



Call for Applications: 2025 Wildfire Rapid Health Research Response Funds (up to \$20,000)

Deadline: March 1, 2026

Eligible regions: First Nations and Métis communities in **Manitoba** and **Saskatchewan** impacted by the 2025 wildfire season. This can also include host communities where evacuees were relocated during an evacuation.

Submit to: wildfires@usask.ca

Subject line: *Wildfire Rapid Health Research Response Fund*

Overview & Purpose

The National Coordinating Centre for the NEIHR Networks (NCC-NEIHR) received CIHR funding (Aug 2025) to address the health and wellbeing impacts of 2025 wildfire evacuations. We invite **community-led rapid research** projects (in partnership with NEIHR-connected researchers) that generate timely, actionable insights for communities, governments, policymakers, and NGOs.

- **Maximum per award: \$20,000**
- **Total envelope for 2025 applications: \$200,000**
- **Project duration:** Must be **completed within 4 months** of funds transfer
- **Ethics:** Applicants must comply with local/community protocols and distinctions-based data governance (e.g., OCAP®, Métis Data Principles)

Eligibility

- **Applicants:** NEIHR connected researchers in collaboration with First Nations and Métis community partners are encouraged to apply
- **Funds:** Funds will be administered through the PI (NEIHR researcher) host institution and transferred upon a successful application
- **Focus:** Any aspect of health and wellbeing of evacuees and/or host communities affected by **2025** wildfires
- **Approach:** **Rapid research methodology** suited to real-time/near-term evidence needs



Post-Award Requirements

- **Knowledge sharing:** All funded teams will present their project at a Spring **2027** event (travel support for community partners provided).
- **All outcomes** will be shared with the NCC and housed in one location to help support other Indigenous communities, governments, researchers, and NGOs.

How to Apply

Email a **single PDF** to **Robert Henry** at wildfires@usask.ca with the subject “**Wildfire Rapid Health Research Response Fund.**”

Application components

1. **Research Proposal (up to 3 pages)**
Include:
 - Title
 - Brief description and objectives linked to wildfire-related health and wellbeing
 - Methods (rapid research design)
 - Plan to communicate results to the community and other partners
2. **Budget & Justification (1–2 pages)**
Outline how funds will be used to deliver the rapid research.
3. **Attachments:** A letter of support from the community partner(s) is required.

Formatting

- **12-point+ black type**, single-spaced; standard fonts (no condensed/narrow)
- Smaller text allowed in tables/figures if legible at **100%**
- **Margins $\geq \frac{3}{4}$ inch** on all sides; **letter size (8.5"×11")**

Contact

Questions or guidance:

- Contact Robert Henry and project staff at wildfires@usask.ca

*Note: These funds are intended to support **community-led rapid research** that creates timely, relevant evidence to improve supports for Indigenous evacuees and the communities that hosted them during the 2025 wildfire season.*