



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

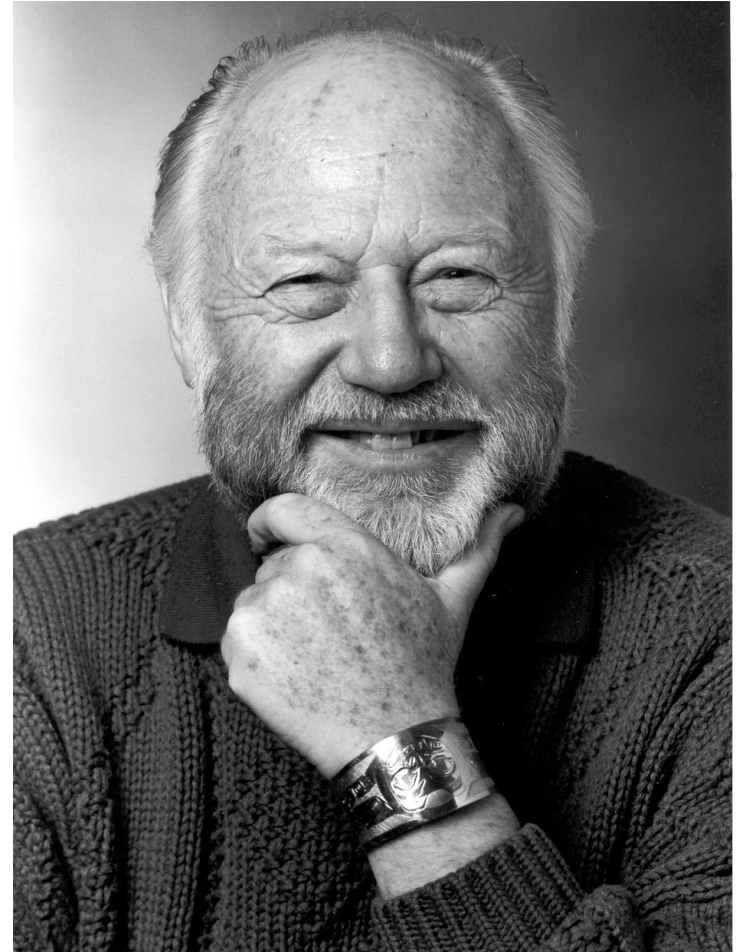
# Key messages

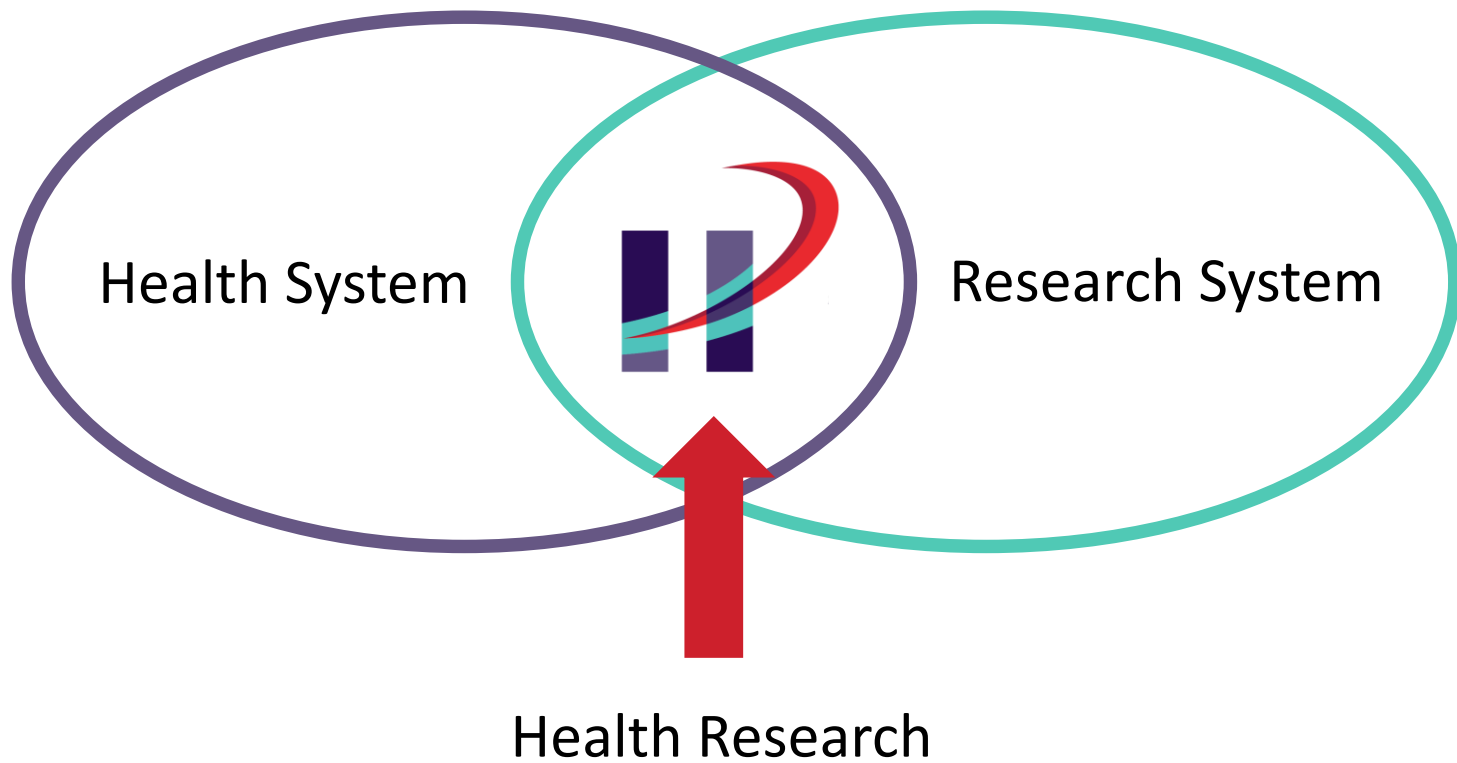
- As BC's health research funding agency, MSFHR needs to understand research use
- Our work on “research on research use” is three-fold:
  - Funding programs
  - Collaborating on related grants
  - Developing our own expertise
- We've learned some (hard) lessons
- Research on research use is increasingly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

