

# PhD CoLab – pilot

Information Sessions

October 5 & 6, 2023



# What is the PhD CoLab?

The **PhD CoLab** is a pilot initiative from Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies (G+PS) that will offer **awards and guidance** to support PhD students and faculty from **different disciplines** to **co-produce new knowledge and/or applications** to address **complex questions or problems**.



# Reimagining graduate education

Diverse,  
multiple  
careers

VUCA world;  
complex,  
urgent  
problems

Student  
identity,  
values



Reimagining graduate education

At core of degree (research):

- Expanded ways of thinking, knowing, communicating, doing;
- Expanded partners
- Expanded modes of scholarship (creative, applied, collaborative, knowledge mobilization, etc)

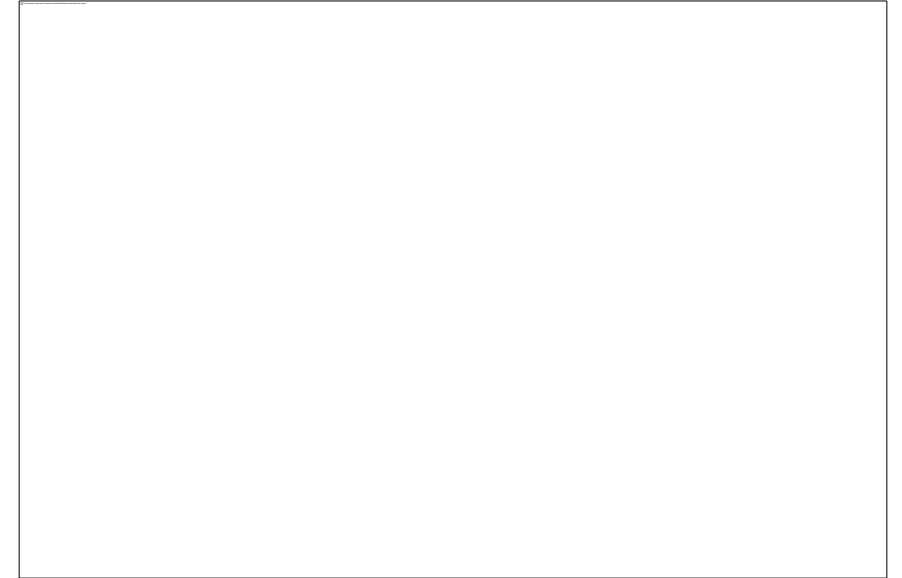
## What has UBC done?

- Expanded dissertation format/content
- Tweaked examiner guidelines to convey our support for new dissertation modes
- Promoting non-academic supervisory committee members / mentors (including Indigenous community members)
- Public Scholars Initiative
- Killam Connection course
- **CoLab Pilot**



# Objectives of the pilot

- Provide new opportunities for doctoral students to build competencies and networks in collaborative, inter/transdisciplinary scholarly work
- Advance collaboration as a desired research and learning mode across disciplines to enrich doctoral scholarship
- Enable greater reach and impact of doctoral scholarship and emerging scholars
- Learn through the pilot experience about the interest in collaborative approaches to doctoral research and what is needed to help these kinds of projects to succeed





# Awards

Two categories of awards are available:

- **“Large” (up to \$100K)** – three or more students, possibly in multi-year collaborative projects
- **“Small” (up to \$30K)** – two or three students, possibly in shorter-term collaborative projects

Funds can be used to support student stipends, research expenses (broadly defined), dissemination, knowledge mobilization activities

Pilot is for two cycles of funding – 2023/24 and 2024/25, renewals may be possible

# Who is eligible to apply?

- Each team must have at least **two UBCV faculty members and two UBCV PhD students, drawing from at least two academic disciplines**. Others (e.g. postdocs, Master's, undergraduates, external partners) may also be included on the team.
- **Faculty members are the primary applicants**, but all identified team members will be required to affirm their commitment. Students may also be recruited and/or identified after a successful application is granted.



# Process and timeline

<b>Stage 1</b>	Interested teams <a href="#">submit a Letter of Intent (LoI)</a> to G+PS. <b>Due: November 2, 5pm PST</b>
<b>Stage 2</b>	Shortlisting of LoIs. Notifications to be sent out by <b>November 15</b>
<b>Stage 3</b>	Shortlisted teams invited to submit full proposal. Full proposal due: <b>January 22, 2024, 5pm PST</b>
<b>Stage 4</b>	Notification of awards: <b>February 13, 2024</b>
<b>Stage 5</b>	Funds available: <b>April 1, 2024</b>

# Letters of Intent – information needed

- **Team.** The proposed composition of the team, including any non-academic partners
- **Scholarship, timeline and impact.** A high-level proposal and timeline for collaborative, inter/transdisciplinary scholarship to be undertaken by the team, with a focus on the expected PhD student collaborative work and its potential for positive impacts
- **Learning.** How PhD student learning and development as collaborative, inter/transdisciplinary scholars will be explicitly supported
- **Outputs.** Potential outputs of the proposed work, especially those co-produced by students, and intended audiences/venues for these outputs
- **Budget.** Whether the interest is in a “small” or “large” award, a draft high-level budget, and a statement regarding how the funds would enable work that is not otherwise funded

And any other relevant information that the adjudication committee should know



# Selection criteria

**These characteristics will make the strongest applications:**

- Focus on PhD student collaborative learning and co-leadership (required)
- Clear plan and purpose for inter/transdisciplinary scholarship and collaborative outputs (required)
- The proposed work is intrinsically tied to and substantially advances the students' Doctoral scholarship, and will be reflected in their dissertations (required)
- Collaboration beyond the academy and/or across highly disparate academic disciplines (preferred)
- Scholarship is oriented towards positive impact (preferred)



# Questions?

<https://collabphd.ubc.ca>



**Thank you!**