



Faculties of Arts and Medicine
Memorial University

Postdoctoral Fellowship
Opportunity

**Biomonitoring for children's environmental lead exposure in St. John's,
Newfoundland and Labrador**

Older residential neighbourhoods in St. John's, NL, have lead levels in soil and house dust above health-based guidelines, primarily related to the past use of leaded paint and coal-burning. Soil-lead levels are sufficiently high to warrant public health concern, especially for young children who are more sensitive to the health effects of lead. Previous studies in St. John's have established a relationship between higher residential lead levels and older housing stock and identified housing age categories where children are expected to be at risk of elevated blood lead levels. A blood lead survey that targets young children living in a range of housing ages in St. John's is proposed for summer 2010 to test whether children are exposed to lead. The project represents collaboration between Health Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada, Eastern Health and Memorial University.

The successful post-doctoral fellow will be expected to work with the project investigators to prepare ethics approval submissions, refine the study design, identify and recruit study households, establish sampling protocols, supervise sample collections, conduct data analysis and contribute to communications materials, project reports and presentations, and peer-reviewed publications. This project would appeal to individuals with an interest in public health and the built environment.

The fellowship is valued at \$45,000 per year for 2 years, with review at end of year 1. Position is subject to final funding approval.

Start date: April 01, 2009

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority. Memorial University is committed to employment equity and encourages applications from qualified women and men, visible minorities, aboriginal people, and persons with disabilities.

Interested individuals are strongly encouraged to contact Dr. Trevor Bell (tbell@mun.ca) or Dr. David Allison (david.allison@easternhealth.ca) by email as soon as possible before April 01. Please include a current CV and a short statement of research interests and expertise.
