

## Postdoctoral Fellowship in Rural Maternity Care Research



The Rural Maternity New Emerging Team (RM-NET) is inviting applications for a Postdoctoral Fellowship that will enable a motivated researcher to join our interdisciplinary team investigating rural maternity care in British Columbia.

As a Postdoctoral Fellow, you will join a highly active interdisciplinary team of researchers with research expertise in family practice, sociology, economics, epidemiology, geography, and health system and policy analysis. The goal of this New Emerging Team is to evaluate challenges facing the provision of rural maternity care in a comprehensive manner from multiple perspectives. This goal is based on the recognition that changes in rural maternity care services in B.C. are the product of multiple, complex, inter-related influences, which have occurred over time, and that the implications of these changes are multi-faceted. Our research strategy is to move beyond traditional silos of academic disciplines and integrate concepts, epistemologies and/or methodologies so as to create new, more comprehensive understandings of causes and effects. We are committed to doing research that is integrated with the priorities of rural communities, and as such we regularly review our research goals, findings and dissemination strategies with a growing group of community collaborators interested and engaged in rural maternity care service delivery. We look forward to aligning with someone with a passion for research (qualitative and/or quantitative) and a strong desire to pursue a career in rural maternity care research.

Areas of interest and investigation among current RM-NET researchers include, but are not limited to:

- ❖ Rural women's and care providers' experiences of maternity care and the implications of their experiences for policy and practice;
- ❖ Newborn and maternal outcomes based on the maternity care service level available in the mother's home community;
- ❖ Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping of access to rural maternity services in B.C.;
- ❖ Implications of rural maternity service closures for referral hospitals;
- ❖ Rural women's experiences of preterm labour and/or delivery; and
- ❖ Cost effectiveness analysis of local rural maternity care services.

The RM-NET is an independent research team within the University of British Columbia's Department of Family Practice and supported by the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute. Our affiliations with UBC and the Health Authorities in B.C. provide opportunities to collaborate with other academics and practitioners leading to dynamic and synergistic research collaborations. Although the core research team is located in Vancouver, RM-NET investigators are spread across B.C., and collaborations exist with researchers and health care practitioners in other Canadian provinces and territories as well as international jurisdictions.



### Investigators

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### Research Coordinator

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### Research Team

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### Administrative Assistant

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**Vancouver Coastal Health**  
**Research Institute**  
*Healthier lives through discovery*



Department of Family Practice  
University of British Columbia



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## Description of Fellowship

The successful candidate will receive funding up to \$60,000 CDN (benefits included) for an 18 month placement with the Rural Maternity New Emerging Team, beginning in July 2008 and ending in December 2009. During this term, the Fellow will be provided with office space in Vancouver and a portable PC, as well as access to and use of Internet, printers, and telephone and fax lines.

## Application Process

### Eligibility:

- ◆ Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada.
- ◆ The candidate's doctoral requirements are expected to be complete by time of application.
- ◆ The candidate's doctoral requirements were completed no more than three years before the application deadline unless the candidate took maternity leave after completion of the doctorate.
- ◆ We invite candidates from all academic disciplines to apply.

### Application Requirements:

Please include the following documents in your application:

- ◆ Cover letter describing your proposed research (topic and methodology). *We do not require that Fellows pursue research that RM-NET investigators are conducting. New and independent research proposals related to rural maternity care in B.C. are welcome.*
- ◆ Description of past research experiences (1-2 pages).
- ◆ Current curriculum vitae, including a list of publications, grants and awards.
- ◆ Two letters of reference from individuals familiar with your research (in sealed envelopes with referees' signatures across the seals).
- ◆ Names and contact information for three research referees (may include the same referees who provide letters of reference).

**All materials must be received in our offices by March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 (flexible).**

**Address:** RM-NET Postdoctoral Fellowship Program  
Centre for Rural Health Research  
UBC Department of Family Practice  
530-1501 West Broadway  
Vancouver, BC V6J 4Z6

For more information, please Shelagh Levangie, [shelagh@ruralmatresearch.net](mailto:shelagh@ruralmatresearch.net), or visit our website at: [www.ruralmatresearch.net](http://www.ruralmatresearch.net)



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