



THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU PUT YOUR HEART INTO IT.

February 2009

Upcoming deadlines

HSFO

March 31st, 2009 for...

- Martin Wills High School Student Scholarship
- John D. Schultz Undergraduate Science Student Scholarship
- Summer Medical Student Awards
- Master's Studentship Awards - including the **new Health Services/ Population Health Master's Award**
- Clinician Scientist Award

HSFC

April 8, 2009 – Request for proposals for the Economic Policy, Obesity and Health Research Synthesis competition

<http://www.hsf.ca/research/en/geral/home.html>

Research, Advocacy and Health Promotion Department

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We're always interested in your feedback. Email us at: research@hsf.on.ca

Grant-in-aid program draws record number of applicants

The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario received the largest ever number of grant-in-aid (GIA) applications and a record funding request in the September, 2008 competition.

The number of applications rose 8% over last year to 237, and the associated dollar request climbed 20% to \$32.6 million in the first year (\$114.5 million, all years).

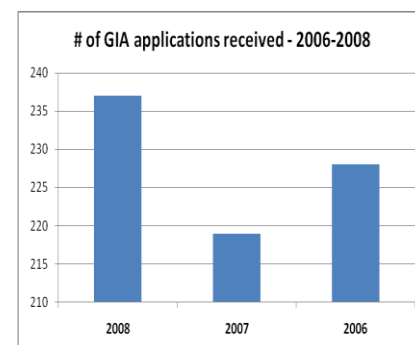
Grants rated within a potentially fundable range are being reviewed this month by HSFO's Grant Allocation Committee to establish final budgets per application before funding decisions are made and grants are offered. The guidelines that apply to the budget review process were posted on the Foundation's research website last September.

The GIA program has long been the Foundation's single largest research investment annually. Last year, the Foundation launched its *Larger and Longer*

GIA strategy, through which it aims to fund highly rated grants more richly, awarding longer terms and larger budgets than it would have before the strategy came into play.

The Foundation is grateful to the members of the Grant Allocation Committee for the many hours they devote each year to this important grant competition.

The Committee comprises 16 individuals who bring multi-disciplinary scientific expertise to the GIA budget review. Committee members are recruited from across Ontario.



Vascular research institute being explored

HSFO has partnered with members of the scientific community to seek funding for a 'vascular research institute' in Ontario.

The goal of the institute would be to attract investment in Ontario and create jobs in the field of vascular science, helping to accelerate the pace of discovery through the commercialization of new ideas.

Funding is being sought through the Ontario Ministry of Science and Innovation's Strategic Opportunities Fund, which supported the creation of the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research.

"Given our relationship with the research community, we were in a position to bring a range of vascular expertise to the table – heart, stroke, imaging, population health, and others – to work with us on the proposal," says Marco Di Buono, HSFO's Director, Research.

Di Buono notes that the Foundation remains fully committed to its current research strategies, but was intrigued to take on the role of convenor on this special initiative.

It's anticipated that the proposal for the *Vascular Research Institute of Ontario* will be ready for submission to the Ministry in the Spring of 2009.

More details will be provided as the initiative moves forward.



What's the big story in 2009??

Every February, the Foundation's Annual Report Card on Canadians' Health highlights a significant health issue. This year's Report Card was released to the media February 9th and focuses on Canadians' access to healthy food.

Read all about it [here](#)...

Webinar available online

The Foundation continues to host a webinar focused on preparing high quality health services/population health grant applications.

The webinar is available 24/7 on the Foundation's research website.

[Click here](#) to have a look!

February 2009

Heart Month – What's on?

Plenty! Here's just a sample of some upcoming events in various parts of the province. For a more complete list, including details on the events below, visit

heartandstroke.on.ca/events

Toronto, February 14th – Valentine's Day with Heart.

Come out and celebrate the hearts and health of our kids and families in Nathan Phillips Square.

Kingston, February 27th/28th – Project Red Fashion Show.

Alma Mater Society club at Queen's University hosts a fashion show inspired by The Heart Truth campaign's Red Dress Collection to raise funds and awareness for the fight against heart disease in women.

Ottawa, February 28th – South Asian Health Symposium.

An event for the entire family, featuring information on a variety of topics, including heart disease and stroke, diabetes and healthy living. Ben Franklin Place.

Do you know a young caregiver of a stroke survivor?

Individuals, 18-24, are being sought to take part in a study to determine the types of information, support and training young family members want. Call 416-978-5694, or email evelyn.lasso@utoronto.ca



**HEART &
STROKE
FOUNDATION**

Finding answers. For life.