

ICLR Call for Proposals – 2021 British Columbia’s Fraser Valley Flooding

The Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction (ICLR) invites proposals from social scientists based at universities in Canada to quickly deploy to various locations throughout British Columbia’s Fraser Valley for the purpose of collecting perishable data from communities affected by the recent severe flooding event—which, based on official reports, began on Monday November 15, 2021. This funding is meant to support research designed to learn from disaster events, to mitigate the negative impact of natural hazards and protect communities in the future.

Applicants must submit a three-page research proposal (maximum) consisting of a title, research question(s), proposed methods as well as a description of how data will be collected under potentially difficult and typically dynamic local conditions. Applicants are encouraged and expected to consult with and review quick response (QR) research reference materials housed on the Natural Hazards Centre’s CONVERGE facility found [HERE](#). In addition, each submission must include a budget and a CV of the applicant(s).

The proposed budget cannot exceed \$5,000. Eligible research-related expenses include travel to the affected area, accommodations, research assistants, etc. Researcher(s) must abide by their institution’s research ethics guidelines involving human subjects. The applicant is responsible for considering any risks involved in the fieldwork and for taking appropriate precautions.

Funds are not intended for activities that could be undertaken through regular Tri-Council, NCE, or similar research grants. Applicants must hold an academic appointment at a Canadian institution eligible to receive Tri-Council research grants. The grant period is for a maximum of one year. Financial and reporting requirements will be discussed and determined in collaboration with the selected projects.

To help guide researchers through the proposal process, potential research topics that may receive funding through the Program include:

- Identification of opportunities during recovery to increase resilience to future events;
- Evaluation of the impact of the floods on supply chain networks;
- Evaluation of the influence of prior events on stakeholder behaviour;
- Recovery of First Nations communities affected by the event;
- Analysis of stakeholder perception of risk relative to the actual risk;
- Study of the risks associated with simplification bias;
- Identification of the specific authorities that had the greatest influence over behaviour;
- Communication between emergency management officials and residents;
- Communication of information about property damage;
- Communication between insurance companies and policyholders;
- Effectiveness of local emergency management networks;
- Networks and partnerships formed between various groups as part of the disaster relief process;
- Social media use during disasters;
- Understanding the spatial planning and reconstruction of affected households/neighbourhoods;
- Adoption of climate change adaptation and mitigation measures in the built environment;
- Health issues of residents and relief personnel;
- Community recovery and household recovery capacity;
- Options for reducing the risk of future events;
- Other topics as proposed by the researcher(s).

These topics are provided for illustrative purposes and applicants are encouraged to submit applications concerning any social and behavioural science topic associated with disaster events. While this call for proposals is open specifically for the 2021 BC Fraser Valley Flooding event, ICLR welcomes quick response research proposals for other disasters at any time.

Please consult the following link for more information about the application process. For additional questions and to submit a proposal, please contact Sophie Guilbault of the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction.

<https://www.iclr.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/ICLR-Quick-Response-Program.pdf>

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