



Date February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

Memo **Call for Submissions to the 2018 Angels Den**

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Thanks to the Translational Innovation Fund and the Angels Den competitions, the St. Michael's Foundation disbursed nearly \$1.5 million to fund 28 new research projects and collaborations over the past three years. This tremendous support was instrumental in evolving [non-invasive methods to measure kidney damage](#), developing a [device to monitor diabetic wounds](#), identifying [new drugs to treat influenza](#) and in the creation of the [Neovest](#) that helps premature babies breathe – which went on to win the grand prize at the [Global Healthcare Innovation Academy](#). What a tremendous success for research innovation at St. Michael's Hospital!

The 2017 Angels Den competition was an enormous success with over 500 people attending the high profile event at Koerner Hall, where they witnessed our celebrity “Angels” and jury members decide which teams won the coveted prizes which totaled over \$250,000. This event has increased the public awareness of the amazing research happening at St. Michael's, and the 2018 competition is expected to attract even more attendees and raise more funds for research.

The objectives of the Angels Den are two-fold: 1) to encourage scientific innovation within St. Michael's Hospital to develop novel solutions to solve disease or healthcare challenges, and 2) to raise the profile of research at St. Michael's with our Foundation volunteers, donors, and the general public. The Office of the VP, Research and the St. Michael's Foundation together want to facilitate the creation and growth of novel research projects where **scientific excellence, translation, commercialization and impact** are top priorities.

The 2018 *Angels Den* is open to:

- Individual scientists or a pair of researchers from St. Michael's Hospital and its partners. Since this is funded by the SMH Foundation, researchers from St. Joseph's Hospital, Providence Healthcare, iBEST (Ryerson), and non-appointed health care professionals can be part of a team, provided the other partner is a St. Michael's appointed Scientist or Associate Scientist.
- Scientists who have previously been awarded funding through the Translational Innovation Fund or Angels Den are eligible for this competition, but only for a distinctly new project.
- Innovations suitable for this competition should be able to realistically provide publishable results by the end of two years.
- Limit of ONE application per researcher
- Teams must apply to ONE of two scientific streams: 1) Biomedical Innovation or 2) Social Innovation.
  - **Biomedical Innovation** is defined as the process of transforming scientific discoveries into novel therapies, better prognostics/diagnostics, vaccines or devices that will improve patients' lives; this may include, but is not limited to, novel drugs, screening techniques, new therapies, and devices.
  - **Social Innovation** is defined as a novel approach for improving health that is more effective, efficient, equitable, or sustainable than current approaches; this may include, but is not

limited to, improved access to care, policy development, health services delivery, interventions to advance the social determinants of health or economic analysis.

**NOTE: Clinical Research may fall in either category depending on the nature of the study**

## Evaluation and Prizes

1. **Stage 1 Notice of Intent (NOI):** Approximately 25 to 30 NOIs will be chosen to submit a full application. The selection of the 25-30 applications will be based on the brief NOI summary, and evaluated based on the top objectives of the Angels Den for the Foundation (**scientific excellence, translation, commercialization and impact**).
2. **Stage 2 Full Application:** The 25-30 applications will be reviewed by expert scientific peer-review, with final sections made by a scientific committee that will select 8 projects in each category (16 projects total) to move to the next stage.
  - Applications will be judged on their 1) potential impact to improve patient care and/or healthcare delivery, 2) scientific excellence, 3) novelty or innovation, and 4) alignment with the spirit of this competition (see objectives described in the NOI stage).
  - These 12 teams will be invited to submit a 90 second video pitch.
3. **Stage 3 Video Submission:** Professional support will be provided to create a 90 second video pitch submission that highlights the innovation and its expected impact. No props, special audio, visual or animation technology will be allowed to maintain consistency in the quality and format of the videos. This stage is designed to simply evaluate how well the scientists can concisely communicate to a lay audience. Video submissions will be judged by a mixed panel that may consist of research donors, experts in innovation, communication, or science, as well as members of the general public. Four pitches from each category will be selected and move to live Angels Den competition.
  - A video preparation workshop will be provided on June 1st at 2:00pm to all applicants at this stage. (Please mark your calendars to be able to attend)
  - The video submissions will be judged on the 1) potential impact to improve patient care and/or healthcare delivery, 2) the uniqueness of the innovation, and 3) ability to convince/engage a general audience.
4. **The Angels Den:** Eight finalists will pitch their projects to a live audience of donors who will vote for the top team in each category.
  - In preparation for this competition, all 8 finalists will receive one-on-one support from a team of local experts and external PR consultants on “how to pitch to the public”.
  - The winning pitch in each category will be awarded **\$100,000** in research funds to be used toward their proposed project. The winners will also enter the selection process to represent St. Michael’s at the next [Global Healthcare Innovation Academy](#) planned for 2020.
  - The other 6 participating finalists at the Angels Den will receive **\$25,000** per project to be used toward their proposed project.
  - The winning researchers in each category will also receive broad exposure to our donor community and the public through recognition by the Foundation and our Hospital Corporate Communications. This would include:
    - recognition in the Foundation’s Annual Report to Donors, print run of 6,000 copies with direct mail to St. Michael’s donors of \$10,000 or more.

- highlight in an issue of the Foundation’s E-newsletter and on the Angels Den webpage.
5. All Angels Den presenters will be required to submit a progress report to the Office of the Vice President of Research at one-year and two-years after the award, detailing the results of their project.
  6. All researchers are required to acknowledge the St. Michael’s Foundation as a funding source on any presentation or publications resulting from this work.

**Important Dates for the 2018 Angels Den**

Notice of Intent ** (New this year)	Deadline: Notice of Decision	February 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2018 March 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2018
Application	Submission Deadline: Notice of Decision:	April 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2018 May 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2018
Video Pitch	Preparation Workshop: Submission Deadline: Notice of Decision:	June 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2018 at 2pm July 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2018 September 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2018
Angels Den Event Funding Start Date	<b>November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (Attendance is <u>Mandatory</u>) December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018</b>	

We welcome pre-submission enquiries to encourage potential applicants to understand the intended scope. Email: [ConteE@smh.ca](mailto:ConteE@smh.ca)

We hope that the Angels Den will continue to fuel our scientists’ tireless pursuit of producing exceptional research, capable of translation into practice to improve the health of our patients.

Sincerely,



Lili Litwin  
President  
St. Michael’s Foundation



Arthur Slutsky  
Vice-President Research  
St. Michael’s Hospital