# Research for Real Life

## **Environment**

SSHRC funds research that creates practical solutions to Canada's most pressing environmental issues. From clean water to clean energy, climate change to sustainable business, SSHRC helps community, government and industry leaders access and use research to build a greener Canada. SSHRC-funded research brings environmental awareness and understanding to organizations across the country, and builds Canadian expertise by training graduate students in a wide range of research fields. By funding excellent research and bringing that research directly to Canadians, SSHRC is cultivating a more sustainable future for Canada and the world.

\$124M

SSHRC investments in research on Canadian environmental issues\*

**1,169** research projects

1,119 researchers

635

graduate students

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The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) builds new knowledge on the issues that matter most to Canadians.

SSHRC funds research by the very best of Canada's 84,000 researchers and graduate students in the social sciences and humanities.

SSHRC also helps share the results of this research with businesses, governments and communities across the country, to maximize the benefits of new knowledge for all Canadians.

For more information www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca

<sup>\*</sup> These numbers represent multi-year awards across all SSHRC funding programs from 2006-07 to 2010-11.



# Environment

#### Putting a price tag on clean water

Wanhong Yang of the University of Guelph is uncovering the most costeffective ways to protect Canada's water quality. His research examines the costs and benefits of environmental measures to prevent fertilizers and pesticides in farmers' fields from reaching nearby lakes, rivers and wetlands. His research is currently being used in Ontario and Illinois to improve agriculture conservation programs and policies and to ensure public funds for these programs are well-spent.

### Greening the city

Half of the global population now lives in cities, making it more and more important to bring nature into urban spaces. Danielle Dagenais of the Université de Montréal is studying green roofs—gardens, grasses and other vegetation grown on city rooftops. Dagenais' research shows that green roofs absorb carbon monoxide and cool buildings during intense summer heat, requiring less air conditioning. On top of being environmentally friendly, she has found that green roofs also increase quality of life while rendering cities more beautiful.

SSHRC at a Glance \*

\$334.9M

in funding

**9,213** projects

30

disciplines

13,131 applications

4,452

new grants, scholarships and fellowships

\* SSHRC Annual Report 2009-10

## Creating a sustainable fishing industry

At Memorial University of Newfoundland, a SSHRC-funded community-university research alliance is helping to recover fish stocks and rebuild fishing communities. Led by sociologist Barbara Neis, the project brings Newfoundland's west coast communities together with researchers from the sciences, social sciences and fine arts. By combining local knowledge and academic scholarship, the project is developing community-based recovery strategies that protect jobs as well as ecosystems.