

## **ECHO Network Postdoctoral Fellowship Term (One year, with Possibility of Renewal), Full-Time**

### **Purpose**

The ECHO Network is recruiting a Postdoctoral Fellow to contribute to the design and conduct of research and evaluation relating to the ECHO Network (Environment, Community, Health Observatory). The ECHO Network is a Pan-Canadian and international project funded by a 5-year CIHR Team Grant with a focus on strengthening intersectoral capacity to understand and respond to the cumulative environment, community and health impacts of resource development. The network aims to: (1) make evidence-based recommendations on the form and function of a cross-jurisdictional ECHO that will foster understanding of the complex dynamics of resource development and health, and; (2) trial and evaluate intersectoral strategies to address the cumulative determinants of health that interact over time and space, targeting actions and responses that cannot be achieved by the health sector alone.

We are seeking a Postdoctoral Fellow to contribute to knowledge synthesis and evaluation of learning and impact within the ECHO Network, with a particular focus on the complex evaluation associated with a multi-site knowledge network and cross-ECHO implementation of integrative tools and processes relevant to support intersectoral action and observatory networks. The work will require a comprehensive understanding or experience with complex evaluation (e.g. developmental evaluation, principal-focused evaluation), integrated knowledge translation research, knowledge networks (e.g. communities of practice), and integrative approaches to addressing environment, community, health issues and/or multi-stakeholder processes within environment, community or health contexts.

### **Responsibilities**

The Postdoctoral Fellow will work as a key member of the ECHO research team to:

- a. Contribute to the design and implementation of the developmental evaluation strategy for the ECHO Network, informed by the experiences and interventions of the ECHO Network team as they work together to inform, evaluate and learn from intersectoral action in the context of resource development;
- b. Progress the design, conduct and analysis of knowledge synthesis approaches to progress understanding of the integrative tools and processes relevant to addressing intersectoral dynamics of complex health, community and environmental issues;
- c. Develop and progress their own research interests in ways that are congruent with the overall research agenda of the ECHO Network. i.e. research interests relevant to the ECHO Network and related professional development.

It is estimated that allocation of time would be 75% addressing (a) and (b) above; and 25% progressing (c) i.e. research interests relevant to the ECHO Network and related professional development. Research conducted by this Postdoctoral Fellowship will be informed by but not limited to applied knowledge synthesis approaches such as realist review (focused on 'What works, how, why, for whom, to what extent, in what circumstances, in what respect and over what duration?') and complex evaluation approaches appropriate to synthesizing and sharing insights relating to the intersectoral dynamics of resource development in relation to environment, community and health issues.

## Qualifications

- A Ph.D. in any area of health, environmental, or social science within the last four years;
- Minimum 2+ years' experience in research, education or practice relevant to integrative approaches to environment, community and health issues;
- Experience with knowledge synthesis, and evaluation of complex health, environment or policy interventions (e.g. developmental evaluation, principal-focused evaluation, evaluation of knowledge networks or communities of practice);
- Understanding of and experience with intersectoral issues relating to environment, community, and/or health impacts;
- Proven ability to multi-task in a deadline oriented environment with minimal supervision;
- Effective oral and written communication, analytical and interpersonal skills;
- Excellent organizational skill and ability to learn new skills quickly;
- Ability to work independently and within a team environment;
- Ability to communicate in both French and English will be considered an asset;
- Accuracy and attention to detail required;
- Ability to work in a highly interdisciplinary environment.

## Salary

Fellowship amount will be commensurate with experience, and funding available through the ECHO Network funding. Fellowship income – the PDF will not receive employee benefits. As per UNBC's Postdoctoral Fellow Guide (2019), the PDF will be advised make private arrangements for benefits plan and insurance coverage.

## To Apply

Candidates should submit a cover letter outlining their research interests and fit with the ECHO Network research, along with their curriculum vitae, and names of three referees willing to provide letters of reference. Cover letters should directly address the candidate's proposed approach to progressing (a), (b) and (c) above, including a description of relevant past experience to achieve these intentions.

Please send all applications electronically to the ECHO Network Research Manager, Diana Kutzner at [diana.kutzner@unbc.ca](mailto:diana.kutzner@unbc.ca). We thank all applicants for their interest however, only those applicants selected for further consideration will be contacted. The appointment start date is negotiable, with a preferred start date in late August to early September 2019.

**Priority will be given to applications received by August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

