



GIST Sarcoma Life Raft Group Canada  
Groupe Sauvetage GIST Sarcome Canada  
*Ensuring that no one has to face GIST alone*

## GIST Sarcoma Life Raft Group Canada

A not-for-profit Canadian corporation with registered charitable status

### **Request for Proposals:**

#### *“Glenita Mungcal GIST Research Award 2019”*

GIST (Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumour) is a rare sarcoma that can occur anywhere along the GI tract. Several hundred Canadians are diagnosed with GIST every year. GIST is rare and strikes randomly; there are no known risk factors and no ways to prevent it. Until recently, GIST was little understood, misclassification was common, and prognosis was poor. Now, discoveries concerning the origin and development of GIST have completely changed the medical community's understanding of the disease and led to the development of molecularly-targeted therapy, notably drug therapy with tyrosine kinase inhibitors. GIST patients hope to see the disease become a chronic condition to be managed, rather than a life-threatening crisis; while we aren't quite there yet, there is encouraging progress.

GIST Sarcoma Life Raft Group Canada (LRGC) raises funds to provide services and programs for GIST patients and their caregivers. Our summer research program was started in 2015, recognizing the generous donations made to our Group in memory of Glenita Mungcal by her family and friends.

### **Funding Opportunity**

All applications must be:

1. Directly relevant to the treatment of GIST; basic, translational, or clinical research projects will be considered;
2. Made by a principal investigator, who will normally hold a faculty appointment at a Canadian university; and
3. Made on behalf of a designated trainee who is studying towards, for example, an M.D. degree at a Canadian medical school or a four-year B.Sc. (or equivalent) degree at a Canadian university. We will also consider applications for funds to supplement the research costs of supporting a post-doctoral fellow, medical resident, or other trainee.

The award will be a \$7,500 grant to the supervisor's trust fund, to be used in 2019. (If a summer student is to be supported, the minimum appointment is 15 week). The funds may be used to support the salary of a student or other trainee, and a portion may also be used to defray costs of research. “Overhead” funding will not be provided.



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We welcome applications which intend to use the funds to “kick-start” subsequent applications to agencies such as NSERC, CIHR, or CCSRI.

#### Criteria:

1. Medical/scientific quality of the project.
2. Likelihood of benefit to the treatment of GIST.
3. Qualifications and experience of the principal investigator.
4. Qualifications of the student.
5. Quality of the research environment.

#### The following documentation must accompany the application:

1. Two letters of reference for the trainee from faculty members other than the P.I.
2. In the case of a student trainee, confirmation of enrolment, including an up-to-date transcript.
3. The Curriculum Vitae of the P.I.; use of the “Canadian Common CV” or similar standard templates is encouraged.
4. Budget – A brief statement of the proposed expenditures.

Any publication resulting from the project must acknowledge the source of funding and a copy of the publication must be forwarded to LRGC as soon as it is accepted.

#### Deadline for Applications

Applications must be received by **4 p.m. EST, Friday February 1, 2019**. Applicants will be notified by Friday March 15, 2019. A full report on the outcome of the research project must be submitted to LRGC by the P.I. no later than Friday, October 4, 2019. Questions may be sent to Malcolm Sutherland at the email address below.

Applications may be up to 3 single-spaced pages.

Each application must include an institutional approval form, duly completed and signed, equivalent to the University of Guelph OR-5 Research Proposal Approval Form, which has been attached for your reference.

Please send your complete application as a single PDF file directly to:

Malcolm Sutherland  
Secretary-Treasurer, GIST Sarcoma Life Raft Group Canada  
[malcolm.sutherland@liferaftgroup.ca](mailto:malcolm.sutherland@liferaftgroup.ca)