

May 5, 2022

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## Report to Senate #700 - May 11, 2022

**1. VPR Canada Games Grants (Rd 3) Announced**

The third round of VPR Canada Games Research Grants was allocated last month. Once again applicants brought an astonishing range of perspectives and expertise to Games-related inquiry. Researchers and [their projects](#) in this round included:

- Dr. Corliss Bean (Recreation and Leisure Studies): Exploring Female Sport Leaders' Journeys to the Canada Games Using Digital Storytelling
- Dr. Nicole Chimera (Kinesiology): Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Injuries and Illnesses in Canada Games Competitions.
- Dr. Yifeng Li (Computer Science): Sport AI Enabled by Multi-Agent Deep Reinforcement Learning Approaches.
- Dr. Kim Gammage (Kinesiology): Focusing on the positives: A test of the embodiment model of positive body image in elite athletes.
- Dr. Nota Klentrou (Kinesiology): Dietary energy intake, energy balance, nutrition knowledge and supplement use among youth athletes participating in the 2022 Canada Games.
- Dr. Dawn Trussell (Sport Management): Where's Mom? Investigating the Intersection of Motherhood and the Underrepresentation of Women in Coaching through a Major Games Event.
- Dr. Adam Kanar (OBHREE): Competency Awareness and Articulation in 2022 Canada Games Volunteers.
- Dr. Diane Mack (Kinesiology): Prioritizing Mental Health: An Investigation of Canadian Olympic Sport Organizations.

The VPR Canada Games Research Grants have now funded thirty research projects over the past three years. A knowledge mobilization plan is currently in development to ensure that athletes, coaches, spectators and the public more broadly, both during the Games and subsequently, can learn about the results of this research and apply it where relevant.

**2. Indigenous Research Grants**

I am delighted to report also that the second round of the Brock University Indigenous Research Grant program is currently under adjudication; awards are expected to be announced presently.

**3. CCRE nominations launching**

The Chancellor's Chair for Research Excellence competition will be opening shortly. The CCRE award recognizes and provides project funding for an outstanding Brock researcher each year. Nomination details are at [this link](#).

#### **4. VPMI Project Funding**

The Validating, Prototyping and Manufacturing Institute is renewing its call for researchers with industry partners who could benefit from a project under the [VPMI's partnership program](#). The program provides a remarkable 4:1 leveraging opportunity, contributing up to \$20,000 to a \$5,000 partner match. The VPMI supports development, commercialization, and scale-up of products and technologies, primarily in the bioscience, bioagriculture and chemical manufacturing sectors.

#### **5. CFP: Aboriginal Research Advisory Circle**

The Brock University Research Ethics Board (REB) is [seeking new members](#) to join their Aboriginal Research Advisory Circle (ARAC). ARAC operates in an advisory capacity to the REB, conducting culturally informed reviews of research projects that relate to First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples of Canada, with consideration for Indigenous cultural protocols, histories, and traditions. Interested applicants should identify as and have lived cultural experience as Indigenous.

#### **6. Outreach Events**

On Earth Day, April 22, I was pleased to join Acting President Wells at the launch event for the Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Network, at the Brown Homestead site adjacent to Short Hills Provincial Park. The NEBN is now officially incorporated as a not-for-profit organization, with a contribution agreement from Environment and Climate Change Canada, under which Brock University UNESCO Chair Dr. Liette Vasseur plays a leadership role. Drs. Vasseur and Wells both spoke at the event, which celebrates a refreshed vision of the NEB and a renewed partnership with Indigenous peoples within whose traditional territories the NEB falls.

Also on April 22, I joined Acting President Wells at the official opening of the Canada Games Park and Walker Sports and Abilities Centre, along with a large group of volunteers and public representatives. This legacy building will host many of the events for the 2022 Canada Games, and will serve as an important research facility, including for the Brock-Niagara Centre for Health and Well-Being, as well as being a recreation and community facility for the Brock community for many years to come.

On April 27, I joined Dr. Julie Stevens, Special Advisor to the President and Brock's academic lead for the Canada Games, in giving a presentation to the Niagara 2022 Canada Games Board of Directors. Dr. Stevens and I outlined how engagement with the Games fits with Brock's Strategic Plan and institutional values, before outlining the funding and grant programming that has supported Games-related research projects. The subsequent discussion encompassed the variety, creativity, and impact of this research.

T. Kenyon, Vice-President, Research