

**Evaluation of SSHRC's
Aid to Occasional Research
Conferences & International
Congress in Canada
Program**

Final Report - Appendices

Evaluation of SSHRC's Aid to Occasional Research Conferences & International Congress in Canada Program

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Appendix A: List of Documents Reviewed

List of Documents Reviewed

SSHRC, *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses in Canada Program, Evaluation Framework, Final Draft*, May 21, 2003.

SSHRC, *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses in Canada Program, Grant Instructions*, 2003.

SSHRC, *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses in Canada Program, List of SSHRC Programs*, http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_index_e.asp

SSHRC, *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses in Canada Program, Manual for Adjudication Committee Members*, May 2002.

SSHRC, *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses in Canada Program, Program Description*,
http://sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/conferences_e.asp

SSHRC, *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses in Canada Program, Program Logic Model, Final Draft*, May 21, 2003.

SSHRC, *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses in Canada Program, Request for Proposal Terms of Reference*, 2003.

SSHRC, *Evaluation Design for the SSHRC's Conferences and Congresses Program. Final Report*. Prepared by Goss Gilroy Inc., September 12, 2003.

Appendix B: List of Interviewees

List of Interviewees

Adjudication Committee Members (Past and Present)

Kenneth Cruikshank, Present Adjudication Committee Member and Associate Professor, History, McMaster University

Andrew Brook, Present Adjudication Committee Member and Full Professor, Philosophy, Carleton University

Rosemary Polegato, Past Adjudication Committee Member and Full Professor, Commerce, Mount Allison University

Dr. Pierre-Yves Mocquais, Past Adjudication Committee Member and Full Professor and Dean, French Literature, University of Calgary

SSHRC Program Representatives

Suzanne Dagenais, Officer, Public Affairs Division, Conferences and Congresses Program, SSHRC

Yves Pelletier, A/ Chief External Affairs Division, Public Affairs, SSHRC

External Stakeholders

Paul Ledwell, External Stakeholder and Executive Director, Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

David Graham, External Stakeholder and Dean of Arts, Memorial University of Newfoundland

John Eyles, External Stakeholder and Full Professor, Geography, McMaster University

André Plourde, External Stakeholder and Associate Assistant Deputy Minister, Natural Resources Canada

Appendix C: Interview Guides

EVALUATION OF THE SSHRC AID TO OCCASIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCES AND CONGRESSES IN CANADA

Interview Guide: Adjudication Committee Members

Thank you for accepting to participate in this evaluation. Goss Gilroy Inc. is a firm that was hired by SSHRC to conduct an evaluation of its Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and Congresses Program. As part of this evaluation, we are interviewing representatives from the Program, its adjudication committee, and other external organisations. We are interested in your opinions and perceptions on the rationale, relevance, design, implementation and success of this Program. The interview may last between 45 minutes to an hour. Information from all interviews will remain confidential; it will be summarized but no specific comment will be attributed to individuals.

Introduction

1. What are your role and responsibilities with regards to this Program?

Program Rationale and Relevance

2. What do you feel should be SSHRC's role in mobilizing or assisting in the transfer of the knowledge that comes out of the research it funds?
3. How does this Program serve this role?
4. a) In your opinion, what have been the key changes in the context in which this Program operates over the past ten years?
b) How have these changes impacted on the Program?
5. a) Have you observed changes in the demand for this Program over the years?
b) In your opinion, to what factors can these changes be attributed?
6. In your opinion, is there still a need for this Program? Please explain.
7. a) In your opinion, what alternatives (other programs) exist to this Program?
b) How important is SSHRC support in comparison to these other sources?
c) How does the SSHRC Program compare to these other programs?

8. Do you think that aid to conferences and congresses is an effective means of supporting the dissemination and advancement of scholarly research? If yes, why? If no, why?

Design and Delivery

9. In your opinion, what other design and delivery options could be considered for this Program?

10. In your opinion, is the Program still adequately designed to address the costs needs of event organisers? Please explain.

11. In your opinion, are the Program's eligibility criteria clear?

12. Do you think the Program's eligibility criteria are appropriate? Please explain.

13. What changes should be brought to eligibility criteria, if any? (Probe for: invitation-only vs. call for papers; NGOs and students; occasional vs. recurrent events)

14. Are there other types of events that should be considered under this Program? If yes, what are they?

15. In your opinion, are the event selection criteria appropriate? Please explain.

16. What do you think are the main strengths of the Program?

17. What are the main weaknesses?

18. In your opinion, is the Program adequately promoted among its target clientele?

19. a) What do you think are the main barriers or factors that limit the quantity and quality of applications?

b) What should be done to increase the quantity and quality of applications?

20. a) In your opinion, should distinct budgetary envelopes exist for each event type?

b) Should they be adjudicated separately?

21. In your opinion, are any disciplines disadvantaged by current Program design and delivery elements? If so, which ones and why?

22. Based on your experience, is the process used by the Adjudication Committee effective? What changes, if any, should be brought to this process?

- a) Are members' time and expertise used well?
- b) Does the process lead to good decisions?
- c) Would you suggest any changes?

23. a) In your opinion, what are the key challenges faced by this Program today?

b) What are potential solutions?

24. How do you see this Program evolving in the future?

Impacts

25. In your opinion, what are the greatest benefits of this Program?

Thank you for your time and assistance.

