



NEWS RELEASE

November 17, 2003

For Immediate Release:

The Lions Gate Healthcare Research Foundation awards \$5000 Fellowship to University of Victoria student studying cultural influences on depression among Chinese Canadians

The Board of Directors of the Lions Gate Healthcare Research Foundation is pleased to announce the awarding of our 2003 Fellowship Award to Ms. Ai-Lan Chia. Ms. Chia is currently enrolled in her first year of a doctoral program in the Clinical Life-span Psychology program of the Department of Psychology at the University of Victoria. Her work focuses on the theoretical and pragmatic issues that are pertinent to investigations on immigrants and ethnic minority individuals in British Columbia, specifically Chinese Canadians. Her current research will use models of ethnicity and acculturation to advance our understanding of the cultural influences on manifestations of depression among Chinese Canadians.

Ai-Lan Chia comments on her work: "Depression, as one of the most debilitating health problems worldwide, is especially prevalent among people experiencing the stresses associated with immigration and acculturation. Due to the influences of Chinese cultural beliefs about illnesses, the expression of depression may carry disorder-specific as well as culture-specific elements that are not fully captured by Western diagnostic criteria used in Canadian health systems. Despite the comparatively large size of the Chinese population in parts of Canada, there still remains a paucity of knowledge about how to detect depression among non-geriatric Chinese Canadians in clinical settings."

The Lions Gate Healthcare Research Foundation conducts a formal competition for **one \$5,000** Fellowship to be awarded to a Ph.D. student enrolled in a University of BC, University of Victoria or Simon Fraser University graduate program in one of the health related research programs (e.g., Medicine, Nursing, Clinical or Counseling Psychology, Health Promotion and Epidemiology, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Rehabilitation, or Social Work). The Lions Gate Healthcare Research Foundation Fellowship Award has been given out consistently since 1996 and has a long history of supporting worthwhile research work done at the Ph. D. level.

The Lions Gate Healthcare Research Foundation, an independent North Shore community-based volunteer organization, has been building better communities through research and education since 1963. It supports healthcare research funding, fellowship grants and Grade 12 scholarships at secondary schools on the North Shore. The Foundation is a registered charity for income tax purposes, (BIN #11902 0915 RR0001), and receives grants, donations and bequests each year to support its work in the community. For more information about the foundation or to find out more on how you can support our work, please go to our website at www.healthcareresearch.ca.

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For more information about this fellowship award, please contact:

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