POST-DOCTORAL POSITION IN PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, GRENFELL CAMPUS

Position Description

The Offices of Engagement and Research and the Environmental Policy Institute of Grenfell Campus, Memorial University of Newfoundland, in collaboration with Gros Morne Cooperating Association and CBDC Nortip, invite applications for a one year post-doctoral fellowship position to investigate models for research and engagement that will ensure a sustained and impactful presence for Grenfell Campus across rural regions of western Newfoundland and Labrador (NL). We are seeking candidates who are self-motivated and career-oriented with successful graduate-level training and experience in university-community relationships and public engagement (including community, government and business/industry partners) to join a dynamic research and engagement team.

The successful candidate will inventory and assess existing research and engagement activities in the western region, acknowledging Grenfell Campus’ vital partnerships with other Memorial partners (e.g. Harris Centre, Labrador Institute, Centre for Social Enterprise) and the broader province-wide context of university-regional engagement. The post-doctoral fellow will also engage with stakeholders in key partner regions to explore how to grow and formalize existing regional partnerships and a network of rural researchers and community partners that will amplify our contributions to sustainable rural and regional development.

This proposal seeks to assess and build on the successes of regional engagement strategies such as the Sustainable Northern Coastal Communities and Thriving Regions processes as well as community-engaged research projects such as CURRA, projects associated with the Rural Resilience research cluster (www.ruralresilience.ca, e.g. the New Rural Stories initiative, the Canadian Regional Development project, On the Move Partnership, and the PhiLab project), and other research collaborations with Indigenous, community, government and business organizations across Western NL. The successful candidate will inform our long-term commitment to ensure sustained and impactful partnerships between Memorial University and rural NL regions, and between Grenfell Campus and regions of Western NL in particular, and help to further cultivate the culture of public engagement among faculty and student researchers at Grenfell and across Memorial.

This position is co-funded by Grenfell Campus and the Office of Public Engagement, Memorial University. The post-doctoral fellow will work closely with, and be supported by, the Offices of Engagement and Research. They will be co-supervised by:
- Dr. Kelly Vodden, Associate Vice-President (Grenfell Campus) Research and Graduate Studies / Professor (Research) Environmental Policy Institute; and
- Dr. Garrett Richards, Assistant Professor, Environmental Policy Institute.

Duties

- Cataloguing and evaluating impacts of engaged research and learning initiatives at Grenfell to date (past five years);
- Working with community partners to identify key partner regions, considering existing engagements, socio-economic and governance contexts, and regional assets and challenges;
• Proposing strategies for effective future engagement with partner regions, building on but expanding previous/existing initiatives (including examination of promising practices from elsewhere informed by the RPLC Rural Research Centres Network);

• Working with the project partners to further foster a culture of engagement at Grenfell by sharing stories about engagement successes and impacts and to build capacity among Grenfell students, faculty, and staff for engaged teaching and learning (e.g. through the development of tools such as a handbook(s), FAQs for new researchers, workshops, recommendations for integrating engagement into P&T evaluation etc.);

• Assisting Grenfell faculty, students, staff, and rural community partners to formalize and grow a west coast rural research and engagement network; and

• Other duties relevant to the above tasks and aims that may be required.

The candidate will take a lead role in carrying out all research activities related to the proposed project including developing relationships at different sites to facilitate data collection and engagement; participating in various research activities and meetings; presenting research results in team meetings, across campus, and in external workshops and conferences; and preparing manuscripts for publication.

Intended outcomes include:
• Inventory of pre-existing engaged research, teaching, and entrepreneurship support in partner regions;
• Review of university-regional engagement models considering linkages with regional governance and development, and with provincial/federal strategies;
• Assessment of the impact of Memorial-driven engagement efforts across western region;
• Expansion and formalization of a rural research and engagement network in western Newfoundland;
• At least two manuscripts for publication aimed at scholarly audiences in addition to knowledge mobilization activities such as workshops, webinars, and/or capacity building sessions within MUN and communities; and
• Final report with recommendations for Grenfell Campus’ Office of Engagement for future engagement activities to further cultivate a culture of public engagement across Grenfell and Memorial, to increase the number of Grenfell faculty and students involved in engaged scholarship and teaching and learning, and to amplify our contributions to sustainable rural and regional development in western NL.

The candidate will also be afforded additional opportunities for professional development, such as teaching, participation in meetings, and student supervision.

Qualifications
- A completed Ph.D. (all requirements fulfilled) in any related field
- Academic and/or professional experience relevant to community-university engagement (e.g. community-based research, science-policy interface, industry-academic relationships)
- Ability to work independently and as an effective team member and leader
- Ability to manage and complete a project independently and efficiently
- Excellent interpersonal, research, analytical, written and oral communication skills

Familiarity with qualitative methods and analysis is required; established expertise would be ideal. Familiarity with, or expertise in, statistical methods would be an asset. The candidate will
demonstrate evidence of prior research productivity, including a quality publication record, excellent collaboration and communication skills, an interest in working in an interdisciplinary research environment, and a strong work ethic and motivation to succeed.

Possession of valid driver’s license is an asset.

**Conditions**

This term position is expected to commence June 3rd, 2019 for a one-year term. The fellow will be based at Grenfell Campus of Memorial University of Newfoundland with a salary of $50,000 plus mandatory employer contributions.

**Close Date:** Applications accepted until **April 26th, 2019.**

**Anticipated Start Date:** June 3rd, 2019

**To Apply:** The application package should include a cover letter highlighting qualifications and interests related to this position, a curriculum vitae, and names and contact details of three references.

Applications should be electronically submitted to: research@grenfell.mun.ca

Only candidates selected for an interview will be notified.

**Related resources:**

Grenfell Office of Engagement: https://www.grenfell.mun.ca/Departments/Pages/Office-of-Engagement.aspx

MUN Office of Public Engagement: https://www.mun.ca/publicengagement/memorial/office.php

MUN post-doctoral fellowship resources: https://www.mun.ca/postdoc/resources.php

CBDC Nortip: http://cbdcnortip.ca/About/index.html

Gros Morne Co-operating Association: http://grosmornecoop.com

Memorial University is the largest university in Atlantic Canada. As the province’s only university, Memorial plays an integral role in the education and cultural life of Newfoundland and Labrador. Memorial University, including Grenfell Campus, is committed to employment equity and encourages applications from qualified women and men, visible minorities, aboriginal people, and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority.

At Grenfell Campus, Memorial University we acknowledge that the land on which we gather is in traditional Mi’kmaw territory, and we acknowledge with respect the diverse histories and cultures of the Beothuk, Mi’kmaq, Innu, and Inuit of this province.