EVALUATION OF THE SSHRC AID TO OCCASIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCES AND CONGRESSES IN CANADA

Interview Guide: Other Stakeholders

Thank you for accepting to participate in this evaluation. Goss Gilroy Inc. is a firm that was hired by SSHRC to conduct an evaluation of its Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and Congresses Program. As part of this evaluation, we are interviewing representatives from the Program, its adjudication committee, and other external organisations. We are interested in your opinions and perceptions on the rationale, relevance, design, implementation and success of this Program. The interview may last between 30 to 45 minutes. Information from all interviews will remain confidential; it will be summarized but no specific comment will be attributed to individuals.

Introduction

1. To what extent are you familiar with the SSHRC's Conferences and Congresses Program?

Program Rationale and Relevance

2. What do you feel should be SSHRC's role in mobilizing or assisting in the transfer of the knowledge that comes out of the research it funds?
3. How does this Program serve this role?
4. a) In your opinion, what have been the key changes in the context in which this and other knowledge dissemination programs operate over the past ten years?
b) What have been the impacts of these changes?
5. In your opinion, is there still a need for this Program? Please explain.
6. In your opinion, what alternatives (other programs) exist to this Program?
7. Do you think that aid to conferences and congresses is an effective means of supporting the dissemination and advancement of scholarly research? If yes, why? If no, why?

Design and Delivery

8. Do you think the Program's eligibility criteria are appropriate? Please explain.

9. What changes should be brought to eligibility criteria, if any? (Probe for: invitation-only vs. call for papers; NGOs and students; occasional vs. recurrent events)
10. Are there other types of events that should be considered under this Program? If yes, what are they?
11. In your opinion, are the event selection criteria appropriate? Please explain.
12. What do you think are the main strengths of the Program?
13. What are the main weaknesses?
14. How do you see this Program evolving in the future?

Impacts

15. In your opinion, what are the greatest benefits of this Program?

Thank you for your time and assistance.

EVALUATION OF THE SSHRC AID TO OCCASIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCES AND CONGRESSES IN CANADA

Interview Guide: Program Representatives

Thank you for accepting to participate in this evaluation. Goss Gilroy Inc. is a firm that was hired by SSHRC to conduct an evaluation of its Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and Congresses Program. As part of this evaluation, we are interviewing representatives from the Program, its adjudication committee, and other external organisations. We are interested in your opinions and perceptions on the rationale, relevance, design, implementation and success of this Program. The interview may last between 45 minutes to an hour. Information from all interviews will remain confidential; it will be summarized but no specific comment will be attributed to individuals.

Introduction

1. What are your role and responsibilities with regards to this Program?

Program Rationale and Relevance

2. What do you feel should be SSHRC's role in mobilizing or assisting in the transfer of the knowledge that comes out of the research it funds?
3. How does this Program serve this role?
4. a) In your opinion, what have been the key changes in the context in which this Program operates over the past ten years?
b) How have these changes impacted on the Program?
5. a) Have you observed changes in the demand for this Program over the years?
b) In your opinion, to what factors can these changes be attributed?
6. In your opinion, is there still a need for this Program? Please explain.
7. a) In your opinion, what alternatives (other programs) exist to this Program?
b) How important is SSHRC support in comparison to these other sources?
c) How does the SSHRC Program compare to these other programs?

8. Do you think that aid to conferences and congresses is an effective means of supporting the dissemination and advancement of scholarly research? If yes, why? If no, why?

Design and Delivery

9. The Conferences and Congresses Program has four main objectives:

- fostering interdisciplinarity and international linkages;
- training Canadian graduate (and in some cases undergraduate) students and new researchers;
- advancing and promoting Canadian scholarship; and
- increasing SSHRC's visibility and profile.

a) Considering these objectives, do you think that the current Program is well designed?

b) Are the Program's objectives clear and appropriate?

c) What is the fit between Program objectives and SSHRC strategic priorities?

10. In your opinion, what other design and delivery options could be considered for this Program?

11. In your opinion, is the Program still adequately designed to address the costs needs of event organisers? Please explain.

12. In your opinion, are the Program's eligibility criteria clear?

13. Do you think the Program's eligibility criteria are appropriate? Please explain.

14. What changes should be brought to eligibility criteria, if any? (Probe for: invitation-only vs. call for papers; NGOs and students; occasional vs. recurrent events)

15. Are there other types of events that should be considered under this Program? If yes, what are they?

16. In your opinion, are the event selection criteria appropriate? Please explain.

17. What do you think are the main strengths of the Program?

18. What are the main weaknesses?

19. In your opinion, is the Program adequately promoted among its target clientele?

20. a) What do you think are the main barriers or factors that limit the quantity and quality of applications?
- b) What should be done to increase the quantity and quality of applications?
21. a) In your opinion, should distinct budgetary envelopes exist for each event type?
- b) Should they be adjudicated separately?
22. In your opinion, are any disciplines disadvantaged by current Program design and delivery elements? If so, which ones and why?
23. Based on your experience, is the process used by the Adjudication Committee effective? What changes, if any, should be brought to this process?
- a) Are members' time and expertise used well?
- b) Does the process lead to good decisions?
- c) Would you suggest any changes?
24. In your opinion, are there ways that the Program can be operated more efficiently?
25. a) In your opinion, what are the key challenges faced by this Program today?
- b) What are potential solutions?
26. How do you see this Program evolving in the future?

