Beyond the Paper - Knowledge Mobilization Grants for Inclusive Science

Overview

Knowledge mobilization is the process of moving research into action, by making it accessible, understandable, and useful to the people who can benefit from it. This competition, funded by The Integral Mentorship for Inclusive Science (Mentorat intégral pour la science inclusive, MISI) project of The Institute will provide 10 grants of \$3,000 each to support principal investigators and their teams in developing impactful knowledge mobilization projects targeted to women and Indigenous groups (First Nations, Inuit and Métis) in health research.

The MISI Project's funding is provided by the <u>NovaScience Program</u>, in partnership with the Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et de l'Énergie | Gouvernement du Québec

Key Elements of Knowledge Mobilization

- **Translation:** Turning complex research into plain language or practical tools.
- **Dissemination:** Sharing research widely through workshops, websites, videos, podcasts, infographics, tools, arts, performances, etc.
- **Engagement:** Working with partners (e.g., community members, healthcare providers, educators) to co-create or adapt knowledge to their reality.
- **Implementation:** Ensuring research is actually used in practice, policy, or real-world settings.

Example Activities

- Hosting a public lecture or community workshop.
- Creating a podcast, video, or infographic that explains research results.
- Collaborating with community organizations to apply research findings.
- Developing toolkits, guidelines, or apps for practitioners or patients.
- Collaborating with artists to translate research into visual formats.

The initiative aims to strengthen the translation of research into practice, policy, and community engagement for women and indigenous groups.

Value and Term of the Grant

Applicants	Award Amount	Term
Principal Investigators, including Senior Scientists, Scientists, Junior Scientists or Investigators with an appointment at The Institute.	\$3,000 (used for eligible expenses)	February 3 rd , 2026 – September 30, 2026

Timeline

- November 6th 2025: Launch of the call for applications
- November 27th 2025: Info session webinar
- December 19th 2025: Proposal submission deadline
- January 5^{th -} 19th 2026: Evaluation of proposals by the committee
- February 3rd 2026: Start of selected projects, transfer of funds
- June 12th 2026 (TBD): Mid-project check-in with recipients
- September 12th 2026: Project completion
- **Sept Dec 2026**: Final report compilation and evaluation

Eligibility

Open to all RI-MUHC Principal Investigators, including Senior Scientists, Scientists, Junior Scientists or Investigators appointed at The Institute.

- Indigenous researchers or community-based research teams who do not hold an RI-MUHC appointment are encouraged to collaborate with an RI-MUHC Principal Investigator to apply jointly.
- Projects must focus on knowledge mobilization activities targeting relevant audiences (e.g., policymakers, practitioners, patients, community groups, or the public)
- In line with the goals of the **MISI Project**, applications must:
 - Mobilize knowledge to benefit women and/or Indigenous communities and/or
 - Include the participation of women and/or Indigenous researchers or trainees
- Teams must include all the expertise needed for successful completion of the project. This includes the experience and competencies for developing and carrying out the

project's knowledge mobilization plan, designing and facilitating co-creation of the project's outputs, content expertise to ensure the accurate translation of the research evidence into the project's outputs, as well as the evaluation of impact(s).

- Teams must involve at least one trainee who will be actively mentored in knowledge mobilization skills. The trainee(s)'s roles must be specific and aligned with their training as an inclusive knowledge mobilization leader.
- Applicants must be able to initiate the project in February 2026, when funding is expected to begin, to provide a public presentation of advances in June 2026 and to complete the project by September 30th, 2026.

Application Requirements

Applicants must submit a **PDF document**. The Project Proposal should be structured as follows:

- 1. Project Proposal (maximum 3 pages, excluding references, budget, and appendices)
 - a. Title of Proposed Knowledge Mobilization Project
 - i. Concise and descriptive.
 - b. Keywords
 - i. Up to **10 words** that best capture the focus of the KM project.
 - c. Team Members and Roles
 - i. List all team members and their roles, including the trainees' roles.
 - ii. Identify the Principal Investigator.
 - iii. Highlight any trainees, women, or Indigenous researchers involved.
 - d. Project Description
 - i. **Objectives:** What is the purpose of the KM project?
 - ii. **Target Audience(s):** Who will benefit (e.g., community members, policymakers, practitioners, patients, women, Indigenous communities)?
 - iii. **Activities & Methods:** What KM approaches will you use (e.g., workshops, podcasts, toolkits, art collaborations)?
 - iv. **Anticipated Outcomes & Impact:** What change do you expect? How will knowledge move into practice, policy, or public understanding?
 - v. **Equity Alignment:** How does the project support women and/or Indigenous communities in line with MISI's mission?
- 2. Budget and Justification (max. 1 page)
 - a. Provide a detailed budget of eligible expenses (see guidelines).
 - b. Identify any in-kind or cash contributions.
- 3. Project Timeline (max. ½ page)
 - a. Outline key milestones between February 3, 2026 September 30, 2026.

Eligible Expenses:

Use of funds must contribute toward the direct costs of the KM project and should be directly attributable to the project or activity being performed.

Eligible Costs

• Supplies and materials; • Provision of special services and user fees; • Honoraria and travel expenses, if applicable, for partner and/or team member participation in the project and proposed activities; • Costs associated with the development (design, production, editing, translation, printing) of knowledge products that communicate the findings from research evidence into real-world settings.

Ineligible Costs

• Salaries and consulting fees • Costs related to the development and/or distribution of commercial products, including registration of patents, trademarks, etc.; • General office supplies; • Indirect or overhead costs associated with the project; • Costs related to research, including purchase or maintenance of equipment

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Criteria	Description	Weight
Relevance & Alignment with MISI Objectives	Clarity of the proposed KM activity and alignment with MISI's objectives, particularly in engaging and benefiting women and/or Indigenous groups.	30%
Potential for Impact	Likelihood that the project will generate meaningful change for the identified target audience (e.g., improved access to knowledge, influence on policy/practice, strengthened community capacity).	30%
Feasibility	Realism of the proposed plan, including the timeline , budget , team expertise , and ability to deliver within the funding period.	25%
Innovation & Creativity	Use of innovative or non-traditional approaches to mobilize knowledge (e.g., arts-based methods, digital media).	15%

Evaluation Process

Applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee composed of:

- Representatives from the MISI Project,
- RI-MUHC researchers with KM expertise, and
- Community or partner representatives (optional but would reinforce engagement principles).

Each proposal will be **scored independently** by reviewers using the criteria grid above.

Final funding decisions will be made through **committee consensus**, ensuring alignment with MISI's mission and equitable distribution of grants.

Administration of Grant Funds

Successful applicants will be notified in writing (Letter of Award issued) by **January 30th**. Once the Letter of Award is signed, the funding will be transferred into a new grant account. The MISI team will coordinate the opening of these accounts. Awardees are responsible for administering their funding in line with their submitted and approved budgets. Any unspent funds will need to be returned before September 15th 2026.

Follow-Up & Reporting

- Grantees must participate in a mid-project check-in (June 2026) to share progress.
- A final knowledge mobilization report will be required by September 2026.
- A financial report will need to be provided by September 2026.
- Results will be synthesized in a program-wide report between Sept-Dec 2026.