



The Canadian Wide Bacteriophage Therapy Acceleration Fund: Call for Letters of Interest

Deadline: April 19, 2024, 11:59 pm EDT

Due to a generous donation made to the University of Toronto, up to \$1.5 million Canadian Dollars is available in 2024 to support bacteriophage therapy (including phage products) initiatives across Canada. We invite applications focused on controlling antibiotic resistant bacteria using phages across all One Health areas, including human and animal health, agriculture, food safety, and the environment.

If needed, awardees will have reasonable access to phages and in-kind support from the Félix d'Hérelle Reference Center for Bacterial Viruses at Université Laval (Quebec City).

Funding, deliverables and assessment

- Funds will be allocated at two different levels: \$200,000 and \$50,000.
- Funds will be distributed from the University of Toronto to a Canadian academic institution or affiliated research organization.
- The awarded funds must be used within 2 years from the project start date (award letters in July projected start in August 2024).
- A principal investigator can submit a maximum of two letters of interest. See CIHR definitions for eligibility of a nominated principal applicant as a reference: <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51197.html>
- Collaborations with academic and non-academic partners including industry are encouraged.

Each letter of interest should be only one page using 12 Times New Roman font with single line spacing and 2 cm margins with a template provide. On a separate page, provide affiliations and contact information of the PI and names and affiliations of collaborators (see template overleaf).

Deadlines

- **April 19, 2024, 11:59PM EDT:** Submit expression of interest letter (LOI) to Ms. Debb Yorke at Imp.chairadmin@utoronto.ca. The subject line of the email should be the saved file name of the LOI, and the amount of funds requested (\$200K or \$50K). Proposal title should not exceed 90 characters, spaces included.
- **May 8, 2024, 12:00PM EDT:** Successful letter of interest applicants will be informed.
- **June 3, 2024, 11:59PM EDT:** For successful EOIs, second stage applications will be due.
- Final adjudication will take place by the **end of June** with awardee notification expected to be given in **early July** and funding distribution in **August**.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gregory German
Fund Co-Chair
Professorship in Bacteriophage Therapy
and Research Innovation

Dr. Karen Maxwell
Fund Co-Chair
Associate Professor, Biochemistry



Recommended template for the letters of interest

Notes:

- A. See template below for the first page
- B. A second page is allowable for names and affiliations of the PI, and collaborators. In the LOI the names should be referenced as either PI (for the Primary investigator) or the initials of the collaborator.
- C. PMID for any references.

Template

Providers Name, direct phone number and email.

RE: Funding amount \$50K or \$200K and title (90 characters or less)

- 1. Project summary/challenges/issue(s)/background**
- 2. Project objective(s)**
- 3. Anticipated methodology and innovation**
- 4. Expected impact and outcome (How will this accelerate bacteriophage therapy research and innovation in Canada?)**