Impacts

27. In your opinion, what are the greatest benefits of this Program?
28. How are the results of the Program currently being measured and monitored?
29. What type of reporting is currently being done on this Program (both reporting on individual grants and reporting on the Program as a whole)?

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Appendix D: Survey Questionnaires

Questionnaire for Event Participants

Introduction to Respondents

The following questionnaire is designed to gather input and feedback from individuals who attended a research conference or international congress that received SSHRC funding. SSHRC is conducting an evaluation of the *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses Program*, and is collecting feedback from a number of different sources to better understand both the strengths and weaknesses of the current program and its delivery. The purpose of the evaluation is to identify what aspects of the program are working well and where program improvements are required. In the interest of privacy and objectivity, SSHRC has hired a consulting firm, Goss Gilroy Inc., to conduct the evaluation.

It is important for us to hear from a wide variety of groups in order to conduct a balanced evaluation. Your input is important for the evaluation. We estimate that the questionnaire will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Our consulting firm will maintain all responses as confidential, and will not provide to SSHRC any individual responses linked to identifiers at any time during or after the evaluation study.

If you have any difficulties completing the questionnaire, or would like to speak to someone about the evaluation, please do not hesitate to contact Sara Mayhew, the survey coordinator, at 1-800-611-0511, or send an e-mail to sshrc-crshc@ggi.ca.

If you desire information on the program, you may access SSHRC's website by clicking on the following link:

http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/conferences_e.asp

Event Specific Questions

For this section of the questionnaire, we are asking you to focus specifically on the **<name of event>** that you attended in **<date of event>**.

1) What role did you play at this event? (*check all that apply*)

- 1 Presenter
- 2 Workshop facilitator
- 3 Round table speaker
- 4 Moderator
- 5 Audience member
- 6 Other (*specify*) _____

2) To what extent did the event contribute to any of the following for you:

<i>Component</i>	<i>Definitely Occurred – Able to Identify Specific Examples</i>	<i>Very Likely Occurred – Not able to identify specific examples</i>	<i>Likely Occurred – Not able to identify specific examples</i>	<i>Likely Did Not Occur – Not able to identify specific examples</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
Training of Canadian graduate students	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Training of new researchers	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Linkages/collaboration between Canadian researchers <i>in the same discipline</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Linkages/collaboration between Canadian researchers <i>in different disciplines</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Linkages/collaboration between Canadian and non-Canadian researchers	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Linkages/collaboration with non-academic users of research	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Advancement of Canadian scholarly research	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Promotion of advanced scholarly research	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

3) What other outcomes or achievements do you attribute to the event that are not listed in Q2 above?

4) Were you aware that this event had received SSHRC funding?

- 1 Yes
2 No

Program Specific Questions

For this next set of questions, please answer according to your overall experience as an academic researcher, rather than your experience with the one specific event you cited above.

5) Currently, only Canadian academics affiliated with a Canadian university are eligible to apply to the Conference and Congresses Program to receive funding for an event. In your opinion, should any of the following potential candidates be eligible as well? (*check any that you feel should be eligible to apply*)

- 1 Researchers affiliated with post-secondary institutions that are not universities
2 Researchers affiliated with non-governmental organizations
3 Graduate students
4 Post-doctoral researchers

5 Other (*specify*) _____

Please provide below any additional comments that you have with regard to this issue

6) Currently, only “occasional conferences” are eligible for funding – that is a special event with a clearly defined theme that takes place on an ad hoc basis. If the conference coincides with an association’s general meeting, the organizers must demonstrate that it is a distinct, independent and self-contained event. Should this criterion be changed to:

a. Include serial or recurring conferences? (*check one only*)

- 1 Yes, serial or recurring conferences should be eligible
 2 No, only occasional, ad hoc conferences should be eligible

b. Include conferences organized in the context of an annual general meeting? (*check one only*)

- 1 Yes, conferences within the context of annual general meetings should be eligible
 2 No, conferences within the context of annual general meeting should not be eligible

7) In your experience, what differences exist between invitation-only events, and events where calls for papers are issued? (e.g., quality of event, level of participation, dissemination activities, etc...)

General Questions

In addition to the evaluation of the Conferences and Congresses program, SSHRC is gathering data on how contextual and environmental changes are affecting knowledge communication and dissemination in the social sciences and humanities.

8) How would you rate the relative *importance* of each of the following approaches to dissemination and communication of results from your own research?

Approach	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Slightly Important	Not Important	Not Applicable
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Presentations at regional conferences	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Presentations at national conferences	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Presentations at international conferences	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conducting workshops	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Popular media (e.g., newspapers, interviews)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Articles in peer-reviewed journals	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Articles in professional or trade journals	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Books or book chapters	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Web-publications	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Textbooks	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conference proceedings	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Database or datasets	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Other (<i>specify</i>) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Other (<i>specify</i>) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

9) To which of the following audiences do you disseminate or communicate the results of your research? (*check all that apply*)

- 1 Researchers in your own discipline
- 2 Researchers in other disciplines
- 3 Non-academic users of research
- 4 Decision-makers or policy-makers
- 5 General public
- 6 Other (*specify*) _____

10) Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements:

<i>Statement</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
There is a need for more local/regional workshops in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
There is a need for more local/regional conferences in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
There is a need for more national conferences in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
There is a need for more international congresses in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
There is a need for more interdisciplinary conferences/congresses	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
More emphasis should be placed on dissemination of results through journals and books rather than through conferences or congresses	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
To understand the current research trends in my discipline, it is necessary to attend conferences and congresses	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
The most valuable feedback on my research comes from other participants at workshops, conferences & congresses	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

I have made connections and contacts with other researchers at congresses that have resulted in productive international research collaborations	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
I have made connections and contacts with other researchers at conferences and congresses that have resulted in productive interdisciplinary research collaborations	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conferences play an essential role in the training and development of graduate students in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conferences play an essential role in the training and development of undergraduate students in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

Over the past few years, the Conferences and Congresses program has experienced a constant increase in applications (up 58% from 1997).

