

Post-Doctoral position available starting Spring 2017

The Urban Public Health Network (www.uphn.ca) is partnering with the Canadian Institute for Health Information (Canadian Population Health Initiative) to fund a post-doctoral position for 2 years (2017/2018), to work on a collaborative project with CIHI, Statistics Canada and UPHN.

Urban Public Health Network

Mission:

The Urban Public Health Network (UPHN) is a network of Medical Health Officers in 18 urban centres in Canada who work together to address public health issues common in urban populations.

UPHN objectives include:

- Sharing of best practices in delivery and evaluation of public health programs and initiatives in urban centres
- Raising awareness of urban public health issues
- Fostering collaborative action on issues of mutual interest
- Advancing policy change by developing a collective voice for urban public health issues
- Facilitating practice based/intervention research opportunities in public health settings

Position description:

This opportunity has two main emphases:

- 1) Project leadership and coordination – UPHN member organizations are working with the CPHI (CIHI) and Statistics Canada (STC) to analyse data and produce reports on the health equity trends over time in urban centres across Canada. The successful candidate will be project coordinator, working as a liaison between the CIHI and STC staff and the UPHN members. The project involves a sub analysis of the CIHI data set on health equity over time, analysing the urban population of Canada for a national report, as well as city specific analysis for individual city reports for UPHN member cities. The fellow will work with a project advisory committee to guide the methodology and data analysis, as well as with the UPHN member representatives to coordinate the production of the individual city reports, including the addition of local data where possible and appropriate. This project is part of the suite of materials on equity being produced by CIHI, Statistics Canada and PHAC.
- 2) New project development and proposal development – The Fellow will have the opportunity to work with UPHN member Regional Health Authorities and Public Health Units on new and emerging projects in their areas of strategic focus. It is anticipated that they will attend UPHN meetings to hear about UPHN priorities and interests and work with the executive to turn these interest areas into proposals for research funding, grants, and partnership opportunities. Along with their faculty supervisor, the fellow will get an opportunity to co-supervise Masters and PhD level candidates in research projects linked to UPHN priority areas. Member organizations in the UPHN are the largest health units within each of their provinces, and act as the tertiary centre for public health in their part of the country. As such, they are often at the leading edge; as the first to see emerging public health problems, and in the development of effective interventions for those issues. The UPHN provides an opportunity to systematically glean the best programs and policies from their members and replicate them throughout the country.

Priority areas:

The UPHN is the voice of local, urban public health in Canada, and their advice is often sought by Federal and provincial counterparts. Current areas of focus for UPHN include:

- Healthy Built Environment, Healthy Canada By Design
- Reduction of Sexually Transmitted infections

- Enhancing immunization coverage in the under-immunized
- Improving the Public Health / Primary Health Care Interface
- Population Health perspectives on health system transformation
- Early Childhood Development
- Health Equity Over Time in Canadian Cities (Collaborative with CPHI and Stat Can)
- Intersectoral action to improve health

Professional growth and development:

UPHN provides fellows with the opportunity to work with public health leaders from the largest health systems in Canada as they strive to improve the health of the population, and influence health systems toward more upstream thinking, health promotion actions and positive health outcomes.

Desired competencies:

Based on the Public Health Core Competencies, <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/php-ppsp/ccph-cesp/pdfs/cc-manual-eng090407.pdf>, UPHN is seeking fellows with experience (e.g., graduate-level training and/or work experience) in the analysis and evaluation of public and population health and health-related policies and programs; analysis of data, evidence and critical thinking; and knowledge translation. Advanced writing skills, curiosity and the desire to learn, experiment and innovate are important in this role.

Supervisor(s):

The fellow will be located in the Saskatoon Public Health Observatory, Saskatoon Health Region under the supervision of Dr Cordell Neudorf, Chief MHO, SHR, and President of the UPHN. Dr Neudorf is also a faculty member in the Dept of Community Health and Epidemiology at the University of Saskatchewan. It is expected that at least 50% of the successful candidate's time would be spent within the public health department, with the balance of time spent with their academic advisor.

Duration and Location:

24 months. Start time Spring 2017 (TBD according to availability).

Important Dates:

Applicants interested in exploring this Fellowship opportunity with UPHN must contact Dr. Neudorf no later than March 31, 2017 with the required application materials (e.g., CV, professional goal statement).

Contact: Dr. Cordell Neudorf cory.neudorf@uphn.ca