

THE MENTAL HEALTH STATUS OF FORMER RCMP MEMBERS

COMPETITION NUMBER: ATLAS-2425-02

GUIDELINES

Please refer to the [Atlas Institute research funding guidelines](#), which provide further information on eligibility, submission expectations, adjudication process, funding process, Sex- and Gender-Based Analysis Plus (SGBA Plus) requirements and requirements for engaging with persons with lived and living expertise.

IMPORTANT DATES

The following dates pertain to the full *Application for funding* submission:

Application open: October 28, 2024

Application close: December 9, 2024 at 12 p.m., Eastern time

Anticipated notice of decision: January 2025

DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC AREA

Understanding the baseline mental health status of former Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) members is vital for offering appropriate care and support. During their service, RCMP officers often encounter high-pressure situations, trauma and significant stress, which can contribute to lasting mental health concerns such as posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety or depression ¹. By understanding these baseline mental health levels of retired/former RCMP members, health care providers can identify trends, evaluate individual needs and create tailored treatments. This knowledge allows for timely interventions, helping to prevent more severe issues from developing and improving overall well-being as RCMP members transition into post-service life. It also ensures that policies and services are better suited to support their mental health and successful reintegration. The Atlas Institute aims to improve the well-being of retired/transitioned RCMP members and their Families, and as such, understanding their baseline levels and understanding of their own mental health and well-being is imperative.

OBJECTIVES AND ELIGIBLE RESEARCH AREAS

This research funding opportunity will support a two-year project that aims to understand the collective mental health of former RCMP members. Research projects may focus on epidemiological data analysis or primary data collection to develop a baseline understanding of the general levels of mental health and well-being of former RCMP members.

FUNDING AMOUNT

The total funding available for this opportunity is up to \$75,000 CAD.

ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY

- The Principal Applicant must be an independent researcher affiliated with a Canadian post-secondary institution whose appointment continues until the conclusion of the funding period;
- **OR** an individual affiliated with an Indigenous non-governmental organization in Canada with a research or knowledge mobilization mandate;
- **OR** an individual affiliated with a Veteran/Veteran Family non-governmental organization in Canada with a research or knowledge mobilization mandate.
- The Principal Applicant must have completed an SGBA Plus course with proof of certification from a Canadian institution.

HOW TO APPLY

The Atlas Institute uses an email application process. A complete application includes the full *Application for funding*, a completed *Conflict of interest* form, and an up-to-date CV, submitted as a single PDF to atlasresearch@theroyal.ca, referencing the competition number in the subject line of the email.

Checklist:

- Completed *Application for funding*
- [Conflict of interest form](#)
- CV of Principal Applicant

ADJUDICATION

Applicants have six weeks to submit the *Application for funding*. All applications for funding are adjudicated by an external Scientific Review Committee, based on standardized scoring criteria.

REFERENCE

1. Andrews KL, Jamshidi L, Shields R E, Nisbet J, Carleton, RN. Exposures to potentially psychologically traumatic events among Royal Canadian Mounted Police. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*. 2024 Jul 8.