# 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

- 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

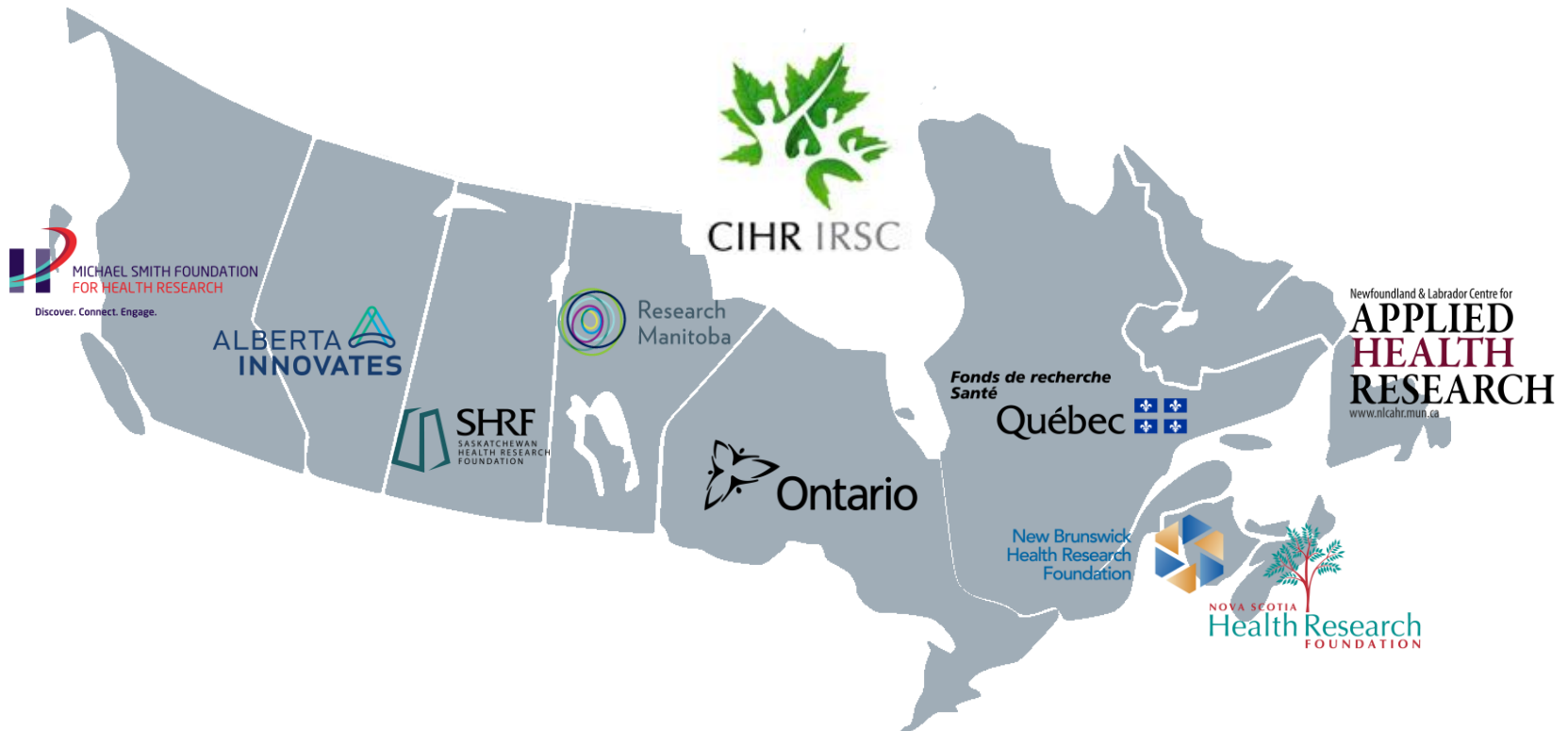




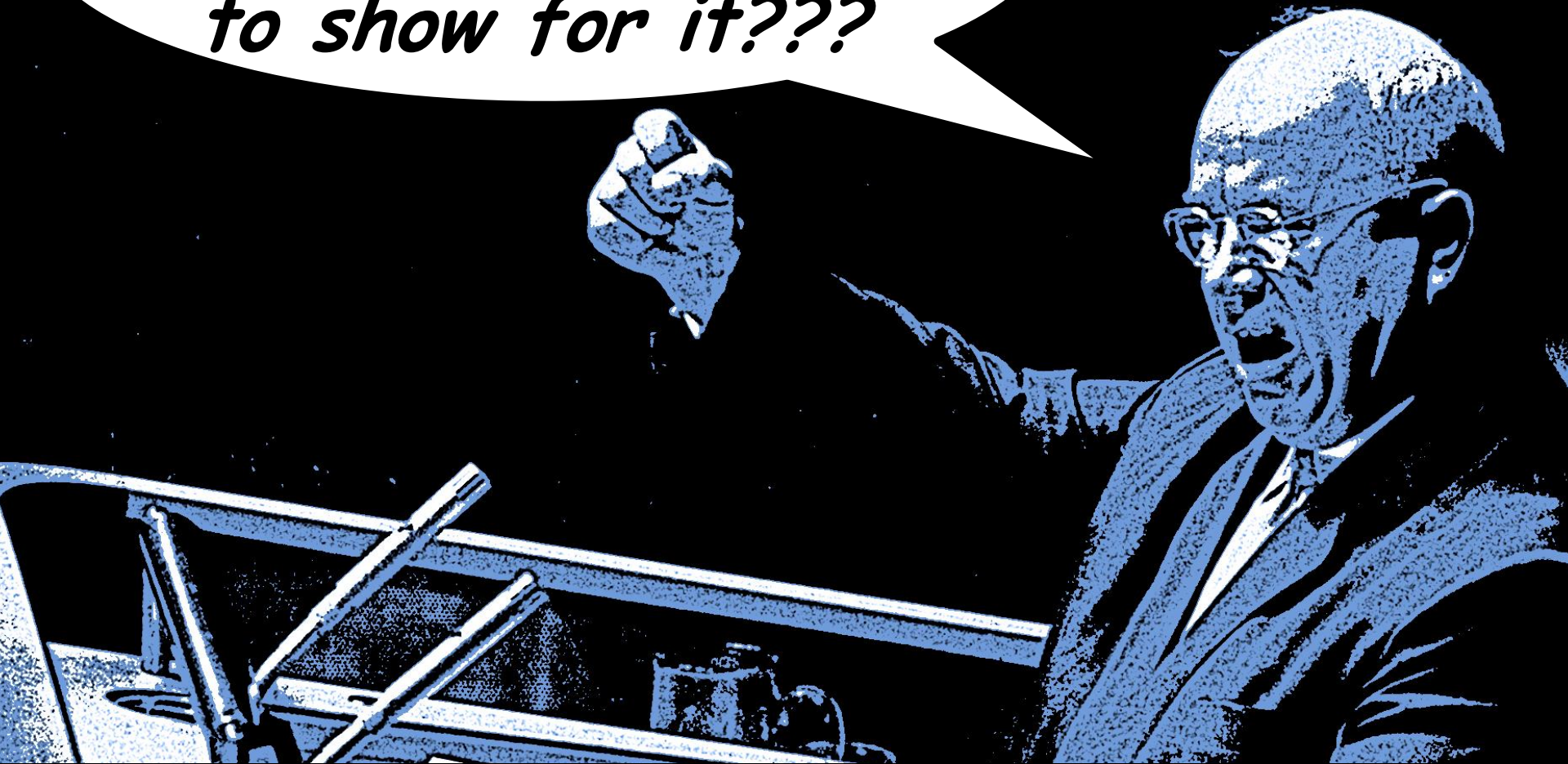
### Our mandate:

- 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???*



# 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



# Funding programs

## CONVENING & COLLABORATING (C<sup>2</sup>) 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 (C<sup>2</sup>) 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

Advancing Knowledge



Capacity Building

Informing Decision Making

Health Impacts

Broad Economic and Social Impacts

← *Impacts feed back into inputs for future research*

# 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

# 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

# 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**

# 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

**Bev Holmes | Interim President & CEO**

[bholmes@msfhr.org](mailto:bholmes@msfhr.org)

604.714.2770

Connect with us:

[www.msfhr.org](http://www.msfhr.org) |  @msfhr |  TheMSFHR