- 11) What do you perceive are the main reasons for the increased demand for workshops, conferences and congresses over the past 10 years?

Additional Comments

Please provide below any additional information that you think may help SSHRC in the evaluation of this program.

Thank you for participating in this survey. If you have any questions about the survey or the evaluation, please do not hesitate to contact Sara Mayhew, the survey coordinator, at 1-800-611-0511, or send an email to sshrc-crshc@ggi.ca.

Questionnaire for Non-Successful Applicants – Event Organisers

Introduction to Respondents

The following questionnaire is designed to gather input and feedback from individuals who have *applied* for funding from SSHRC to develop and host events under the *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses Program* but were unsuccessful. SSHRC is conducting an evaluation of the Program, and is collecting feedback from a number of different sources to better understand both the strengths and weaknesses of the current program and its delivery. The purpose of the evaluation is to identify what aspects of the program are working well and where program improvements are required. In the interest of privacy and objectivity, SSHRC has hired a consulting firm, Goss Gilroy Inc., to conduct the evaluation.

It is important for us to hear from both successful and non-successful applicants in order to conduct a balanced evaluation. Your input is important for the evaluation. We estimate that the questionnaire will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Our firm will maintain all responses as confidential, and will not provide to SSHRC any individual responses linked to identifiers at any time during or after the evaluation study.

If you have any difficulties completing the questionnaire, or would like to speak to someone about the evaluation, please do not hesitate to contact Sara Mayhew, the survey coordinator, at 1-800-611-0511, or send an e-mail to sshrc-crshe@ggi.ca.

If you desire information on the program, you may access SSHRC's website by clicking on the following link:

http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/conferences_e.asp

Event Specific Questions

For this section of the questionnaire, we are asking you to focus specifically on the *most recent unsuccessful application you submitted (workshop, conference, congress)* for funding under the *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses Program*.

- 1) How did the event proceed, despite not receiving funding from the Conferences and Congresses Program? (*check one only*)

- 1 Event *did not proceed* → Q9
 2 Event proceeded with *major changes* → Q2
 3 Event proceeded with *minor changes* → Q2
 4 Event proceeded with *no changes* → Q3

2) What were the consequences of *not receiving funding* from this program?
(check all that apply)

- 1 Shorter event
- 2 Fewer keynote/invited speakers
- 3 Less or no international participation
- 4 Less or no graduate student participation
- 5 Less or no undergraduate student participation
- 6 Increased registration fees
- 7 Fewer participants overall
- 8 Less or no publications
- 9 Event not as heavily promoted
- 10 Other (specify) _____

3) Which of the following groups participated in the event? (check all that apply)

- 1 International scholars
- 2 Scholars from disciplines other than that of the event
- 3 Graduate students
- 4 Undergraduate students
- 5 Non-academics
- 6 Others (specify) _____

4) Approximately how many people in total participated in the event? _____

5) What sources of funding did you receive for the event? (check all that apply)

- 1 Registration fees from attendees
- 2 Other SSHRC funds → please specify program _____
- 3 Funds from provincial departments or agencies
- 4 Funds from other federal departments or agencies → please specify dept or agency _____
- 5 Funds from *scholarly* associations → please specify association _____
- 6 Funds from *non-scholarly* associations → please specify association _____
- 7 Funds from academic institutions → please specify institution
 - institution with which I am primarily affiliated
 - other (specify) _____
- 8 Private sector → (specify) _____
- 9 Other → (specify) _____

6) Were any of the following produced or achieved as a result of the event?
(check all that apply)

- 1 Published conference proceedings
- 2 Article(s) in research journals

- 3 Book(s) or book chapter(s)
- 4 Web-publication(s)
- 5 Newsletter/press release
- 6 Exposure in media (e.g., radio, television, newspapers)
- 7 Other (*specify*) _____
- 8 Other (*specify*) _____

7) Which of the following outcomes were achieved as a result of the event?
(check all that apply)

- 1 Researchers from 3 or more regions across Canada presented at the event
- 2 Researchers from 3 or more regions across Canada attended the event
- 3 International researchers presented at the event
- 4 International researchers attended the event
- 5 Researchers from more than 4 disciplines presented at the event
- 6 Researchers from more than 4 disciplines attended the event
- 7 Graduate students attended the event
- 8 Graduate students assisted in organizing the event
- 9 Graduate students presented at the event
- 10 Non-academic researchers attended the event
- 11 Non-academic researchers presented at the event

8) With regard to the specific event, please rate your level of satisfaction with each of the following aspects of the application process:

Component	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Not Applicable
Work required to prepare grant application	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Event eligibility criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Application eligibility criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Application evaluation criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Feedback received on why application was not successful	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Helpfulness of SSHRC staff	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

Note: For each component where the respondent indicates very dissatisfied (5) we will program in the open-ended question of: **What were the reasons for your dissatisfaction?**

Program Specific Questions

For this next set of questions, please answer according to your overall experience as an academic researcher, rather than your experience with the one specific event you cited above.

