



**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR  
THE HISTORY OF NURSING (CAHN)**

**ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR  
L'HISTOIRE DU NURSING (ACHN)**

***Vera Roberts Endowment Research Award***

**Purpose:** To fund research and publication on the history of outpost nursing in Canada with priority to the Canadian circumpolar regions (north of 60 degrees parallel).

**Terms of Reference:**

- 1) Eligible projects include research and publication on the history of outpost nursing in Canada with priority to the Canadian circumpolar regions (north of 60 degrees parallel).
- 2) Eligible applicants include graduate and post-doctoral students, established researchers in nursing history, and persons with informal experience in historical research. Refer to the application forms for specific criteria.

**Instructions:** Please read carefully.

- 1) Applications must be completed fully, and signed by all parties indicated.
- 2) The application form must be submitted **electronically** (attached to an email) to the Chair of the Awards Committee by **March 31** of the year for which the award is requested. Specific directions in “Guidelines for Nursing History Proposals” and “Northern Nursing Publication Proposals” (attached) must be followed. Submit two copies, one with identifying info, the other without.
- 3) Principal applicant’s name, address, and institution on **one** copy only.
- 4) Student applicants must provide proof of current enrollment in an education program.
- 5) Successful applicants must agree to acknowledge the Vera Roberts Endowment in writing for all presentations and publications, to submit interim reports as specified, and to return all unused funds at the end of the project.
- 6) **Submit applications** to Dr. Margaret Scaia: [mrscaia@uvic.ca](mailto:mrscaia@uvic.ca)

Margaret Scaia, RN, PhD, Assistant Teaching Professor,  
University School of Nursing  
University of Victoria  
PO Box 1700 STN CSC

Victoria BC V8W 2Y2  
Canada

**I. APPLICATION COVER PAGE [one page]****Personal Information of Applicant:**

Name: (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Educational/Research Institution and Department in which study will be done:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Expected date of completion: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Supervisor if applicable:

(Please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description of the proposed Research or Publication:****Course of study (for graduate students): Please briefly describe the courses in history/nursing history being completed as part of the programme of study.**

## II. Guidelines for Nursing History Research Proposals

**Description of the fund:** The CAHN/ACHN Vera Roberts Endowment (VRE)

The VRE provides funding to qualified investigators for historical research and publication of topics related to outpost nursing with priority given to circumpolar regions defined as “North of 60 degrees parallel” for Canada. The total amount of funding available for all grants in any given year will not *initially* exceed \$7,000 Canadian with successful grants expected to range between \$3,000 and \$5,000 each. Thus the number and amount of funding per grant may vary depending on individual grants.

The fund is managed by the Scholarship and Research Awards committee of CAHN/ACHN which reviews the proposals and makes recommendations to the Executive Board who then approves the awards. Grants are made once annually based on submissions of proposals that address all aspects of this guideline. The deadline for submission of completed proposals is October 15 & March 15 of each year.

**Eligibility:** Interested researchers should a brief inquiry [250 - 300 words] by e-mail about the eligibility or appropriateness of potential topics to the Chair of the Awards Committee at least one month prior to the deadline for application. [Chair for 2020: [mrscaia@uvic.ca](mailto:mrscaia@uvic.ca)] (see also contact information on the CAHN/ACHN website, [www.cahn-achn.ca](http://www.cahn-achn.ca))

1. Investigators must possess the background, training and experience to complete a study using historical methodology as demonstrated by their attached CVs. Applicants need not hold a university appointment.
  - a. Graduate students are eligible if they are enrolled in a relevant and approved university graduate program, AND they must also submit a letter of reference from their supervisor supporting the study, including a commitment stating their willingness to supervise this project as well as confirmation of ethical approval process if applicable, along with the supervisor’s short CV or biographical statement in addition to the student’s CV. Graduate students must also submit proof of enrollment.
  - b. Other applicants [post-doctoral fellows, faculty, independent scholars] must provide a reference letter from a qualified scholar in the field with relevant expertise and normally higher in rank than the applicant.
  
2. Preference will be given to proposals for research into the history of outpost and circumpolar nursing in Canada according to the purpose of the fund. Other regions may be considered if the proposed research demonstrates significant relevance to the purpose of the Endowment fund.
  
3. Applications are subjected to a rigorous review process to assure quality of the research. The strength of the proposal will determine its priority for funding. The committee may recommend revision and re-submission of proposals with significant merit for future consideration.

4. Applications may be submitted in either official Canadian language.

## **PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Application Process:** An electronic copy of the proposal must be submitted by October 15th to the CAHN/ACHN Scholarship and Research Awards Committee to the email address provided above [and on the CAHN/ACHN website]. Applicants may use the form downloaded from the website or they may create the proposal according to the categories specified below. The proposal must conform to the following format: Times New Roman font, 12 point, single-spaced, with 1.0 inch margins all around, and a maximum of 8 pages in length. Proposals must address each of the following aspects.

