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Issue 166

CIHR Reforms: Addressing the Funding Gap - An Update on the funding start date for the 2014 Foundation Scheme "live pilot" and Transitional OOGP competitions

An important message from CIHR's Chief Scientific Officer

As part of our commitment to keeping the research community informed throughout the implementation of the new [Open Suite of Programs](#) and peer review processes, I would like to let the community know about a recent development related to the [2014 Foundation Scheme](#) and [Transitional OOGP](#) competitions.

Early in the design process for the new Open Suite of Programs, we acknowledged that there would be an impact on the cycle of funding start dates during the transition period and therefore have worked both to minimize the impact and provide information to the research community as early as possible. In this vein, we provided the community with the relevant funding opportunities and associated timelines well in advance of the transition period to allow current grant holders to plan for potential gaps in CIHR funding. We have heard concerns from many in the community, both from individual researchers and from research institutions, regarding the impact of a six month gap in funding for successful applicants. After having considered various options, and weighing the risks and benefits of any adjustments (including the impact on the predicted number of grants CIHR will be able to support through these competitions) we have taken the decision to reduce the gap by moving forward the funding start date for both competitions. This will have the effect of allowing new grantees to ramp up their research faster and will reduce the funding gap that may exist for some current grantees from 6 months to 3 months.

As a result, the funding start date for the 2014 Foundation Scheme live pilot and Transitional OOGP has changed from October 1, 2015 to July 1, 2015.

Questions regarding the Open Suite of Programs and peer review reforms can be sent to CIHR by email: Roadmap-Plan.Strategique@cihr-irsc.gc.ca

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