

Public Engagement Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

The Public Engagement Postdoctoral Fellowship (PEPDF) is offered by Memorial's Office of Public Engagement (OPE) in collaboration with a Memorial faculty member or academic unit and participating external organizations.

Objectives:

The PEPDF will help meet the goals and objectives of Memorial's [Public Engagement Framework](#) by:

- Creating a culture throughout Memorial that values, facilitates and celebrates public engagement
- Providing training and mentoring in public engagement best practices
- Building greater public engagement capacity for our external partners and collaborators

The PEPDF will also:

- Provide opportunities for recently qualified PhD graduates to contribute to research and learning on topics of mutual interest to external collaborating organizations and the University
- Build public engagement skills and capacity for both the researcher and collaborating organization(s)
- Help identify opportunities for new public engagement partnerships with Memorial

Funding Availability

Two fellowships are available for the 2023–2024 fiscal year. Each fellowship is for a two-year term (contract dates ending in 2025).

Duration

- Two-year term (maximum)
- Start date: Within three months of PEPDF Funding Approval.

Responsibilities of the Partnering Faculty Member¹

- Provide 50% of the PEPDF's total salary of \$50,000² per year and 50% of MERCs for up to a 2 year term
- Manage candidate recruitment and administration of the PEPDF according to Memorial guidelines and policy
- Provide faculty supervisor(s)³, office space and other academic supports for the appointed postdoctoral fellow
- Comply with the terms and conditions of the PEPDF program as indicated in the awards letter

¹ The partnering faculty member is the person who submitted a proposal to OPE and is responsible for all administrative aspects of the program, including recruitment and reporting, in conjunction with their faculty, department or unit.

² The partnering faculty member may elect to offer a higher salary but OPE will not be responsible for additional costs (salary and MERCs)

³ In the case of multiple supervisors, the partnering faculty member is asked to identify a lead supervisor as a primary contact for the postdoctoral fellow.

Responsibilities of the Office of Public Engagement

- Provide 50% of the PEPDF's total salary of \$50,000/year for up to a 2 year term (max from OPE of \$25,000 and 50% of MERCs per year)
- Provide public engagement supports, including professional development opportunities, to the PEPDF
- Provide communications support to assist in recruitment (where applicable) and to profile the work of the PEPDF
- Oversee evaluation of the program (administration, partnerships, engagement).

Responsibilities of the External Collaborator

- Participate in the review of fellowship applications or approval of appointments
- Provide a key contact and in-kind supports for the PEPDF
- Facilitate contacts and collaborations within the organization/community
- Meet with the PEPDF and his/her faculty supervisor(s) to support the planned program, on a schedule to be determined by the group

Responsibilities of the Selected PE Postdoctoral Fellow

- Work closely with one or more academic supervisors
- With supervisor(s), work with collaborating organization(s) to develop a research plan
- Regularly communicate and maintain positive relationships with collaborating organization(s)
- Act as a champion for Memorial's [Public Engagement Framework](#) and help build a culture that supports public engagement between the university and the public
- Where possible, broker relationships between the collaborating organization and the university to advance mutual interests
- Participate in program evaluation and PE professional development activities
- Publish and present the work conducted over the term of the fellowship
- Post project on Yaffle at project outset and complete both mid-term and final reports as outlined in terms of award. Mid-term reporting may take an alternate format such as a brief video describing some aspect of the partnership/project that may be published and shared through our networks.

Application Assessment Criteria

Without limiting the types of proposals to be considered for the Public Engagement Postdoctoral Fellowship, the assessment will include the following areas for review:

- Alignment with one or more objectives of Memorial's [Public Engagement Framework](#)
- Genuine Collaboration between internal and external partner(s) (mutual contribution and mutual benefits)
- Feasibility - clear goals with noted engagement methodologies
- Dissemination/knowledge mobilization plan
- Potential impacts

For more information on this program contact:

Penny Cofield, Office of Public Engagement

engagement@mun.ca

www.mun.ca/publicengagement