

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Marine Habitat Mapping
Department of Ocean Sciences
Memorial University of Newfoundland

Applications are invited for a Postdoctoral fellowship position in marine habitat mapping funded in part through Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and based at the Department of Ocean Sciences (<https://www.mun.ca/osc/>) of Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN) in St. John's, NL, Canada.

The PDF will contribute towards a research program lead by Dr. Patrick Gagnon on mapping the distribution and abundance of key marine benthic habitats in coastal Newfoundland and Labrador. The research program will involve a literature review, stakeholder interviews, field work (shore- and boat-based), classification of seabed imagery to be acquired with a variety of remote sensors, and spatial data analysis in order to create comprehensive databases and maps of kelp, rhodolith, and potentially eelgrass habitats for the province. Requirements for the position include a Ph.D. in marine biology/ecology or a related discipline (e.g. geography, oceanography) with advanced skills in marine remote sensing (primarily optical), image and spatial data analysis, and creation of geospatial databases. Knowledge of geographic information system (ideally ArcGIS), image classification, and spatial pattern metrics is a requirement. Experience with camera drones, echosounding, and the creation of multimedia content is an asset. The ideal candidate will also be a certified and capable scuba diver and/or boat tender, with strong interpersonal, leadership, and communication skills. The PDF will work in close collaboration with Dr. Gagnon, several graduate and undergraduate students also involved in the research program, and government and industry partners.

The Department of Ocean Sciences of MUN is located at the Ocean Sciences Centre (OSC) in Logy Bay. The OSC is a major facility for marine research on the Atlantic coast and is one of Canada's largest marine laboratories. By virtue of its location, the department provides Canadian and international scientists and students access to the flora and fauna of the northwest Atlantic Ocean and is uniquely situated for shore-based studies of the cold-ocean processes and subarctic, Arctic and deep-sea organisms. A strategic goal of the department is to carry out world-class research that focuses on organisms and processes in the cold ocean and to provide education and training opportunities at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Memorial University is Atlantic Canada's largest university. By offering diverse undergraduate and graduate programs to 18,000 students (<http://www.mun.ca/>), it provides a distinctive stimulating environment for learning in the Province's capital city, St. John's which is a safe, friendly city with great historic charm, a vibrant cultural life and easy access to a wide range of outdoor activities. Memorial plays an integral role in the education and cultural life of Newfoundland and Labrador. NL has strong cultural, social and economic linkages to the oceans and fisheries. Therefore, there is great interest, support and engagement in marine research by the public, industry, NGOs and government departments across the province.

Your application package will include 1) a cover letter describing your interest and qualifications for the position; 2) a detailed curriculum vitae; 3) the names and contact information of three references; and 4) up to three samples of research publications relevant to the research program.

Please send the application package to Dr. Patrick Gagnon via email at pgagnon@mun.ca

Start Date: As soon as possible.

Salary: \$45,000 per annum.

Duration of appointment: Initial 1-year contract, extended for at least one year based on performance.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply. However, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority. Memorial University is strongly committed to employment equity and welcomes applications from all qualified candidates, including women, members of visible minorities, Aboriginal persons, members of sexual minorities and persons with disabilities.