



# Graduate Student Opportunities

*Open to Canadian citizens and permanent residents*

## Project Description

An international team of ecotoxicologists, chemists, and engineers have come together to better understand the effects of pipeline oil spills in Canada's west coast rivers on chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*). This ambitious research program involves simulating spills of diluted bitumen in outdoor experimental rivers at the *Quesnel River Research Center (QRRC)* in British Columbia. This study will answer whether residual oil trapped in salmon rearing habitats impairs the health and survival of chinook embryos and alevins.

## Position Details

The successful candidate will enroll in a graduate program (MSc or PhD) in the Department of Biology (or School of Environmental Studies) at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. Guaranteed annual graduate stipends in the Department of Biology are \$24.3K for MSc and \$25.8K for PhD, plus \$5-10K top-ups for incoming students holding NSERC Scholarships. Students will be co-supervised by Dr. Diane Orihel and Dr. Jason Raine. The student will conduct a thesis project on the effects of diluted bitumen on early life stage salmon.

## Desired Qualifications

- University degree in biology or environmental science: BSc-Honours (for MSc Position) or research-based MSc (for PhD Position)
- Theoretical knowledge of fish biology and/or fish ecotoxicology
- Practical experience handling and sampling fish (or other aquatic vertebrates)
- Experience working outdoors in field jobs under adverse conditions
- Desire to work at a remote field station/fish hatchery in British Columbia
- Team-oriented and committed to promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion

To apply, please email an application package to Dr. Orihel ([diane.orihel@queensu.ca](mailto:diane.orihel@queensu.ca)) with the subject line **"ROE Position 2024"** containing the following:

- i) One-page cover letter explaining your interest in the project, how you meet the desired qualifications, and confirming you are a Canadian citizen/permanent resident;
- ii) University transcripts;
- iii) A writing sample (e.g., thesis or published paper); and
- iv) Contact information (name, position, affiliation, work email) for 3 references.

**Application deadline is January 30, 2024, but early applications are encouraged.**

*Applications from Indigenous, Black, LGBTQ+, and persons from other underrepresented groups are welcome.*