Posting: Postdoctoral Fellow in Risk Governance at McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Start Date: January 2019 or as soon as possible

Salary: $50,000 per annum + benefits

Research budget: generous allowance for research expenses (assistants, travel, supplies, etc.) available.

Duration: 2 years, with possibility of 1 year extension

Dr. Gordon M. Hickey is seeking an exceptional postdoctoral researcher to join his team to conduct research on ecological chemical risk governance, with a particular focus on understanding the inter-relationships between different dimensions of trust, control and risk in bureaucratic policy networks engaging in innovation. The postdoctoral fellow (PDF) will have substantial freedom to define their research focus as long as it aligns with the general focus on understanding (1) the organizational challenges posed by ecological chemical risk management, policy and network governance; and (2) the process of deinstitutionalizing prevailing practices of ecological chemical risk management and institutionalizing new ones based on emerging technologies. The position is based in the Sustainable Futures Research Laboratory in the Department of Natural Resource Sciences at McGill University and will require close collaboration with Professor Steve Maguire (Business School, University of Sydney, Australia) and Dr. David Demortain (INRA, France).

The project is funded by Genome Canada and Genome Quebec in partnership with key government agencies and industry partners in Canada, Europe and the USA. As a result, the successful candidate will be offered a high degree of professional exposure through a range of networking opportunities with actors involved in chemical risk assessment, ecotoxicology, chemicals management and environmental protection in Canada and internationally.

Essential Duties: The primary responsibilities of the successful candidate will be to conduct innovative research and outreach in collaboration with a diverse group of university scientists as well as their industry and government partners, and co-lead an international workshop resulting in a journal Special Issue broadly focusing on governance of emerging risks to health and the environment. The specific duties will include literature reviews; stakeholder liaison activities; project management; data collection, analysis and interpretation (via ethnographic, qualitative and/or quantitative methods, depending on PDF’s interest and experience); report writing; workshop organization and the preparation of manuscripts in cooperation with the supervisors. The successful candidate will also be responsible for training graduate students and contributing to the development of competitive research grants as needed.

Applicants must have completed a Ph.D. in a relevant discipline within the last three years and have primary publications in refereed, English language journals, fluency in written and spoken English, the ability to work cooperatively with the supervisors, and strong organizational skills. The ideal candidate will have expertise in public administration, management & organization studies, political science, and/or chemicals management, excellent communication skills, a desire to immerse in the exciting empirical field of ecological chemical risk assessment, and the ability to work semi-independently. International travel will be required. It is anticipated that the data collected and analyzed will have the potential for significant contributions to literatures on the following topics:

- Institutional stability and change
- Institutional entrepreneurship
- Risk governance
- Transboundary network governance
- Regulatory science

For more information, or to apply for this position, please send a cover letter describing your research background, interests, and qualifications; a sample publication highlighting your research experience; plus a curriculum vitae and contact information for at least two references to gordon.hickey@mcgill.ca.

Application deadline: Open until filled. Only short-listed candidates will be notified.