9) How did you initially hear about the Conferences and Congresses Program?
(check one only)

- 1 SSHRC website/brochures/newsletter
- 2 University research office
- 3 Association website/newsletter
- 4 Colleagues/word of mouth
- 5 Attendance at a program sponsored event
- 6 Faculty/Department
- 7 Other (*please specify*) _____

10) Currently, only Canadian academics affiliated with a Canadian university are eligible to apply to the Conference and Congresses Program to receive funding for an event. In your opinion, should any of the following potential candidates be eligible as well? (*check any that you feel should be eligible to apply*)

- 1 Researchers affiliated with post-secondary institutions that are not universities
- 2 Researchers affiliated with non-governmental organizations
- 3 Graduate students
- 4 Post-doctoral researchers
- 5 Other (*please specify*) _____

Please provide below any additional comments that you have with regard to this issue

11) Currently, only “occasional conferences” are eligible for funding – that is a special event with a clearly defined theme that takes place on an ad hoc basis. If the conference coincides with an association’s general meeting, the organizers must demonstrate that it is a distinct, independent and self-contained event. Should this criterion be changed to:

a. Include serial or recurring conferences? (*check one only*)

- 1 Yes, serial or recurring conferences should be eligible
- 2 No, only occasional, ad hoc conferences should be eligible

b. Include conferences organized in the context of an annual general meeting? (*check one only*)

- 1 Yes, conferences within the context of annual general meetings should be eligible
- 2 No, conferences within the context of annual general meeting should not be eligible

12) In your experience, what differences exist between invitation-only events, and events where calls for papers are issued? (e.g., quality of event, level of participation, dissemination activities, etc...)

13) What do you perceive to be the three main benefits of the Conferences and Congresses program?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

14) What do you perceive as three major improvements that are required in the Conferences and Congresses program?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

General Questions

In addition to the evaluation of the Conferences and Congresses program, SSHRC is gathering data on how contextual and environmental changes are affecting knowledge communication and dissemination in the social sciences and humanities.

15) How would you rate the relative *importance* of each of the following approaches to dissemination and communication of the results of your research?

<i>Approach</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Slightly Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
Presentations at regional conferences	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Presentations at national conferences	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Presentations at international conferences	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conducting workshops	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Popular media (e.g., newspapers, interviews)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Articles in peer-reviewed journals	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Articles in professional or trade journals	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Books or book chapters	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Web-publications	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Textbooks	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conference proceedings	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Database or datasets	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Other (<i>specify</i>) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

Other (<i>specify</i>) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
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16) To which of the following audiences do you disseminate or communicate the results of your research? (*check all that apply*)

- 1 Researchers in your own discipline
- 2 Researchers in other disciplines
- 3 Non-academic users of research
- 4 Decision-makers or policy-makers
- 5 General public
- 6 Other (*specify*) _____

17) Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements:

<i>Statement</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
There is a need for more local/regional workshops in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
There is a need for more local/regional conferences in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
There is a need for more national conferences in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
There is a need for more international congresses in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
There is a need for more interdisciplinary conferences/congresses	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
More emphasis should be placed on dissemination of results through journals and books rather than through conferences or congresses	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
To understand the current research trends in my discipline, it is necessary to attend conferences and congresses	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
The most valuable feedback on my research comes from other participants at workshops, conferences & congresses	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
I have made connections and contacts with other researchers at congresses that have resulted in productive international research collaborations	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
I have made connections and contacts with other researchers at conferences and congresses that have resulted in productive interdisciplinary research collaborations	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conferences play an essential role in the training and development of graduate students in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conferences play an essential role in the training and development of undergraduate students in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

Over the past few years, the Conferences and Congresses program has experienced a constant increase in applications (up 58% from 1997) and amounts of funding requested (up 57% from 1997).

- 18) What do you perceive are the main reasons for the increased demand for workshops, conferences and congresses over the past 10 years?

- 19) What do you perceive are the main reasons for the increased costs of organizing workshops, conferences and congresses over the past 10 years?

Additional Comments

Please provide below any additional information that you think may help SSHRC in the evaluation of this program.

Thank you for participating in this survey. If you have any questions about the survey or the evaluation, please do not hesitate to contact Sara Mayhew, the survey coordinator, at 1-800-611-0511, or send an email to sshrc-crshc@ggi.ca.

Questionnaire for Successful Applicants – Event Organisers

Introduction to Respondents

The following questionnaire is designed to gather input and feedback from individuals who have received funding from SSHRC to develop and host events under the *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses Program*. SSHRC is conducting an evaluation of the Program, and is collecting feedback from a number of different sources to better understand both the strengths and weaknesses of the current program and its delivery. The purpose of the evaluation is to identify what aspects of the program are working well and where program improvements are required. In the interest of privacy and objectivity, SSHRC has hired a consulting firm, Goss Gilroy Inc., to conduct the evaluation.

As a successful applicant to the program, your input is important for the evaluation. We estimate that the questionnaire will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Our firm will maintain all responses as confidential, and will not provide to SSHRC any individual responses linked to identifiers at any time during or after the evaluation study.

