

Post-Doctoral Researcher
Ontario Tobacco Research Unit (OTRU)
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) is Canada's largest mental health teaching hospital and one of the world's leading research centres in its field. As Canada's leading mental illness research facility, CAMH's Campbell Family Mental Health Research Institute (CFMHRI) is home to scientists, staff and research trainees conducting leading research to improve the understanding of the brain and the causes, the biomarkers and cures for mental illness as well as research to advance the prevention and treatment for mental illness and addictions across the lifespan. With a collaborative inter-disciplinary environment that spans clinical, biological, social and epidemiological research, CAMH supports a workplace that embraces diversity, encourages teamwork and complies with all applicable regulatory and legislative requirements.

The Ontario Tobacco Research Unit (OTRU) was established in 1993 as the research and evaluation component of the Ontario Tobacco Strategy with initial funding from the province and in-kind contributions from the academic community. Over three decades, we have become a key player in the tobacco control community in Canada and internationally. OTRU is located within the Institute of Mental Health Policy Research (IMHPR) at CAMH.

OTRU Mandate:

- Exercise leadership in the design and conduct of research projects
- Increase Ontario's capacity to conduct research, monitoring and evaluation
- Provide advice and technical expertise on program evaluation and best practices
- Analyze and disseminate science-based information for the research and public health communities
- Strengthen and broaden our provincial, national and international network of researchers, programmers and policymakers

Dr. Robert Schwartz is Senior Scientist at IMHPR and Executive Director of OTRU. His current research focuses on the causes and patterns of problematic substance use and on treatment interventions. His program of research has a primary focus on nicotine (tobacco and e-cigarettes) and includes also studies addressing cannabis, alcohol, other substances, gaming, gambling and social media. Other active areas of research are nicotine endgame and public health governance.

Dr. Michael Chaiton is a Senior Scientist at IMHPR, Director of Research at OTRU, and associate professor affiliated with the Dalla Lana School of Public Health and the Institute for Medical Sciences, at University of Toronto. His work includes understanding the impact of policy on population level influences of mental health and substance use and the development of co-morbidities, particularly among youth and young adults. His work uses longitudinal cohort studies to evaluate changes in behaviours over time and using machine learning to identify predictors of change.

The ideal candidate for this full-time 1-year engagement (with possibility of extension) will be an individual who possesses clearly defined research interests and scientific objectives in alignment with IMHPR's objectives and a record of relevant scholarly activity and achievements (e.g. graduate training awards, publications, presentations, community engagement). The successful applicant will also demonstrate capacity for independence, originality, and contributions to team research.

ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION

CAMH postdoctoral researchers will make semi-independent contributions to knowledge under the mentorship of a CAMH scientist. In addition to planning, developing, and carrying out their own original research, CAMH post-docs may contribute to team science and collaborate with other researchers.

Both independent and collaborative activities are intended to expand experience and professional relationships, refine technical, methodological, and scientific expertise, and develop essential research skills in preparation for independent scientific careers within and beyond academia.

Core skills that CAMH post-docs are expected to develop and refine during the process of carrying out their personal research projects include:

- Developing research proposals and experimental designs to investigate research questions
- Identifying research goals, objectives, and milestones
- Planning, operationalizing, and carrying out their own mentored research projects
- Determining necessary methodology required to collect data and test hypotheses
- Developing and submitting competitive grant proposals
- Collaborating with other researchers and clinicians
- Preparing manuscripts for publication and publishing as first author
- Preparing and presenting results at conferences
- Mentoring, training, and/or teaching other trainees

Current projects within OTRU and IMHPR that may be of interest for training and collaboration purposes include: 1) interventions to support young people facing challenges in their use of e-cigarettes, cannabis, alcohol, social media, gaming and gambling; 2) nicotine endgame measures, including nicotine-free generation; 3) holistic community building to prevent problematic substance use; 4) patterns of e-cigarette use and their health effects.

ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal candidate will have completed (or be close to completing) a PhD in public health, health systems, epidemiology, sociology, psychology and related disciplines. Individuals who are more than 5 years post-PhD are not eligible, however, consideration will be given to candidates who have experienced career interruptions related to a documented leave of absence or formal clinical training. Demonstrated success in obtaining external funding as a graduate student or in a previous post-doctoral role is strongly preferred.

To be successful, the candidate will have 2 of years of related research experience. Experience will encompass: qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods research (REB applications, data collection, data management, data analysis, reporting and presentation).

FUNDING

This opportunity includes a competitive research stipend reflective of the successful candidate's research training, qualifications, experience, and achievements. However, the post-doc will be required to seek out and apply to external funding opportunities.

LOCATION

This position will be based at 250 College Street, Toronto, Ontario.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Interested applicants should e-mail Dr. Robert Schwartz (Robert.Schwartz@utoronto.ca) and Dr. Michael Chaiton (Michael.Chaiton@utoronto.ca), including a full academic CV and a brief 1-page statement of their research interests.

CAMH is a fully affiliated teaching hospital and research institute of the University of Toronto. As a CAMH Research Trainee, you will contribute to our mission by supporting the advancement of teaching, research, and the clinical care. CAMH is dedicated to equity, diversity, and inclusion and committed to fostering a workplace, teaching, and learning environment that is inclusive, respectful, and free from discrimination and harassment. We welcome applicants from all backgrounds and encourage applications from candidates who reflect the diversity of the communities we serve, including First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples; Black and other racialized communities; LGBTQ2S+ communities; women; and people with disabilities, including those with lived experience of mental health and substance use challenges.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CAMH is situated on lands that have been occupied by First Nations for millennia; lands rich in civilizations with knowledge of medicine, architecture, technology, and extensive trade routes throughout the Americas. In 1860, the site of CAMH appeared in the Colonial Records Office of the British Crown as the council grounds of the Mississaugas of the New Credit, as they were known at the time. Today, Toronto is covered by the Toronto Purchase, Treaty No. 13 of 1805 with the Mississaugas of the Credit. Toronto is now home to a vast diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis who enrich this city. CAMH is committed to reconciliation. We will honour the land through programs and places that reflect and respect its heritage. We will embrace the healing traditions of the Ancestors, and weave them into our caring practices. We will create new relationships and partnerships with First Nations, Inuit and Métis and share the land and protect it for future generations.