

## PDF position Fungal Natural Products and Insect Chemical Ecology



We are currently seeking a motivated Post-Doctoral Researcher to conduct research on **Fungal Natural Products and Insect Chemical Ecology** in the beautiful Annapolis Valley!

### *Project Summary:*

The candidate will be engaged to study the chemical composition of magic mushrooms and the effects of psilocybin and other psychoactive secondary metabolites on animal models. This industrially-funded project is part of a dynamic collaboration with Hillier (Biology) and Currie (Biology) labs at Acadia University.

The research aims to perform 1) phytochemical screening of selected *Psilocybe* mushroom species aimed to isolate and identify hallucinogenic alkaloids, and 2) behavioural and neurophysiological bioassays on two animal models, fruit flies and fish in order to assess the psychoactive effects of psilocybin alone and in combination with other psilocybin-derivatives.

### *Qualifications:*

Successful candidate will have a Ph.D. in Natural Product Chemistry or related fields and will show evidence of exceptional accomplishments in one or more area of chemistry, natural product chemistry, or chemical ecology research. Required/desired technical skills include knowledge of chemical extraction/fractionation, as well as analytical chemistry techniques (GC-MS, HPLC-UV, NMR, HPLC-MS), and experience in quantification and characterization of secondary metabolites from fungi. Experience with insect behavioural bioassays and efficacy testing are also assets.

Successful candidate must be Canadian citizen or Canadian permanent resident (eligibility criteria under Mitacs program).

Successful candidate will have an opportunity to integrate elements of analytical and synthetic chemistry, biochemistry, mycology, and behavioral studies of insects. Furthermore, successful candidate must be highly motivated, and have a keen interest in natural product chemistry and chemical ecology. Must be able to work well independently and with a team, and have a good suite of communication and interpersonal skills. Successful candidate will have the opportunities to mentor and supervise students, and will also have responsibilities for laboratory maintenance consistent with the position of postdoctoral scholar.

### *Start date and stipend:*

This is a fixed-term appointment funded for **one year** from date of hire with possibility of re-funding. Successful candidate is encouraged to apply for additional funding as well.

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position has been filled.

We hope to fill out the position ASAP.

### *Application Materials:*

Interested and qualified applicants should submit applications electronically and should include a CV with a list of publications and a cover letter describing your background, prior training and interests, and contact information (email and phone number) of at least three references.

### **Submit applications and further questions to:**

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