



In partnership with the Fonds de Recherche du Québec - secteur Santé, Clinical Trials Training Programs (CTTPs) Award \$473,500 to 18 Graduate and Postdoctoral Awardees Across Québec

NEWS RELEASE

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February 14, 2025

Montréal, QC – The Canadian Consortium of Clinical Trial Training, [CANTRAIN](#), in partnership with [CAN-TAP-TALENT](#) – the Canadian Training Platform Leveraging Existing Networks, [CBITN](#) – the Canadian Behavioural Interventions & Trials Network, and [STROKECOG Platform](#) - Innovative Clinical Trials Training Initiatives for STROKE and COGnition, has successfully concluded a successful CTTP Studentship/Fellowship Awards Program 2024-25 Competition. Together, over \$2.1 million in funding, including co-funding from several Provinces, has been awarded to a total of 87 trainees across Canada – with 46 from CANTRAIN, 20 from CBITN, 16 from CAN-TAP-TALENT and 5 from STROKECOG platform.

A total of 18 awards were announced for the Province of Québec – with 11 from CANTRAIN (4 Master's, 5 Doctoral, and 2 Postdoctoral), 5 from CBITN (2 Master's, 2 Doctoral, and 1 non-top up Doctoral), and 1 from each of CAN-TAP-TALENT (1 Doctoral) and STROKECOG (1 Postdoctoral). With \$217,500 in co-funding support from the [Fonds de recherche du Québec – secteur Santé](#), these 18 awards represent a total investment of \$ 473,500 in clinical trials training in the Province of Québec, through 15 studentships and 3 fellowships.

“By supporting the training of the next generation of clinical researchers, we are not only contributing to the development of highly qualified and agile talent, but also strengthening the competitiveness of clinical research in Quebec. This commitment is a direct response to the objectives of the Québec Life Sciences Strategy 2022-2025, which aims to position Québec as a key player on the international life sciences scene.”

- Carole Jabet, Vice-President, Research, Scientific Director, Fonds de recherche du Québec – secteur Santé



"Our goal with CANTRAIN, a CIHR funded project, is to harmonize and enhance training, mentoring and networking across the continuum of people engaged in the conduct and successful outcomes of clinical trials. We are pleased again this year to have worked with our fellow partnering CTTs and the Fonds de Recherche du Québec (FRQ) -secteur Santé by operating the Awards Program for Graduate and Postdoctoral Training in Clinical Trials submission and evaluation process. We are pleased with the selection of 11 awardees in Quebec and the contribution of the FRQ. These awardees will have access, like all the other awardees, to the CANTRAIN Curriculum of courses and mentorship programs," shares Dr. Jean Bourbeau, CANTRAIN-Nominated Principal Investigator.

"Special congratulations to our mentees in the province of Quebec for your outstanding contributions to research and training in behavioural interventions. Your dedication to pursuing collaborations and advancing knowledge sets an exceptional standard, and we deeply appreciate the impact of your work," shares Dr. Simon Bacon, NPI for CBITN (Canadian Behavioural Interventions and Trials Network).

"We are pleased that this year's post-doctoral fellowship funding competition enables us to support exceptional trainees from Quebec, advancing inclusive, high-impact stroke and cognitive impairment research," shares, Dr. Jodi Edwards, Principal Investigator of STROKECOG.

In addition to financial support, all awardees will have access to support from mentors through CANTRAIN's mentorship program "CANTRAIN Connect" and CANTRAIN's expanding offering of online learning modules. Awardees also receive an all-expense paid opportunity to participate in the [2025 Clinical Trials Training Summit](#) – to be held in February 2025 at The Fairmont Hotel, Vancouver. The Awards Program for Graduate and Postdoctoral Training in Clinical Trials was coordinated by CANTRAIN in collaboration with the partnering CTTs, from applications to review and decisions.

Eric Lortie-Milner, Sherbrooke University, CANTRAIN Doctoral Studentship 2024-25, shares: *"Being a recipient of the CANTRAIN award is a major event in my academic journey. It will enable me to spend all the required time on my research project and acquire skills to conduct the best possible clinical trials. It is a token of the confidence*



CANTRAIN



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that the consortium has in our scientific capacities, which acts as a tremendous source of motivation.”

Kriti Agarwal, McGill University, CANTRAIN Doctoral Studentship 2024-25, shares: *“As a doctoral student aspiring to advance clinical trials research, I am honored to receive this prestigious award. My work on virtual rehabilitation for long COVID aims to address healthcare inequities. This can particularly be beneficial for remote areas, low- and middle-income countries, and Indigenous communities. Furthermore, the methodology developed can be adapted for future infectious outbreaks. This award will provide essential training and connect me with leading researchers, strengthening my capacity to contribute meaningfully to global healthcare equity.”*

Syamala Buragadda McGill University, CANTRAIN Post-Doctoral Fellowship 2024-25, shares: *“Receiving the CANTRAIN-CTTP Post-Doctoral Fellowship is a significant honor, especially within the context of Canadian clinical trials. This award enables me to contribute to more inclusive and impactful research in clinical trials, helping to address health disparities and improve outcomes for underrepresented populations. I’m excited to apply this opportunity to foster meaningful advancements in Canadian healthcare.”*

Manuela González, Concordia University, CBITN Doctoral Studentship 2024-25, shares: *“Thank you to CANTRAIN for this scholarship, which supports my growth as a researcher in behaviour change interventions. This recognition inspires me to keep working toward meaningful solutions that make a real difference in people's lives.”*

Aidan Smyth, McGill University, CBITN Doctoral Studentship 2024-25, shares: *“I am deeply honoured and grateful to be a recipient of the CANTRAIN Awards Competition. This represents an invaluable opportunity to receive specialized training in clinical trials research and contribute to the development of evidence-based behavioural interventions to support the Canadian population.”*

Annabelle Fortin, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), CBITN Doctoral Fellowship 2024-25, shares: *“I’m thankful for the CBITN doctoral studentship. The mentoring platform is a great opportunity to receive specialised training in the development, testing and implementation of evidence-based behavioural interventions.”*



Florence Coulombe Raymond, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), CBITN Doctoral Fellowship 2024-25, shares: *“My efforts being recognized through the awards competition is very motivating and encouraging. This fuels my enthusiasm for behavioural interventions even more and pushes me to work even harder this year.”*

Congratulations to all the Quebec awardees of the CTTT Studentship/Fellowship Awards Program 2024-25 Competition from CANTRAIN, CBITN, CAN-TAP-TALENT and STROKECOG!

The CTTT [Awards Program](#) will return in 2025-26.

CTTP Funding Acknowledgement

Funded through the Canadian Institutes for Health Research’s [Clinical Trials Fund](#), CANTRAIN represents the largest of seven Clinical Trials Training Programs (CTTPs). Together Canada’s CTTPs play a key role in delivering on Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada’s (ISED’s) Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy.

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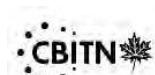
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