

## **Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in the Determinants of Life Satisfaction**

### **McGill Institute for Health and Social Policy**

(Fixed term contract)

#### Position Description

We are working to understand the differences in self-reported life satisfaction among individuals, communities, and countries, as a measure of the empirical, experienced human benefits of economic and social conditions, changes, and policies.

This field, dubbed the Economics of Happiness, has become increasingly prominent in both research and policy circles. Our methods include the use of major household panel and repeated cross-section surveys in a number of countries; our own surveys, including use of the vignette method; and lab experiments in the tradition of behavioural economics. We are also involved in outreach to governments at all levels in advising human-oriented approaches to evaluating policy.

A highly motivated researcher is sought to carry forward several projects during a one-year fellowship at the Institute. The focus is on understanding inequalities in life satisfaction and the social determinants, including comparison effects, of subjective well-being.

#### Required Qualifications

- A recent (less than 4 years on the starting date) PhD in Economics (or in another discipline such as Sociology, Epidemiology, or Psychology) with a focus on measuring well-being.
- A strong interest and background or relevant experience in subjective well-being research.
- A particular expertise in the manipulation and econometric analysis of large survey datasets.
- Good organizational, communication, and interpersonal skills and excellent written and oral English communication skills are required.
- Experience conducting research from design through to research publication, as well as preparing and delivering presentations to a range of audiences, and a demonstrated ability to work with other researchers.

#### Qualifications preferred

- Further familiarity with programming languages appropriate for supervising web development and carrying out data analysis would be an asset.
- Experience with knowledge translation and exchange is valuable.
- Experience conducting research as part of an interdisciplinary collaboration is valuable.
- Considerable familiarity with economics is desirable for those with a PhD in a different area.

#### **Institute for Health and Social Policy**

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The postdoctoral fellow will work in the Institute's interdisciplinary research environment under the supervision of Professor Barrington-Leigh (see <http://wellbeing.research.mcgill.ca>). This fellowship is a full-time, residential fellowship for a period of one year, starting in early summer 2015 (as soon as possible, but details can be negotiated). The fellow will be provided with office space at the Institute, and will be expected to participate in all the activities related to the research program. The fellow will have access to the full range of resources offered by McGill University, and will be provided with library privileges.

The value of the award will be \$50,000. Please note, postdoctoral stipends are taxable only at the Federal level. In Quebec, one may not hold any other position of employment or academic appointment while appointed as a Postdoctoral Fellow.

### To Apply

Please send a cover letter describing background, qualifications and research interests; a complete CV; academic transcripts from all graduate studies; 2 writing samples; and the names and contact information of three referees.

The selection committee will begin reviewing completed applications on a rolling basis, starting on May 18 until the position is filled. Applications should be sent to Andrew Griffin, (Research Administrator for AEC3) at [andrew.griffin@mcgill.ca](mailto:andrew.griffin@mcgill.ca). Only complete applications will be considered and only candidates selected for an interview or to gather additional information will be contacted.

*McGill University is committed to diversity and equity in employment. It welcomes applications from: women, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, persons of minority sexual orientation or gender identity, visible minorities, and others who may contribute to diversification.*