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## BACKGROUND

2006HEALTH0023-000456  
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Ministry of Health

### HEALTH RESEARCH FUNDING

The Michael Smith Foundation for Health research was created in 2001 to support and encourage research and innovation across a broad range of health disciplines in British Columbia. Through the foundation, the Province has enabled 150 senior research and 642 research trainee positions to pursue knowledge in a wide range of fields.

Funding for the foundation also provides for several Infrastructure Programs, which enable and promote networking between research disciplines, support business planning, and help universities and teaching hospitals to provide shared resources to all health researchers.

The current funding from the Province will enable researchers to further our knowledge and capabilities in numerous areas that are important to British Columbians, including:

- Antibiotic resistance
- Cancer research
- Cardiovascular and respiratory disease
- Caring for an aging population
- Diabetes
- First Nations health issues
- Genetics
- Health human resources
- Health services delivery
- Healthy development in children
- HIV/AIDS
- Mental health and addictions
- Obesity and nutrition
- Occupational and environmental health
- Rural and remote health
- Women's health

By making B.C. an attractive and supportive place to conduct leading-edge research, the Province can ensure that British Columbians are first in line to benefit from the latest advancements in health care, diagnosis and treatment. Increased competitiveness and excellence in health research also boosts to the province's economy, as new research funding attracted from federal and international research granting agencies creates jobs and opportunity across B.C.'s health research sector.

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