If you have any difficulties completing the questionnaire, or would like to speak to someone about the evaluation, please do not hesitate to contact Sara Mayhew, the survey coordinator, at 1-800-611-0511, or send an e-mail to sshrc-crshc@ggi.ca.

If you desire information on the program, you may access SSHRC's website by clicking on the following link:

http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/conferences_e.asp

Event Specific Questions

For this section of the questionnaire, we are asking you to focus specifically on the **most recent event (workshop, conference, congress)** that has been completed, and for which you received funding under the *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses Program*.

1) Which of the following groups participated in the event? (*check all that apply*)

- 1 International scholars
- 2 Scholars from disciplines other than that of the event
- 3 Graduate students
- 4 Undergraduate students
- 5 Non-academics
- 6 Others (*specify*) _____

2) Approximately how many people in total participated in the event? _____

- 3) Approximately what proportion of the overall budget for the event was provided by SSHRC's Conferences and Congresses Program?

_____ % of event budget

- 4) What were the primary uses of the funds provided by the Conferences and Congresses Program for the event? (*check all that apply*)

Personnel costs

Student salaries and benefits

- 1 Undergraduate
 2 Masters
 3 Doctoral

Non-student salaries and benefits:

- 4 Postdoctoral
 5 Other

Travel and subsistence costs

Presenters

- 6 Canadian travel
 7 Foreign travel

Canadian graduate student presenters

- 8 Canadian travel
 9 Foreign travel

- 10 Administrative costs
 11 Translation/interpretation
 12 Teleconferencing/videoconferencing
 13 Promotion and dissemination
 14 Publication of proceedings
 15 Others (*specify*) _____

- 5) What other sources of funding did you receive for the event? (*check all that apply*)

- 1 Registration fees from attendees
 2 Other SSHRC funds → *please specify program* _____
 3 Funds from provincial departments or agencies
 4 Funds from other federal departments or agencies → *please specify dept or agency* _____
 5 Funds from *scholarly* associations → *please specify association* _____
 6 Funds from *non-scholarly* associations → *please specify association* _____
 7 Funds from academic institutions → *please specify institution*
 institution with which I am primarily affiliated
 Other (*specify*) _____

8 Private sector → (specify) _____

9 Other → (specify) _____

6) Were any of the following produced or achieved as a result of the event?
(check all that apply)

- 1 Published conference proceedings
- 2 Article(s) in research journals
- 3 Book(s) or book chapter(s)
- 4 Web-publication(s)
- 5 Newsletter/press release
- 6 Exposure in media (e.g., radio, television, newspapers)
- 7 Other (specify) _____
- 8 Other (specify) _____

7) Which of the following outcomes were achieved as a result of the event?
(check all that apply)

- 1 Researchers from 3 or more regions across Canada presented at the event
- 2 Researchers from 3 or more regions across Canada attended the event
- 3 International researchers presented at the event
- 4 International researchers attended the event
- 5 Researchers from more than 4 disciplines presented at the event
- 6 Researchers from more than 4 disciplines attended the event
- 7 Graduate students attended the event
- 8 Graduate students assisted in organizing the event
- 9 Graduate students presented at the event
- 10 Non-academic researchers attended the event
- 11 Non-academic researchers presented at the event

8) To what extent did the event contribute to any of the following:

Component	Definitely Occurred – Able to Identify Specific Examples	Very Likely Occurred – Not able to identify specific examples	Likely Occurred – Not able to identify specific examples	Likely Did Not Occur – Not able to identify specific examples	Don't Know	Not Applicable
Training of Canadian graduate students	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Training of new researchers	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Linkages/collaboration between Canadian researchers in the same discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Linkages/collaboration between Canadian researchers in different disciplines	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Linkages/collaboration between Canadian and non-Canadian researchers	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Linkages/collaboration with non-academic users of	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

research						
Advancement of Canadian scholarly research	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Promotion of advanced scholarly research	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

9) What other outcomes or achievements do you attribute to the event that are not listed in Q7 or Q8 above?

10) What had you hoped to achieve with this event, but were unable to? Why was the event unable to achieve this?

11) How would the event have proceeded if you had not received funding from the SSHRC Conferences and Congresses Program? (*check one only*)

- 1 Event would likely have proceeded with **no changes** → Q13
- 2 Event would likely have proceeded with **small changes** → Q12
- 3 Event would likely have proceeded with **major changes** → Q12
- 4 Event would likely have **not proceeded** → Q15

12) What changes to the event would have been required if you had not received funding from this program? (*check all that apply*)

- 1 Shorter event
- 2 Fewer keynote/invited speakers
- 3 Less or no international participation
- 4 Less or no graduate student participation
- 5 Less or no undergraduate student participation
- 6 Increased registration fees
- 7 Fewer participants overall
- 8 Less or no publications
- 9 Event not as heavily promoted
- 10 Other (*specify*) _____

13) If **more funding** had been available from SSHRC, how would the event have changed? (*check all that apply*)

- 1 Funding was sufficient – did not require any additional funding
- 2 Longer event
- 3 Additional keynote/invited speakers

- 4 Greater international participation
- 5 Greater graduate student participation
- 6 Greater undergraduate student participation
- 7 Lower registration fees
- 8 More participants overall
- 9 More publications
- 10 Event more heavily promoted
- 11 Other (*specify*) _____

14) With regard to the specific event, please rate your level of satisfaction with each of the following aspects of the program:

<i>Component</i>	<i>Very Satisfied</i>	<i>Somewhat Satisfied</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Somewhat Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Very Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
Work required to prepare grant application	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Event eligibility criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Applicant eligibility criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Application evaluation criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Level of funding received from SSHRC	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Grant payment schedule	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Grant reporting requirements	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Helpfulness of SSHRC staff	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

*Note: For each component where the respondent indicates very dissatisfied (5) we will program in the open-ended question of: **What were the reasons for your dissatisfaction?***

Program Specific Questions

For this next set of questions, please answer according to your overall experience as an academic researcher, rather than your experience with the one specific event you cited above.

