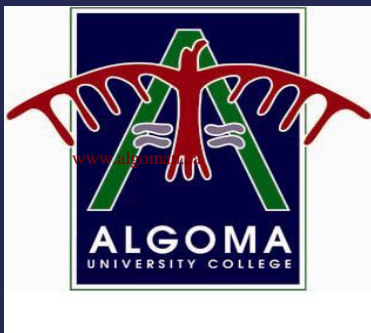


Northern Ontario Research, Development, Ideas and Knowledge

NOR·D·I·K
INSTITUTE



APPLYING TO SSHRC: SETTING THE FOUNDATION



Outline

- Pre–Concept
- Potential Partners
- Concept Development
- Writing Tips
- Budget Tips

Pre-Concept

- Get to know SSHRC
 - History – Development of Canadian scholars & scholarship – emphasis on student training as researchers
 - Current priorities
 - Current programs
 - Deadlines- annual timing
- Nothing succeeds like success – think small! Be prepared to build your credibility with SSHRC

Partners

- Assess (honestly) your own knowledge, research skills/methods and networks. Are there areas that could be strengthened?
- Who could add value to your project? How?
- Are there academics, community members and/or policy makers who can add value?
- Other funders?

Concept Development

- Begin with very general concept – e.g. engaging youth in Northern, rural & Indigenous communities
- Literature Review – focus on untested ideas, where more research is required & new language/concepts in the field
- Talk to lots of people in different fields about your concept
- Be open to revising/amending/discarding concept!

Writing Tips

- Begin months, preferably a year in advance!
- Keep problem description brief (1 paragraph)
- Focus on how this research will shed light/provide new/increased insight & understanding
- Research methodology – Is it consistent with research questions? Innovation?
- Establish clear links between research and SSHRC's priorities
- Identify 3 – 4 key objectives of research – all positive

Budget Tips

- Emphasize development of scholars
- Leveraging dollars –
 - NOHFC & FedNor internships,
 - Algoma U share,
 - ‘in-kind’ donations - office space, meeting space, staff time, volunteer time, computers, equipment, etc etc

Conclusions

- Establish your credibility with the funder
- Focus on positive outcomes of the research
- Identify and invite partners who can add value
- Writing should be succinct, clearly linking all aspects of proposal (concept, methodology, partners, budget & outcomes)
- SSHRC's technology is poorly constructed – so leave much more time than should be required!