



Colleen Elliott Award (Excellence in Cancer Research)

Established in 2011 by NSHRF, the Colleen Elliott Award recognizes a research trainee who demonstrates the greatest potential for excellence in cancer research. The Colleen Elliott Award was created to recognize and honour Colleen Elliott's contribution to supporting the advancement of the health research enterprise in Nova Scotia. Applicants to the Scotia Scholars Award (Master's or Doctoral level) whose research focus relates to cancer may apply for this additional financial support.

Eligibility

To be considered for this award, applicants must:

- Meet all eligibility requirements of the [Scotia Scholars Award \(Master's or PhD level\)](#)
- Be engaged in cancer research

Application Requirements

To be considered for this award, applicants must:

- Submit a complete application for the Scotia Scholars Award (Master's or PhD level) competition
- Indicate in their Scotia Scholars Award application that they are applying for the Colleen Elliott Award
- Provide a one-page description of the relevance of their proposed research activities to knowledge creation related to cancer and the potential impact their research may have on the prevention, diagnosis, treatment or long-term management of cancer.

All application documents must adhere to the format outlined in the [Scotia Scholars Award Application Requirements](#).

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed by the Colleen Elliott Award Review Committee using the following criteria:

- The significance of the applicant's volunteerism and engagement in the community
- The relevance and potential unique impact of the applicant's research activities on the prevention, diagnosis, treatment or long-term management of cancer
- The relevance and potential impact of the applicant's long-term goals and career expectations on cancer research, care or prevention
- Overall quality of the application

Funding Details

The Colleen Elliott Award is awarded annually. In addition to the prestigious recognition of this award, a one-time contribution of \$5,000 (non-renewable) will be made by the NSHRF to assist the recipient with his/her research training. The monetary value of the Colleen Elliott Award is exempt from the funding cap set by the NSHRF for Scotia Scholars Award recipients, thus will not be factored in when calculating the recipient's total funding from all sources.

About Colleen Elliott

Colleen Elliott was the Chair of the NSHRF Board of Directors when she passed away from cancer on May 17, 2008. Colleen was a passionate advocate for health research, an expert in care of the elderly, and a leader in Nova Scotia's health system.

Colleen, a registered nurse specializing in gerontology, believed firmly in the excellence of the health research being conducted in the province. She also believed there was so much more we could do as a health community – and as a province – to ensure the health of Nova Scotians and those beyond our borders.

Colleen acted on those beliefs and Nova Scotia was healthier as a result. A graduate of St. Joseph's Hospital in Toronto, Colleen received her certificate in Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias. She served as the Chairperson of the Well Women's Clinic in Truro and on the Board of the Nova Scotia Gynecological Cancer Screening Program. Colleen was a Past-president of the Nova Scotia Division of the Canadian Cancer Society. She also sat on numerous committees for the Canadian Cancer Society, Cancer Care Nova Scotia, and National Cancer Information Service. Colleen's extraordinary contributions through volunteerism were honoured with the Golden Jubilee Anniversary Medal in 2001 and the Canada 125 medal in 1992.

What Colleen's lengthy list of accomplishments does not speak to is her unflagging optimism and spirit, even in the face of a relentless disease. Colleen joined the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation's Board of Directors in its first year of operation and continued as a member until 2007, when she was appointed Board Chair. Colleen provided invaluable guidance, direction and insight to the NSHRF and always did so with a kind word and a warm smile.