

Department of Sociology
University of Toronto Scarborough
JOB POSTING – POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

Title: Postdoctoral Fellow (full-time)

Area of Research: Equity in Energy Sustainable Transitions

Posting Date: March 16, 2026

Closing date: April 4, 2024

Number of openings- 1

Expected start date: May 2026

Term: 1 to 2 years

Salary: \$80,000

Supervisor: Patricia Romero-Lankao

Description

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will be part of a vibrant, agile team and will help coordinate activities and operations for the Canada Excellence Research Chair's Network for Equity in Sustainability Transitions (CERC NEST). The CERC NEST examines how the co-production of actionable knowledge with communities and city actors can foster participation in decision-making, help address entrenched inequities in programs and investments, and ensure equitable access to benefits and protection from harm (for more information, see the [CERC NEST](#) website). The Fellow will be crucial to a research program that partners with marginalized communities in Toronto, Los Angeles, Mexico City and internationally.

The postdoctoral research fellow will help coordinate WGII coding and analyses of city action and innovation, including (a) a mapping of governmental and non-governmental actor networks, (b) an inventory of actions and innovations, and (c) semi-structured interviews with key governmental and non-governmental actors. They will also coordinate outputs, including policy narrative analysis, governance ecosystem mapping, organizational databases, and visualization tools. The team will produce comparative analyses, case studies, policy briefs, and community-relevant flyers.

Key responsibilities:

- Assist with the coding and analysis of semi-structured interviews
- Assist with community-driven knowledge co-production, data collection, and analysis (i.e., city level equity metrics, participatory workshops, listening sessions)
- Communicate with study investigators, community committees, city officials, and collaborating organizations
- Help coordinate team meetings and community meetings, draft agendas and meeting notes
- Participate in the preparation of knowledge coproduction outputs (e.g., podcasts, factsheets, posters, and manuscripts) with community and city collaborators (presentations, newsletters, policy briefs)
- Collaborate in proposal, report and manuscript drafting
- Prepare technical reports, summaries, and presentations
- Help coordinate the general operation and logistical planning of the program

- Support other research-related projects as assigned
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications (essential):

- Ph.D. in a related field (i.e., policy and political sciences, sociology, urban planning, geography) or an acceptable combination of equivalent experience.
- Knowledge and/or experience with NVivo, MAXQDA or a similar programming language
- Minimum two years of relevant work experience in a research coproduction environment.
- Experience with community-guided research projects and implementing qualitative and quantitative research methodologies.
- Demonstrated experience facilitating knowledge coproduction activities.
- Experience with qualitative and quantitative data collection, interpretation, and analysis.
- Experience completing Research Ethics Board (REB) applications and editing content for grant applications.
- Demonstrated experience fostering positive relationships with internal and external stakeholders, including community and city partners
- Ability to foster positive relationships with multiple groups nationally and internationally
- Experience working with people from equity-deserving populations or people with disabilities.
- Proficient academic writing skills (protocol development, grant writing, manuscript development, poster, and abstract development).
- Demonstrated ability to navigate and develop relationships with partners across national and international contexts and organizations.
- Strong research and analytical skills
- Excellent interpersonal, organizational, and communication skills (oral and written) with an ability to multi-task and prioritize competing demands
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Strong commitment to accuracy and attention to detail
- Demonstrated problem-solving skills and proven ability to meet deadlines
- Demonstrated experience with literature reviews and syntheses.
- Experience with coordinating research activities

Assets (Nonessential):

- Proficiency in Spanish
- Proficiency with qualitative software and coding (e.g., MAXQDA, N-Vivo)
- Proficiency with modelling software (e.g., fuzzy cognitive maps)
- Experience with fieldwork in remote places

Application instructions

All individuals interested in this position must submit their cover letter, CV, the names and contact info of three references, and 2 pieces of published work to cercnest@gmail.com by the closing date (April 4, 2024). We will only contact (or ask for letters) when selecting finalists.

Virtual and in person work is expected. Regular hours of work for a full-time postdoctoral fellow are 40 hours per week (pro-rated for those holding a partial appointment), recognizing that the needs of the

employee's research and training and the needs of the supervisor's research program may require flexibility in the performance of the employee's duties and hours of work.

Employment as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto is covered by the terms of the CUPE 3902 Unit 5 Collective Agreement.

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The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons/persons of colour, women, Indigenous / Aboriginal People of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.