

Expert Organization Support Form



TELUS Fund finances exceptional content that promotes the well-being of people in their environment. Canadian production companies with strong support from Expert Organizations are more likely to receive our financing. Your support will help to ensure that audiences are influenced and inspired in ways that positively impact their health and well-being, as opposed to unintentionally having a negative effect.

An Expert Organization delivers services to Canadians in the well-being area addressed in the project and includes qualified professionals with formal training and expertise in the area. Complete and send this form to the Canadian production company. More information can be found in [TELUS Fund's Program Guidelines](#). Get in touch with us at info@telusfund.ca if you have any questions.

Please start by telling us about your organization.

Organization name	Brain Canada Foundation						
Key Contact Name	Kate Shingler, Director, Marketing & Communications						
Telephone	(450) 328-1516		Email	kate.shingler@braincanada.ca			
Mailing address of the organization's head office	1200 McGill College Avenue Suite 1600, Montréal, PQ H3B 4G7						
Organization's website URL	www.braincanada.ca						
What type of organization is this? <i>Place an X beside those boxes that apply.</i>							
Federally incorporated		Provincially incorporated		Not-for-profit Organization		Charitable Organization	x
Other							
What is the mission or purpose of your organization? <i>Write your answer in the box below</i>							
Brain Canada Foundation (Brain Canada) is a national registered charity, headquartered in Montréal, Quebec. We play a unique and invaluable role as a national convenor of those who support and advance brain research. A greater understanding of how the brain works contributes to the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cure of disorders of the brain, ultimately improving the health outcomes of people in Canada and around the world. Brain Canada is committed to improving and expanding brain science to benefit all people, including groups historically under researched and underrepresented. We know that increasing diversity of the research workforce and integrating sex and gender in brain research leads to innovation, and greater impact.							
What services does your organization deliver to Canadians?							
Brain Canada accelerates, amplifies and funds brain research across Canada. We allocate funding based on merit. The rigour of Brain Canada's scientific review process gives donors and partners a trusted mechanism to ensure projects are chosen based on excellence and innovation. Since our inception in 1998, Brain Canada has funded more than 1155 researchers in Canada, awarded more than 400 grants, and invested more than \$292 million dollars in brain research.							
In which language(s) does the organization deliver these services? <i>Place an X beside those boxes that apply.</i>							
French	x	English	x	Other			
In which geographic area(s) does the organization deliver these services?							
Nationwide (Canada)							

Expert Organization Support Form



A few questions about your interest in the project that is seeking TELUS Fund financing.

Name of project	"Frozen In Time"								
Name of Canadian production company	Handful of Films (www.handfuloffilms.ca)								
What project materials have you reviewed so far? <i>Place an X beside those boxes that apply.</i>									
Project synopsis	x	Detailed treatment	x	Underlying research		Sizzle reel		Audience Development Plan	
Other	In-person conversations with Writer & Director, Niobe Thompson								
When did you first get involved with this project and what has been your contribution so far?									
Niobe Thompson, Executive Producer and Director of <i>Frozen in Time</i> reached out to the Brain Canada Foundation with an exciting opportunity to collaborate. We intend to offer our support in the form of science and advocacy expertise, access to stakeholders and audiences through our platforms, and collaboration on an impact campaign. We understand that the storyline and impact campaign are still in development, and we are fully committed to leveraging our collective knowledge and resources to ensure its success.									

Tell us about why you support the need for this project to be created.

Please describe the well-being issue addressed in the project and why it matters to Canadians.
<p>As a national convenor and enabler of the Canadian brain research community, Brain Canada is supporting efforts to reduce health inequities. This includes efforts to assess the different ways that brain diseases and disorders affect men, women, and gender diverse groups, and various stages of neurodevelopment and aging. Brain Canada's goal, in the process, is to advance sex and gender brain science and remove systemic barriers and biases to ensure that all individuals have equal access to – and will benefit from – the results of brain research.</p> <p>Brain injury, including traumatic brain injury (the condition affecting the main character in <i>Frozen in Time</i>) is a priority area of research and awareness-building for Brain Canada.</p>
How will this project positively impact the well-being issue in Canada?
<p>The objective of this project is to feature the narrative of Natalia Rybczynski, a Canadian paleobiologist who suffered a brain injury following a skiing accident in 2011. Although her career was cut short but the injury, Natalia has spent ten years devising strategies to cope with her condition and is currently making efforts to return to the field of science in a modified and disabled capacity. Through a personal and intimate portrayal in film, this initiative aims to elicit empathy and understanding for an issue that affects millions of Canadians and often carries significant stigma. By sharing Natalia's story, the project explains, humanizes, and brings visibility to neurodiversity. Moreover, the film highlights the immense potential that neurodiverse Canadians possess and can offer to the world, especially in Natalia's case, where meeting them on their own terms is key.</p>
How is this project taking a fresh approach to the subject matter compared to existing content?
<p>The documentary <i>Frozen in Time</i>, directed by two-time Emmy nominee Niobe Thompson, follows the journey of paleontologist and brain injury survivor Natalia Rybczynski, as she returns to the Canadian High Arctic to pursue her passionate interest in life before the Ice Age. The film offers intimate and candid insight into Natalia's daily struggle to manage the challenges of a traumatic brain injury and marshal her resources to focus on the demands of science. Thanks to novel animations created by award-winning Vancouver-based studio Global Mechanic, the film brings to life Natalia's inner lived experience. This will be among the first long-form documentaries in Canada to tackle the "invisible condition" of brain injury and bring a nuanced portrait of the disease to a broad general audience on a national broadcast platform.</p>

