



Discover. Connect. Engage.

Evolving our funding agency: *from “fund and forget” to “help it happen”*

Bev Holmes

Interim CEO

Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR)

Vancouver, British Columbia

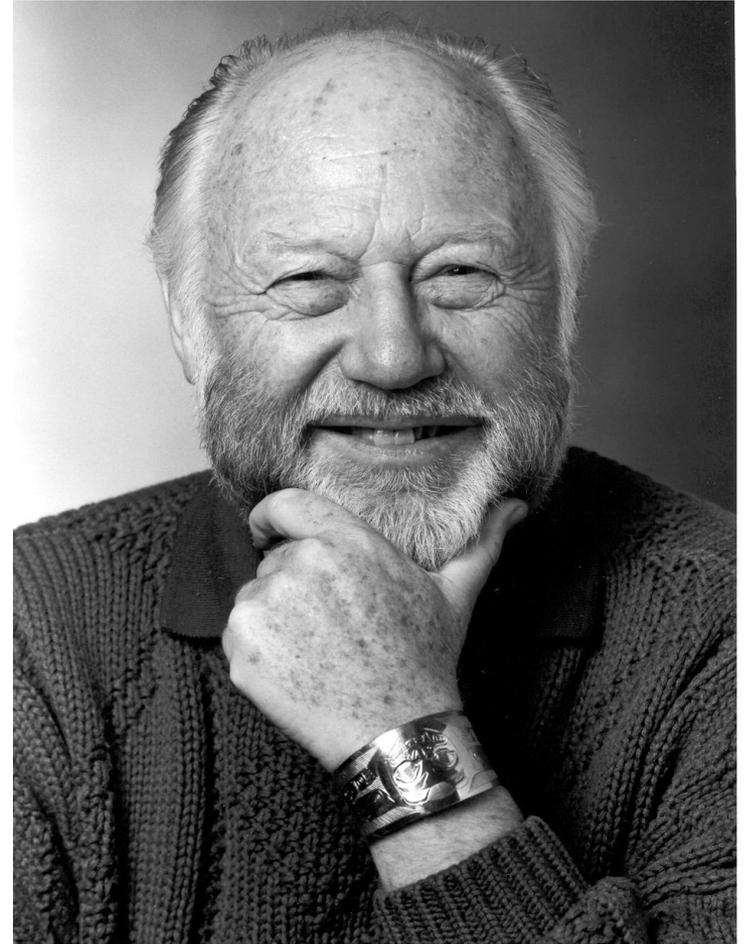
Key messages

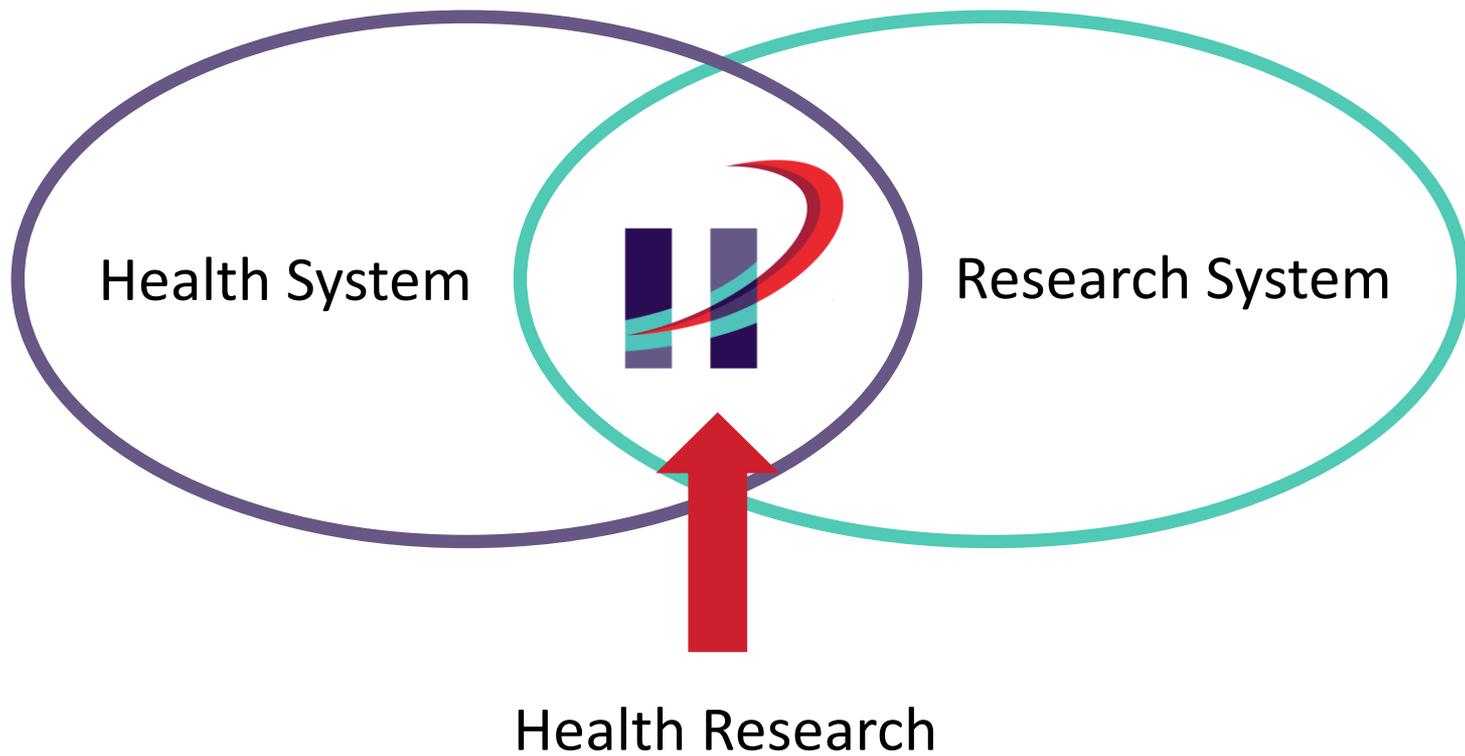
- As BC's health research funding agency, MSFHR needs to understand research use
- Our work on “research on research use” is three-fold:
 - Funding programs
 - Collaborating on related grants
 - Developing our own expertise
- We've learned some (hard) lessons
- Research on research use is increasingly important – and an exciting partnership opportunity

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- Established by the provincial government in March 2001 to revitalize BC health research
- Named in honour of **Dr. Michael Smith** (1932 – 2000), BC's first Nobel Laureate
- The BC government has invested ~ \$450 million in MSFHR since 2001





