FRQSC Doctoral Fellowship
Funding Workshop

Deadline for application – October 14th, 4pm
Advantages of the FRQSC

- $21,000 a year for up to 4 years (12 sessions), up to end of 5th year of PhD!
- Direct online application – no departmental selection
- Open to Quebec residents (RAMQ card) and Canadian & International Students (after 2 full-time sessions)
- Can complement a SSHRC or other sources of funding
- More flexible on GPA and international transcripts
- NO LETTERS OF REFERENCE!!!
- Can be written in English, but translated title obligatory
Evaluation of FRQSC Applications

• Committee includes profs from different disciplines
  – They read dozens of applications in a short time – CLARITY IS ESSENTIAL

• Four areas of evaluation
  – Quality and scientific value of the project (30 points)
  – Quality of the training environment (15 points)
  – Excellence of the academic record (25 points)
  – Skills and experiences (30 points)
Quality and scientific value of the project

- Respect margins and font size! Give space
- Respect the guidelines
  - Use headers and spacing to make it easier to read and clear you have covered all the points
- Make link with your Master’s work and your work experience
- Give DETAILS of your methods
- Most common mistakes:
  - Too much lit review
  - Too personal
  - Doesn’t look feasible
Quality of the training environment

- Advantages of McGill, your department & your supervisor
  - Without being arrogant!
- Access to training
  - Courses in your programme, professional development offered at McGill
- Access to research networks
  - RAships, membership in research networks with your supervisor
- Mention if location helps your feasibility
Excellence of the academic record

• CGPA plays an enormous role
  – You can offer justification for lower marks, but be cautious:
    • Health problems, family crisis, pregnancy & young children = OK
    • “I didn’t like my program” = not impressive
    • Worth mentioning if it was a long time ago (10 years+)
    • Minor gaps in registration or part-time status can be addressed

• Scholarships and awards matter, too
  – Break down departmental awards by name & amount
  – Include other awards for achievements or leadership
Skills and experiences

- Publications often make or break an application
  - You don’t need a lot – quality over quantity
  - Academic publications & presentations most important
  - But include professional publications & presentations
- Emphasize academic and professional work experiences
  - Don’t include the “survival jobs” we all do unless you are arguing it relates to your project
- DO include volunteer experiences
- If you have a limit, focus on the ones most related to your topic or to research
Documents to be uploaded by deadline

- **Canadian Common CV**, Funding CV version, for the FRQS (updated since June 2019);

- Detailed contributions updated since June 2019 (attachment required through the FRQS Electronic Portfolio on the Canadian Common CV page), consult the document entitled Guidelines for the CV attachment in the Toolbox

- **Electronic application form**: Formation de maîtrise OR doctorat

- A copy of a valid Quebec health insurance card OR evidence of eligibility to the RAMQ (official RAMQ document before the issuance of the card) (crucial for eligibility). If the RAMQ card or a proof of eligibility to the RAMQ is not provided, include a proof of registration at a Québec university for the fall trimester (crucial for eligibility)

- Form to **calculate the number of training program terms** (Calcul du nombre de sessions aux programmes de formation) available in the FRQS Electronic Portfolio, menu Documents and in the toolbox (crucial for eligibility)

- A copy of **official** academic transcripts for all university courses taken, whether completed or not. Academic transcripts must be complete and include grading scales (at the back of the transcript), for candidates from Québec as well as for candidates outside of Québec. For transcripts from institutions located outside North America, the applicant must include a note explaining the institution's marking system

- Acknowledgements from publishers for articles submitted and accepted for publication
And if at first you don’t succeed...

• ...try, try again!
  – Increased chances in 2nd, 3rd year of your program
  – Your project will be more refined
  – You are likely to acquire more experience & publications

• Remember that you’re applying at the doctoral level
  – Everyone is at a high academic level
  – Refusal doesn’t mean it wasn’t a good project
  – Good experience writing these translates into skills for writing other grants.
Help with Writing

Graphos

- Fellowship Writing Workshops

McGill Writing Centre

- Tutorial Service: Can book up to 7 hours/semester. Appointments fill quickly so book in advance!

SKILLSETS

- Would You Fund It? Fellowship Consultation Session
  Sept 16, 19, 25, or Nov 25 (Various times, Redpath Library)
Questions?