POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW POSITION
YORK UNIVERSITY

Job Information

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<th>Position Title</th>
<th>Post-doctoral Fellow: Making I-SPARX Fly in Nunavut youth mental health initiative</th>
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<td>Category</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Visitor (PDV)</td>
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<td>Duration</td>
<td>One year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supervisor(s)</td>
<td>Dr. Yvonne Bohr</td>
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<td>Unit</td>
<td>Department of Psychology, Faculty of Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Keele Campus, York University, Toronto</td>
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Background

The Bohr Lab at York University in Toronto invites highly motivated candidates to apply for a CIHR-funded post-doctoral fellow position. This is a one-year appointment with opportunities for career development and for establishing a program of research focused on the well-being and optimal development of children, youth and their families in remote Northern communities.

Our Infant and Child Mental Health Lab is interested in prevention and interventions that optimize mental health for all youth. We are particularly interested in the role that culture plays in the development of resilience in youth, families and communities. All our activities are anchored in a strong belief in young people’s rights, social justice, and the important role of social determinants of health and mental health. More information about our research team can be found at https://bohr.lab.yorku.ca.

This post-doctoral position will contribute to the Making I-SPARX Fly in Nunavut research project (www.isparxnunavut.com). I-SPARX is a youth and community-directed asynchronous e-mental health intervention designed with and for Inuit Youth. We - Isaksimagit Inuusirmi Katujjiaqatigiit Embrace Life Council, NunaBox, Pinnguaq, York University, and 5 Nunavut communities - have been collaborating to adapt and evaluate the effectiveness of a psycho-educational video game - I(Inuit)-SPARX - meant to help youth develop skills based in cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) and emotion regulation. The original version (SPARX) was developed to support Māori youth in New Zealand deal with anxiety and depression.

The I-SPARX team has worked with Inuit youth leaders leading to the creation of an Inuit adaptation of the game, notably by including Inuktitut imagery, audio and text content. The I-SPARX game is currently going through a community-based evaluation trial. The results of the I-SPARX study will provide us with an understanding of the effectiveness and cultural appropriateness of the I-SPARX game. Results of the evaluation will be reviewed by youth leaders, communities and project partners who will co-direct knowledge dissemination.

Our lab is a highly collaborative, supportive environment that houses a group of exceptionally passionate and talented graduate and undergraduate students of diverse cultures. The post-
doctoral fellow will work closely with Dr. Bohr (clinical psychologist) and will be part of the interdisciplinary, international I-SPARX team. The post-doctoral fellow will have access to the resources and infrastructure available at York University, including membership at the LaMarsh Centre for Child and Youth Research.

**Overall Purpose of Postdoctoral Position**

The post-doctoral fellow will co-lead I-SPARX knowledge mobilization and dissemination activities, and participate in the development of funding applications for the next phase of the I-SPARX e-mental health initiative.

**Key Responsibilities**

The post-doctoral fellow will contribute to the completion of the project’s current data collection, analysis, and to the final report to funders. They will coordinate and co-author conference abstracts and scientific papers deriving from the findings from the I-SPARX outcome and process evaluations. They will take the lead in co-developing funding applications for the next phase of the I-SPARX initiative. In addition, the post-doctoral fellow will contribute to presentations to communities, at national and international conferences, and creating a summary of our findings to post on the I-SPARX website and social media platforms. Further responsibilities will include mentoring graduate and undergraduate students and maintaining active collaborations with other labs and universities.

**Skills and Qualifications**

**Educational Qualifications**

Candidates should possess a PhD (or equivalent degree) in Psychology, Epidemiology, Public Health or in another relevant discipline with relevant previous research experience and/or interest in community-based mental health promotion and/or intervention.

**Training/Experience Required**

Demonstrated experience with scientific writing including peer-reviewed publications and grant writing is required. Experience with community-based evaluation trials including non-conventional trials (e.g. quasi-RCTs) is preferred as is familiarity with community-directed/community-action based research. Research experience working in collaboration with Indigenous communities, and/or rural communities is not essential but would be a significant asset. The position requires excellent written and oral communication, and knowledge translation skills. We are looking for a candidate with exceptional organizational skills who thrives in a collaborative environment that also requires independence, and a proactive approach to learning.

**Other**

The ideal candidate will be knowledgeable in issues pertaining to the history of Indigenous people in Canada, and will have familiarity with the CIHR guidelines pertaining to research with Indigenous communities.
communities. They will have a demonstrated interest in cultural factors that contribute to youth resilience.

**Terms and Conditions**

This post-doctoral position based in the Department of Psychology at York University will be one year in length. Minimum salary of $55,000.00 + benefits. The candidate will receive strong mentorship in further developing their own independent program of research and grant development.

**How to Apply**

To apply for this position, please submit the following documents:
- A cover letter
- Curriculum Vitae
- Names and contact of three references.

Application materials will be reviewed as they are received, and qualified candidates will be contacted for an interview. The position is available immediately.

Questions can be directed to Prof. Yvonne Bohr (bohry@yorku.ca).

**Additional Information:**

All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply and will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, disability status, or any other characteristic protected by applicable law.