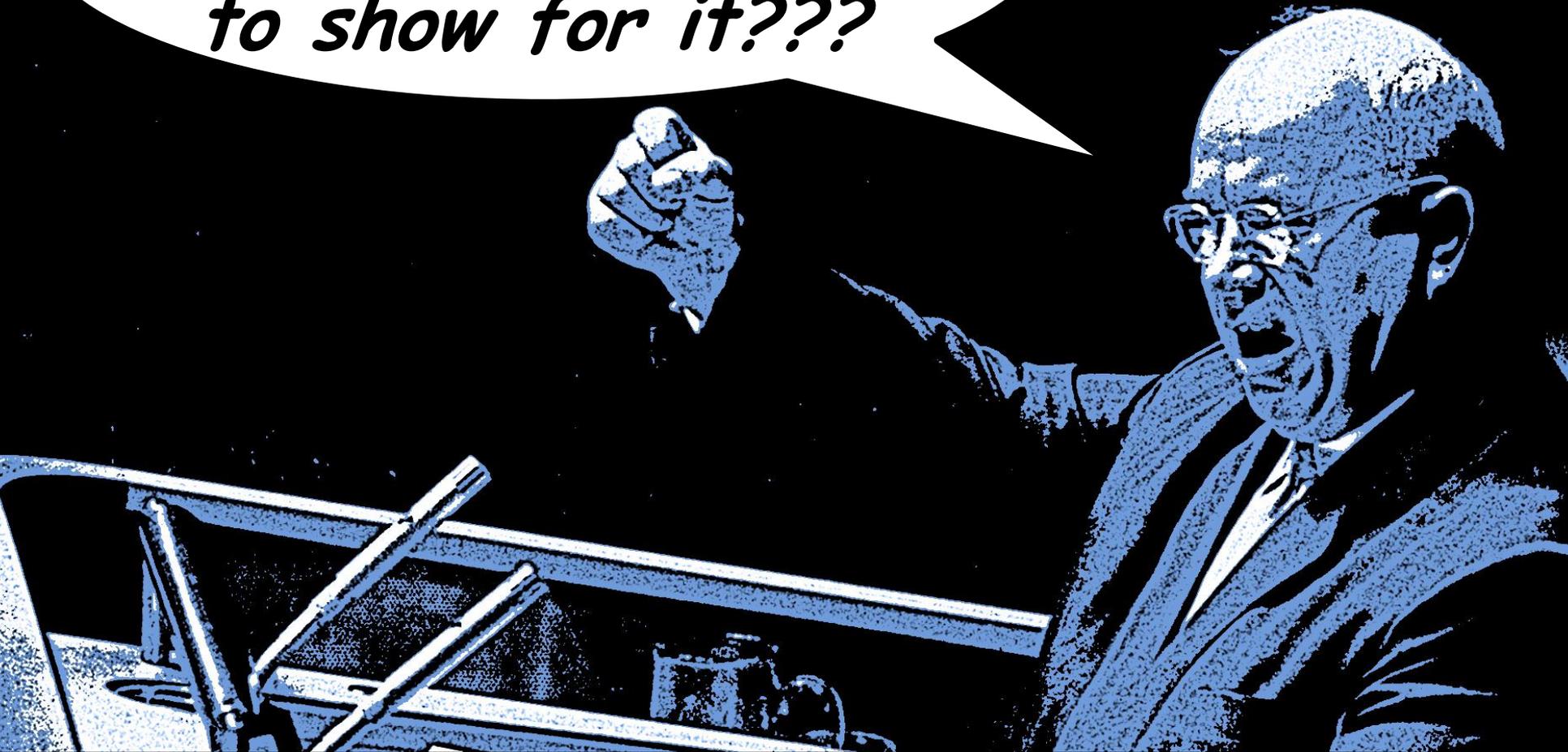
Our mandate:

- Talent development
- Optimize provincial investments
- Build capacity for research uptake
- Research on specific health system priorities

Canadian health research context



*\$900 million?!
What do we have
to show for it???*



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Funding programs

CONVENING & COLLABORATING (C²) AWARDS



ARE YOU... a BC health researcher working in an area related to BC's health system priorities?

DO YOU... need support for collaborative activities to help translate and promote the uptake of your research?

MSFHR's Convening & Collaborating (C²) Awards provide funding for teams of health researchers and research users to build capacity for knowledge exchange and promote the use of research evidence in practice, policy and further research.

REACH AWARDS



ARE YOU... a BC researcher working to improve the health of British Columbians or the BC health system?

DO YOU... need support disseminating research evidence to those who can directly use the information?

MSFHR's Reach Awards provide funding for teams of researchers and research users to support the dissemination and effective uptake of research evidence.



Implementation Science Teams

Partnering on grants & initiatives



Dr. Sharon Straus

- *Sustaining evidence-based health care*
- *Building capacity in knowledge translation practice*
- *Enhancing uptake of systematic reviews*



Dr. Ian Graham

- *Moving knowledge into action for more effective practice, programs and policy*



