apply
- **Funds:** Funds will be administered through the PI (NEIHR researcher) host institution and transferred upon a successful application
- **Focus:** Any aspect of health and wellbeing impacted by crisis or emergency (e.g. impacts of environmental displacement, emergency preparedness planning, toxic drug crisis, community violence, environmental health impacts such as water, soil, and air quality, etc.)
- **Approach: Rapid research methodology** suited to real-time/near-term evidence needs

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Post-Award Requirements

- **Knowledge sharing:** All funded teams will present their project at a **Spring 2027** event (travel support for community partners provided).
- **All outcomes** will be shared with the NCC and housed in one location to help support other Indigenous communities, governments, researchers, and NGOs.

How to Apply

Email a **single PDF** to **Robert Henry** at **wildfires@usask.ca** with the subject **"Rapid Health Research Response Fund."**

Application components

1. **Research Proposal (up to 3 pages)**
   Include:
   - Title
   - Brief description and objectives linked to emergency-related health and wellbeing
   - Methods (rapid research design)
   - Plan to communicate results to the community and other partners
2. **Budget & Justification (1–2 pages)**
   Outline how funds will be used to deliver the rapid research and support knowledge translation back to the community.
3. **Attachments:** A letter of support from the community partner(s) is **required**.

Formatting

- **12-point+ black type**, single-spaced; standard fonts (no condensed/narrow)
- Smaller text allowed in tables/figures if legible at **100%**
- **Margins ≥ ¾ inch** on all sides; **letter size (8.5"×11")**

Contact

Questions or guidance:

- Contact Robert Henry and project staff at **wildfires@usask.ca**