**1. Summary of the project** (maximum of 150 words)

**2. Title of the project and name(s) of the person(s) responsible for the research**

Give the names of all persons who will be involved with this research, their respective roles in relation to the study and their affiliations. Indicate who the principal investigator will be, and as well, who the primary person responsible for the direction of the project, expenditures, and progress reports will be. Graduate students must also include the name and affiliation of their faculty supervisor for the project. Submit the respective CVs of all persons involved with this research, and any supervisory support letters required, and attach them as Appendix A.

**3. Scope and objectives of the project**

Provide a clear description of the project, demonstrating how it meets the mandate of the Vera Roberts Endowment for nursing history research. State the significance of this research for nursing history in general (beyond a statement that the topic hasn't been done previously) and outline the specific objectives. State the specific research question or questions that guide the study.

Describe the scope of research in terms of the person or persons, place or places, and time period for study. Provide rationale for these decisions; for example, "why study these particular persons, places and dates" instead of other persons, places and time periods.

**4. Historiography** (maximum of 2 pages)

Situate this research within the existing historiography on the topic, including nursing and non-nursing bodies of literature. Consider, for example, what has been written on the topic in the fields of history and women's studies, and if possible, include some analysis of the related international literature. Use endnotes (not

footnotes) to document the secondary sources. A separate bibliography may be added at the end, if desired.

## **5. Approach (Methods)**

Describe your plan for studying the topic, what methods will be used, and any frameworks or concepts appropriate to the analysis of your sources. Identify the specific primary sources that will be used, including a discussion of where they are located, how accessible they are, how adequate and relevant they will be to answer the research questions, and potential limitations of these sources.

Note that if oral history will be used, information must be provided on the following aspects: why are oral histories appropriate to this study; how many interviews will be conducted and by whom; how they will be analyzed; how these interviews will be corroborated with additional primary sources; and what will happen to these interviews at the conclusion of the study. Describe how subjects will be recruited. If the project includes research assistance of students or secretarial support (for example, for transcription of oral history interviews), include a description of these roles and responsibilities in the budget justification as well as projected salaries per hour. Include as Appendix B: 1) the letter of information that will be given to the potential subjects; 2) the consent form that will be used; 3) a copy of the interview guide questions; and 4) a statement of how ethical approval will be obtained prior to these interviews. Oral history projects that do not meet these criteria will not be funded.

## **6. Timeline for the research**

Specify the anticipated time frame for the project, including a breakdown for data collection and writing phases.

## **7. Budget**

Submit a detailed budget indicating the total amount of funding requested from the VRE, and specifying how the money will be allocated and over what time intervals. Include detailed rationale for these expenditures. If the total budget of the project exceeds potential VRE funds, indicate other available funding and specify the components of the study to which the VRE funds will be applied. If additional funding has been obtained for this project, indicate the organization and amount. Note that salary replacement will not be funded by the VRE. The funds are intended to cover the actual costs of conducting and disseminating research that is primarily intended for publication. Budget requests should conform to academic rates of reimbursement such as economy travel and accommodations, and standard mileage and meal rates. For additional questions, please contact the committee chair. Any supporting documents may be included as Appendix C.

Multi-year projects will be considered but funding beyond the first year will be contingent on the submission of a satisfactory progress report by the investigators to the CAHN/ACHN Scholarship and Research Awards Committee.

## 8. Dissemination

Specify how the results of this project will be disseminated. The VRE was established to support both research and publication on northern nursing. Publications may include journal articles as well as monographs. Alternative forms of dissemination have to be justified in the proposal. Scholarly presentations at a conference will normally be followed by publication of that paper. All presentations and publications resulting from this research must include a statement of acknowledgement that funding and support has been provided by the VRE and CAHN/ACHN.

## 9. Appendices

- A. Curriculum Vitae of the applicants and for graduate students, of the supervisor
- B. Material related to oral history, if applicable: letter of information, consent form, and interview questions, and of ethical approval by institutional research ethics board.
- D. Optional bibliography

## 10. Checklist

- \_\_\_ Cover Page, with full contact information
- \_\_\_ Full proposal: check that all areas have been addressed adequately, especially the budget
- \_\_\_ supporting documents:
  - \_\_\_ CVs
  - \_\_\_ For graduate students: proof of enrollment
  - \_\_\_ Letter from supervisor in the case of graduate students **or** in case of other scholars, i.e. post-doctoral fellows, faculty, independent scholars, a reference letter from a qualified investigator with relevant expertise and normally higher in rank than the applicant.
  - \_\_\_ Oral history requirements: letter of information to interviewees, consent form, guiding interview questions
  - \_\_\_ Ethical approval, if required

### **III. Guidelines for Northern Nursing Publication Proposals**

The scope of eligible projects for the publication (dissemination) of northern nursing history is broad. Some possible projects may include:

- An exhibit on northern nursing history
- A presentation to a historical or nursing conference
- A CAHN/ACHN lecturer or invited speaker at a conference
- A northern panel for nursing history at a conference
- Preservation of primary data
- Collection or compilation of primary data, for example oral histories

Interested applicants may contact the chair of the Scholarship and Awards committee to ascertain the appropriateness and fit of a proposed project. The principal investigator/disseminator should write a letter to the chair outlining the proposed project including time lines and budget. The “Application Cover Page” from the Guide for Nursing History Proposals may be used where applicable.