KT Workshops

Developing our own expertise

Initiation and diffusion of health research impacts →

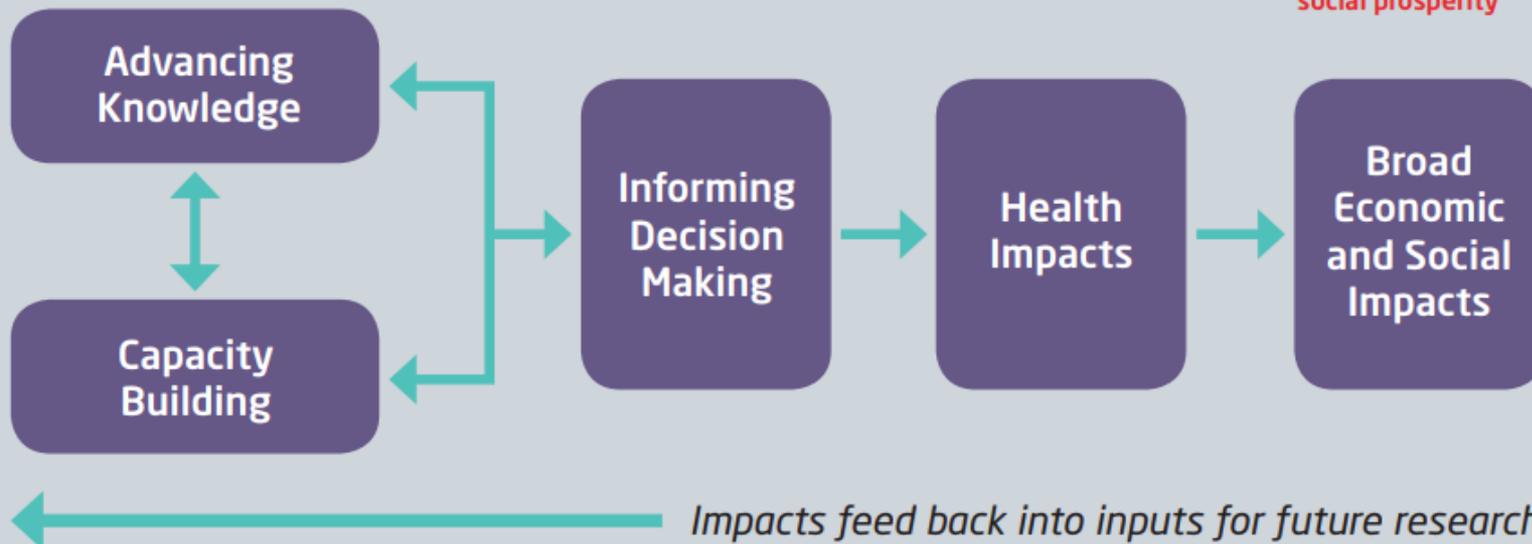
Research activity

That produces results

That influence decision making

That affect health, health services, and other determinants of health

That contribute to changing health, well-being, and economic and social prosperity



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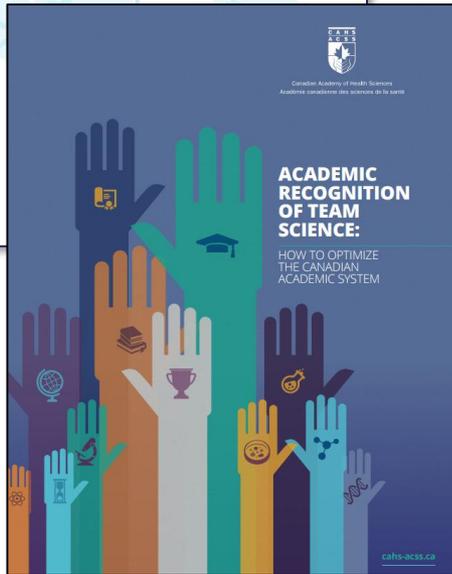
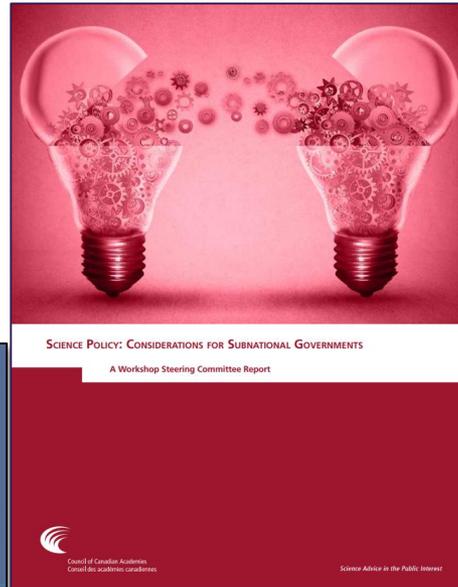
Lessons

- Research on research use presents a marketing challenge!
- Clashing incentives and too much competition are stumbling blocks
- Research on research use will be disruptive
- A three-part strategy (funding programs, grants, expertise) is the right one

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Why is understanding research use more important than ever (in BC)?



Good reports
and a new
government



Partnership opportunities

- Research on research use: funding programs
- Indicators and metrics for research use
- “Science of science funding” – investment strategies that take a systems view
- Discussions on (un)defining the field

Contact information

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