

Postdoctoral Fellow, Clinical Veterinary Microbiology (req4923)

Department: Large Animal Clinical Sciences

Location: Saskatoon

Status: Term, up to 24 months, with the possibility of extension

Employment Group: Post-Doctoral Fellows - PSAC

Full Time Equivalent (FTE): 1.0

Salary Information: The salary range, based on 1.0 FTE, is \$50,000.00 - 65,000.00 (Salary Band 5). The starting salary will be commensurate with education and experience.

Posted Date: 8/29/2019

Closing Date: Until Filled.

Number of Openings: 1

Primary Purpose: The Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and Prairie Diagnostic Services are seeking a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual to join our team for a Genome Canada-funded project on novel diagnostic applications of genomic technologies. Lead by Dr. Cheryl Waldner (University of Saskatchewan) and Dr. Simon Otto (University of Alberta), this group is focusing on metagenomic nanopore sequencing as a rapid and portable platform supporting antimicrobial stewardship in Bovine Respiratory Disease management. Working collaboratively with Prairie Diagnostic Services microbiologists, the primary responsibility of the successful candidate will be to develop and validate metagenomic nanopore sequencing protocols for bench-top and point-of care applications. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Benefits package include health and dental insurance.

Strategic partnership between academic researchers, laboratory diagnosticians, bioinformaticians and practicing veterinarians in this group creates a transformational opportunity for a large-scale development, validation, and implementation of next-level clinical diagnostic systems based on emerging revolutionary genomic technologies. Besides developing cutting-edge skills and expertise in nanopore sequencing, this project offers unparalleled career-building opportunities through direct transferability of the acquired experience to the entire spectrum of healthcare applications and expanding professional network with global leaders in the field.

Qualifications: A PhD in microbiology or related discipline. Deep knowledge and extensive experience in next-generation sequencing (Illumina and Oxford Nanopore Technologies platforms) are essential. Desirable laboratory skills for the incumbent include designing and validating protocols for nucleic acid extraction from variety of clinical specimens, host DNA depletion, transposase- and ligation-based sequencing library preparation. The successful candidate will also have demonstrated knowledge of bioinformatic principles, tools, and pipeline applications for sequence data processing, and analysis of genomic and metagenomic data, including genome assembly and annotation. The ability to keep immaculate records and manage large data sets is essential. A background in veterinary medicine (DVM or equivalent),

livestock production, and antimicrobial resistance surveillance will be considered as significant assets.

Inquiries regarding this position can be directed to Anatoliy Trokhymchuk at 306-966-8053.

Interested candidates must submit a CV and cover letter stating how your experience and qualifications match the job description, as well as contact information for three academic/professional references to Anatoliy Trokhymchuk, stating the full title of the position: anatoliy.trokhymchuk@pds.usask.ca.

We reserve the right to contact only candidates shortlisted by the selection committee.

The University of Saskatchewan is strongly committed to a diverse and inclusive workplace that empowers all employees to reach their full potential. All members of the university community share a responsibility for developing and maintaining an environment in which differences are valued and inclusiveness is practiced. The university welcomes applications from those who will contribute to the diversity of our community. The University must, however, comply with federal immigration requirements. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority.