

## **Remote Job Posting: Graduate Level Research Assistants Needed for Project "Engaging Communities in Developing Culturally Relevant Solutions to Autism Service Disparities"**

\*Please share widely among your networks\*

### **Project Description**

The overall goal of this project is to advance equity and best practices for providing culturally appropriate, community-relevant solutions to the unique challenges faced by **newcomer and Indigenous parents** in accessing and navigating **autism-related** care in Ontario. These two populations have faced unique service access challenges and have benefited least from research to address their needs, so meaningful cross-learnings are expected. Through conducting extensive interviews with service providers and parents, our aim is to generate knowledge to ultimately improve access to autism-related care for newcomer and Indigenous communities.

While based at the [Laurier Autism Research Consortium](#) (Wilfrid Laurier University), this **job can be completed remotely from any location**, with **part-time flexible hours** dependent on the applicant's availability. The position will provide professional development opportunities for networking in the field of autism, as well as the development of diverse research skills, and the possibility of involvement with academic publications and presentations. We welcome and encourage applications from graduate students who may wish to combine this research as part of their own academic projects (e.g., theses).

### **Qualifications and assets include any (or all) of the following\*:**

*\*No candidate is expected to hold ALL of these skills. Instead, **several candidates may be hired to match complementary areas of expertise**. Please indicate which areas of expertise you have when you apply.*

- Minimum educational requirement is a completed (or in progress) master's degree in a related field
- Doctoral students and/or postdoctoral trainees preferred for some tasks
- Personal lived/living and/or professional or research experience with Indigenous and/or newcomer communities
- Personal lived/living and/or professional or research experience in relation to autism
- Experience or training in qualitative and/or quantitative (statistics) research methods and analysis
- Excellent organizational and time management skills
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Understanding of research ethics
- Experience in academic writing
- Experience in project management or coordination
- Strong understanding of technology (e.g., Zoom, PowerPoint, Excel)
- Experience with research technologies (e.g., SPSS, NVivo, Qualtrics)
- Experience designing and delivering presentations
- Graphic design and/or web site design and management experience is an asset
- Ability to communicate in multiple languages is an asset (please include languages and fluency level)

### **Duties may involve any or all of the following (depending on relevant experience):**

- Building connections with newcomer or Indigenous communities
- Coordinating and managing various aspects of the research

- Conducting interviews with newcomer or Indigenous caregivers and/or service providers
- Analyzing qualitative and/or quantitative data
- Writing academic publications and presentations
- Literature reviews
- Knowledge-translation activities (e.g., creating websites, reports, community presentations, etc.)
- Liaising with community partners (autism organizations, newcomer and/or Indigenous organizations)

### **Compensation**

*Wages will be commensurate on experience and stage in education, within the following ranges:*

Master's student: \$27-35 an hour

Doctoral student: \$35-43 an hour

Postdoctoral trainee or research associate: \$43-50 an hour

### **Project Team**

Successful applicants will join a dynamic group of autism researchers and organizations. The project is led by Drs. Janet McLaughlin and Margaret Schneider at the Laurier Autism Research Consortium (Wilfrid Laurier University). Co-investigators include Stephen Gentles (independent researcher), Nazilla Khanlou (York University), Julie Koudys (Brock University), Jonathan Lai (University of Toronto), Melody Morton Ninomiya (Laurier), and Jonathan Weiss (York University). Community Partners include: Autism Ontario, Autism Alliance of Canada, Autism Speaks Canada, and the South Asian Autism Awareness Centre (SAAAC). In addition, there are numerous collaborators, including an Indigenous advisory group.

### **Internship Opportunities**

This position may be short-term or may span over several years. Longer term involvement may also include opportunities for internships with any of the project partners.

### **Application Instructions**

Please send cover letter and CV to [LARC@wlu.ca](mailto:LARC@wlu.ca) directly commenting on any areas of experience and qualifications, as detailed in the list above. Please also comment on availability (e.g., preferred minimum-maximum weekly hours and interest in short- or longer-term employment). **The deadline to apply is April 8, 2024, although applications may be accepted until all positions are filled.** Our team has a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and we value candidates with diverse backgrounds and experiences. Candidates selected for an interview will be contacted by the end of April.