

Alex Trebek Postdoctoral Fellowship, Water Law and Governance at the University of Ottawa's Public Law Centre

Posted on June 8, 2020

Type: Postdoctoral Fellowship

Start date: Flexible (but ideally September 1, 2020)

Duration: Two-year fellowship (with possibility of a one-year renewal if the candidate is successful in obtaining external funding, with the help of the Public Law Centre)

Salary range: \$45,000, plus benefits

Reports to: Professor Marie-France Fortin (Public Law Centre)

Fellowship Description:

We are seeking a skilled and enthusiastic Postdoctoral Fellow to pursue an innovative research program focused on the legal and governance aspects of issues relating to water as part of the new Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue - Smart Changes for a Better World - Water Law and Governance Project.

The successful candidate will be supervised throughout the postdoctoral fellowship by leading legal and political science scholars from the University of Ottawa, affiliated with the University's Public Law Centre, the Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability and the Centre on Governance.

Applicants are encouraged to propose creative ideas for a postdoctoral fellowship in law, emphasising how they plan to contribute to new knowledge within the domain of water law and governance in Canada. We are particularly interested in proposals focused on public law aspects of water-related issues, notably in relation to climate change, and which involve innovative perspectives on constitutional law, federalism, Indigenous legal traditions, human rights law and international law.

In addition to 20 hours per week dedicated to the Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue's Project on Water Law and Governance, the selected candidate will be expected to carry her postdoctoral research project, publish in peer-reviewed journals, present at international, national and local conferences (including online), contribute to the other projects of the Public Law Centre and contribute to the dissemination of the Centre's work.

About the project:

The Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue - Smart Changes for a Better World - Water Law and Governance Project is a joint project of the University of Ottawa's Public Law Centre, the Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability and the Centre on Governance. It is a multidisciplinary, plurijural project to foster dialogue between scholars, governmental actors,

interest groups and the general public in order to identify the most pressing public policy concerns in relation to water and learn from different actors' perspectives on them (academic, governmental, Indigenous, individual).

The project aims to use water as a lens to identify problems created by climate change and their ramifications and make multi-level recommendations (national – including international relations – provincial, municipal, local and individual).

To achieve these objectives, the selected Postdoctoral Fellow will assist the Centre in:

- Creating a forum to bring together academics from various disciplines, as well as governmental actors and interest groups to foster dialogue;
- Identifying cross-cutting issues which require further research, propose solutions and strategies for their implementation, and make policy recommendations;
- Organizing 2 events per year (round tables, public conferences and workshops under Chatham house rules) for the Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue - Water Law and Governance Project;
- Applying for grants and other sources of funding;
- Disseminating the Public Law Centre's work.

The selected candidate for the Postdoctoral Fellowship with the Public Law Centre will collaborate with the other Postdoctoral Fellow affiliated with the Centre on Governance and the Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability on the Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue's Project on Water Law and Governance.

Position Requirements

- Doctoral degree in law (or completion expected within the next six months from June 1, 2020) in the following fields: public law, international law, law and climate change, water law, law and development, environmental law.

(Preference will be given to candidates with doctorates awarded in the last 5 years.)

- Research experience in law.
- Computer and technology proficient.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Comfortable to work in a self-directed manner.
- Bilingualism (English, French).

Additionally, the following skills will be considered as assets:

- Scholarship on the relevant topics.
- Experience with knowledge mobilization.
- Experience in reading and writing for major academic journals.
- Experience at attending and organizing professional conferences in the candidate's field.

If the start date for this position is affected either by the candidate being under COVID-19-related travel restrictions or the campus being closed, remote working options can be negotiated.

How to apply

APPLICATION ONLINE VIA EMAIL: fgasc044@uottawa.ca

The application package should clearly identify which of the two Alex Trebek postdoctoral fellowships on Water Law and Governance (or both, if applicable) the candidate wishes to apply for and must include:

- a cover letter,
- a complete curriculum vitae,
- a one-page (max.) description of research interests relevant for this position,
- a two-page (max.) postdoctoral project proposal setting out how the candidate intends to use the postdoctoral fellowship to advance their research interests.

Deadline for applications is June 30, 2020.

The selection committee will start to review applications on July 1. Applications will be considered until a successful candidate is found. We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those under consideration for the role will be contacted.

The cover letter shall indicate the level of proficiency in English and French.

The University of Ottawa is an equal opportunity employer. We strongly encourage applications from women, Indigenous people, persons with disabilities and members of visible minorities.

In keeping with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada requirements, all qualified persons are invited to apply; however, preference will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. The cover letter should confirm the immigration status of the candidate.