Expert Organization Support Form



A few questions about the support you will provide to this project.

Which professionals at your organization will be working with the Canadian production company to help ensure the content is free of editorial bias, presents verified research, and that audiences are influenced and inspired in ways that positively impact their health and well-being, as opposed to unintentionally having a negative effect? *Please provide a brief description of their qualifications and expertise in the subject area.*

Kate Shingler – Director, Marketing & Communications:

Kate Shingler joined Brain Canada in 2020 and is an experienced communications professional with a background in journalism, impact storytelling and translating complex ideas to the broader public in an accessible, meaningful way. Kate worked for more than a decade with Global Television as a Reporter, Senior Producer, and Associate News Director. For 5 years, she was the Director of Communications at the Institute for Research on Public Policy (IRPP), a non-partisan, national think tank. Prior to joining Brain Canada, Kate was the Associate Director of Communications at the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) Foundation, where she led the team's digital strategy, and helped to enhance the MUHC Foundation's profile in Montreal, and across Canada.

Anneliese Poetz, PhD – Senior Program Manager, Knowledge Mobilization (for social innovation)

Anneliese has a PhD in Social Sciences (Health Geography) from McMaster University and brings over 12 years of experience in stakeholder engagement for opportunity identification and co-creation of solutions. Anneliese has experience in knowledge mobilization, program management and change management within organizations specializing in child and youth brain and mental health. Anneliese has authored guides, book chapters, and an online course on topics related to knowledge mobilization and research impact. As Senior Manager of Knowledge Mobilization for Brain Canada, Anneliese utilizes her skills in expert facilitation, relationship building and project management to support researchers in all areas of Brain Health towards innovations that create real and positive changes for people.

In addition to the above important contribution to the project, will you be contributing in any other ways to the project? (e.g., financing, promotion on your online channels, helping to organize live screenings, using resources created by the project). *Please provide a brief description.*

The Brain Canada Foundations is more than just a supporter of this project; it's a passionate advocate for the cause. With an unwavering commitment to raising awareness about brain injuries, we are determined to help ensure *Frozen in Time* reaches a large national audience and that the associated story and information assets the team produces are exploited to mobilize support and awareness around brain injury. Brain Canada staff are also available to provide their expertise in assisting in sourcing relevant resources and researchers to connect with as needed.

Are you receiving any benefit in return for your contributions to the project?

No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	If yes, what benefit are you receiving?
----	-------------------------------------	---

Expert Organization Support Form



Would you like to share any additional information or comments?

We are impressed with Director Niobe Thompson's extensive experience as a filmmaker and his commitment together with his team and the subject, to this project. Thompson's work on organ transplant science and advocacy with the 2016 CBC/PBS/NFB documentary *Vital Bonds (Memento Mori)* is inspiring, and we look forward to seeing Frozen in Time come together to shed a spotlight on lived experience with brain injury.

The undersigned hereby releases the TELUS Fund (the Fund) and its directors, officers, members, employees, administrators, agents, and representatives from any liability for the disclosure, unauthorized use, or reproduction of any data, information or documentation submitted with this form. All risks associated with the transportation of any data, information or documentation submitted with this form are assumed by the undersigned. The undersigned authorizes the Fund to discuss and disclose any and all information submitted with this form with every entity connected (in the Fund's opinion) with the Project.

The undersigned hereby warrants that the information provided in this form is complete and accurate and that the signatory has the full authority to submit this form to the Fund. The undersigned acknowledges that the Fund has full discretion in administering its programs including, without limitation, determination of eligibility and in the application of the Fund's program guidelines to ensure that funding is provided to those projects that meet the mandate and objectives of the Fund.

The undersigned hereby agrees that the Fund is not responsible in any way for the holding or return of any materials submitted at any time in connection with this form and the Fund retains the right to keep on file or destroy all materials submitted by the undersigned.

Date	April 14, 2023	Signature	
Print Name	Kate Shingler		
Title	Director – Marketing and Communications		
Organization	Brain Canada Foundation		

Thank you!