JOB POSTING – POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

Area of Research: The University of Toronto’s Dalla Lana School of Public Health and the Canadian Urban Environmental Health Research Consortium (CANUE) are seeking a highly motivated Postdoctoral Fellow with research experience in environmental exposure assessment and environmental epidemiology who will participate in a Canadian Institutes for Health Research funded study entitled Air pollution, climate and COPD: acute and long-term impacts in Canadian populations.

Climate projections show that Canadian cities can expect an increase in abnormal weather events such as heat waves and extreme cold events, more wildfires leading to poor air quality episodes, and overall higher levels of air pollution over the next decades. This project will make use of data collected by three large pan-Canadian health studies linked to short- and long-term air pollution and climate data, as well administrative health information on Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) hospital admissions and medication use to explore how environmental factors stemming from climate change will impact the burden of COPD in Canada. Results from this project will help develop public health and clinical management guidelines for COPD and respiratory health, thereby allowing clinicians and policy makers to adapt to a changing climate.

Description of duties: This Postdoctoral Fellow will be supervised by Dr. Jeffrey Brook at the University of Toronto’s Dalla Lana School of Public Health, with support from a team of researchers at McGill University. Dr. Brook is looking for an individual with experience in geographic information systems (GIS) and spatial analysis and/or environmental exposure assessment to work on developing/preparing spatially-resolved short and long-term air pollution and extreme weather metrics, which will support the COPD study and other epidemiological research. The selected candidate will be involved in all aspects of research including cleaning and preparing large observational cohort and administrative health datasets, analyzing and interpreting the data, and preparing manuscripts and presentations. This individual will gain experience working with Dr. Brook and leading Canadian experts in environmental epidemiology, exposure sciences and respiratory medicine.

Salary: $50K-70K per year, based on qualification and experience

Required qualifications: PhD in Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Environmental Health, Health Geography (or related field), obtained within the past five years. Canadians or Canadian residents expecting to receive their PhD within the next 3 months are also eligible. Skills in computer programming and data analysis and experience in environmental exposure assessment are expected. Experience working with environmental exposure data linked
to health studies and familiarity with observational cohort and Canadian administrative health datasets are assets.

**Application instructions**

All individuals interested in this position must submit a detailed CV, cover letter outlining motivation and statement of research, and at least 2 references to Dr. Jeffrey Brook at jeff.brook@utoronto.ca

**Closing date:** This posting will remain active until the position is filled

**Supervisor:** Dr. Jeffrey Brook

**Expected start date:** ASAP

**Term:** Initial term of 1 year with possibility of extension for another year

**FTE:** This position is a 1.0 FTE. The normal hours of work are 40 hours per week for a full-time postdoctoral fellow (pro-rated for those holding a partial appointment) recognizing that the needs of the employee’s research and training and the needs of the supervisor’s research program may require flexibility in the performance of the employee’s duties and hours of work.

Employment as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto is covered by the terms of the CUPE 3902 Unit 5 Collective Agreement.

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*The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from visible minority group members, women, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, members of sexual minority groups, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.*