15) How did you initially hear about the Conferences and Congresses Program? (*check one only*)

- 1 SSHRC website/brochures/newsletter
- 2 University research office
- 3 Association website/newsletter
- 4 Colleagues/word of mouth
- 5 Attendance at a program sponsored event
- 6 Faculty/Department
- 7 Other (*please specify*) _____

16) Currently, only Canadian academics affiliated with a Canadian university are eligible to apply to the Conference and Congresses Program to receive funding for an event. In your opinion, should any of the following potential

candidates be eligible as well? (*check any that you feel should be eligible to apply*)

- 1 Researchers affiliated with post-secondary institutions that are not universities
- 2 Researchers affiliated with non-governmental organizations
- 3 Graduate students
- 4 Post-doctoral researchers
- 5 Other (*please specify*) _____

Please provide below any additional comments that you have with regard to this issue

17) Currently, only “occasional conferences” are eligible for funding – that is a special event with a clearly defined theme that takes place on an ad hoc basis. If the conference coincides with an association’s general meeting, the organizers must demonstrate that it is a distinct, independent and self-contained event. Should this criterion be changed to:

c. Include serial or recurring conferences? (*check one only*)

- 1 Yes, serial or recurring conferences should be eligible
- 2 No, only occasional, ad hoc conferences should be eligible

d. Include conferences organized in the context of an annual general meeting? (*check one only*)

- 1 Yes, conferences within the context of annual general meetings should be eligible
- 2 No, conferences within the context of annual general meeting should not be eligible

18) In your experience, what differences exist between invitation-only events, and events where calls for papers are issued? (e.g., quality of event, level of participation, dissemination activities, etc...)

19) What do you perceive to be the three main benefits of the Conferences and Congresses program?

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

20) What do you perceive as three major improvements that are required in the Conferences and Congresses program?

1. _____
2. _____
4. _____

General Questions

In addition to the evaluation of the Conferences and Congresses program, SSHRC is gathering data on how contextual and environmental changes are affecting knowledge communication and dissemination in the social sciences and humanities.

21) How would you rate the relative *importance* of each of the following approaches to dissemination and communication of the results of your research?

<i>Approach</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Slightly Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
Presentations at regional conferences	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Presentations at national conferences	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Presentations at international conferences	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conducting workshops	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Popular media (e.g., newspapers, interviews)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Articles in peer-reviewed journals	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Articles in professional or trade journals	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Books or book chapters	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Web-publications	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Textbooks	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conference proceedings	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Database or datasets	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Other (<i>specify</i>) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Other (<i>specify</i>) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

22) To which of the following audiences do you disseminate or communicate the results of your research? (*check all that apply*)

- 1 Researchers in your own discipline
- 2 Researchers in other disciplines
- 3 Non-academic users of research
- 4 Decision-makers or policy-makers
- 5 General public
- 6 Other (*specify*) _____

23) Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements

<i>Statement</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
There is a need for more local/regional workshops in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
There is a need for more local/regional conferences in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
There is a need for more national conferences in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
There is a need for more international congresses in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
There is a need for more interdisciplinary conferences/congresses	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
More emphasis should be placed on dissemination of results through journals and books rather than through conferences or congresses	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
To understand the current research trends in my discipline, it is necessary to attend conferences and congresses	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
The most valuable feedback on my research comes from other participants at workshops, conferences & congresses	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
I have made connections and contacts with other researchers at congresses that have resulted in productive international research collaborations	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
I have made connections and contacts with other researchers at conferences and congresses that have resulted in productive interdisciplinary research collaborations	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conferences play an essential role in the training and development of graduate students in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conferences play an essential role in the training and development of undergraduate students in my discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

Over the past few years, the Conferences and Congresses program has experienced a constant increase in applications (up 58% from 1997) and amounts of funding requested (up 57% from 1997).

24) What do you perceive are the main reasons for the increased demand for workshops, conferences and congresses over the past 10 years?

25) What do you perceive are the main reasons for the increased costs of organizing workshops, conferences and congresses over the past 10 years?

26) Do you have contact information available (names and e-mail addresses) for some of the participants for the event(s) you organised under this program?

- Yes → Q27
 No

27) Would you be willing to provide 3 or 4 names to the study team so that we can follow-up with them for the evaluation?

- Yes → *Thank you. Someone from our team will be in contact with you shortly.*
 No

Additional Comments

Please provide below any additional information that you think may help SSHRC in the evaluation of this program.

Thank you for participating in this survey. If you have any questions about the survey or the evaluation, please do not hesitate to contact Sara Mayhew, the survey coordinator, at 1-800-611-0511, or send an email to sshrc-crshc@ggi.ca.

Questionnaire for University Research Representatives

Introduction to Respondents

The following questionnaire is designed to gather input and feedback from individuals who represent research offices within Canadian universities. SSHRC is conducting an evaluation of the *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses Program*, and is collecting feedback from a number of different sources to better understand both the strengths and weaknesses of the current program and its delivery. The purpose of the evaluation is to identify what aspects of the program are working well and where program improvements are required. In the interest of privacy and objectivity, SSHRC has hired a consulting firm, Goss Gilroy Inc., to conduct the evaluation.

It is important for us to hear from a wide variety of groups in order to conduct a balanced evaluation. Your input is important for the evaluation. We estimate that the questionnaire will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Our consulting firm will maintain all responses as confidential, and will not provide to SSHRC any individual responses linked to identifiers at any time during or after the evaluation study.

If you have any difficulties completing the questionnaire, or would like to speak to someone about the evaluation, please do not hesitate to contact Sara Mayhew, the survey coordinator, at 1-800-611-0511, or send an e-mail to sshrc-crshe@ggi.ca.

If you desire information on the program, you may access SSHRC's website by clicking on the following link:

http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/conferences_e.asp

Program Specific Questions

- 1) How would you rate your **level of familiarity** with SSHRC's *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses Program*?

- Familiar** – have personally applied to program or have assisted researchers that have applied to program
- Somewhat familiar** – have heard about program, but do not have knowledge of specific details or application requirements
- Not familiar** – have not heard about program prior to this survey → Q3
- Other (specify) _____ → Q3

- 2) How would you rate the **overall level of familiarity** of your university's SSHRC-eligible **researchers** with the *Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses Program*?

- Very familiar** – many have applied to the program or have participated in sponsored events

- 2 **Somewhat familiar** – many have likely heard about program, but do not necessarily apply to the program, or participate in sponsored events
- 3 **Not familiar** – many have likely not heard about program
- 4 Don't know
- 5 Not applicable
- 6 Other (*specify*) _____

3) Currently, only Canadian academics affiliated with a Canadian university are eligible to apply to the Conference and Congresses Program to receive funding for an event. In your opinion, should any of the following potential candidates be eligible as well? (*check any that you feel should be eligible to apply*)

- 1 Researchers affiliated with post-secondary institutions that are not universities
- 2 Researchers affiliated with non-governmental organizations
- 3 Graduate students
- 4 Post-doctoral researchers
- 5 Other (*please specify*) _____

Please provide below any additional comments that you have with regard to this issue

4) Currently, only “occasional conferences” are eligible for funding – that is a special event with a clearly defined theme that takes place on an ad hoc basis. If the conference coincides with an association’s general meeting, the organizers must demonstrate that it is a distinct, independent and self-contained event. Should this criterion be changed to:

a. Include serial or recurring conferences? (*check one only*)

- 1 Yes, serial or recurring conferences should be eligible
- 2 No, only occasional, ad hoc conferences should be eligible

b. Include conferences organized in the context of an annual general meeting? (*check one only*)

- 1 Yes, conferences within the context of annual general meetings should be eligible
- 2 No, conferences within the context of annual general meeting should not be eligible

5) What other sources of funding do SSHRC-eligible researchers from your university have access to for developing conferences, congresses and workshops?

- 1 Registration fees from attendees

- 2 Other SSHRC funds → *please specify program* _____
- 3 Funds from provincial departments or agencies
- 4 Funds from other federal departments or agencies → *please specify dept or agency* _____
- 5 Funds from *scholarly* associations → *please specify association*
- 6 Funds from *non-scholarly* associations → *please specify association*
- 7 Funds from academic institutions → *please specify institution*
 - institution with which I am primarily affiliated
 - Other (*specify*) _____
- 8 Private sector → (*specify*) _____
- 9 Other → (*specify*) _____

6) In your experience, what differences exist between invitation-only events, and events where calls for papers are issued? (e.g., quality of event, level of participation, dissemination activities, etc...)

7) What do you perceive to be the three main benefits of the Conferences and Congresses program?

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

8) What do you perceive as three major improvements that are required in the Conferences and Congresses program?

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 5. _____

General Questions

In addition to the evaluation of the Conferences and Congresses program, SSHRC is gathering data on how contextual and environmental changes are affecting knowledge communication and dissemination in the social sciences and humanities.

- 9) In your experience, how would you rate the relative *importance* of each of the following approaches to dissemination and communication of research results?

<i>Approach</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Slightly Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
Presentations at regional conferences	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Presentations at national conferences	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Presentations at international conferences	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conducting workshops	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Popular media (e.g., newspapers, interviews)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Articles in peer-reviewed journals	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Articles in professional or trade journals	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Books or book chapters	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Web-publications	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Textbooks	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Conference proceedings	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Database or datasets	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Other: specify _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
Other: specify _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

Over the past few years, the Conferences and Congresses program has experienced a constant increase in applications (up 58% from 1997) and amounts of funding requested (up 57% from 1997).

- 10) What do you perceive are the main reasons for the increased demand for workshops, conferences and congresses over the past 10 years?

- 11) What do you perceive are the main reasons for the increased costs of organizing workshops, conferences and congresses over the past 10 years?

- 12) In your experience, are the grants amounts provided by this program still appropriate? (*Please explain*)

Additional Comments

Please provide below any additional information that you think may help SSHRC in the evaluation of this program.

Thank you for participating in this survey. If you have any questions about the survey or the evaluation, please do not hesitate to contact Sara Mayhew, the survey coordinator, at 1-800-611-0511, or send an email to sshrc-crshc@ggi.ca.