

MSc opportunities for Indigenous Students

Funding is available immediately to support graduate students within a collaborative research program involving the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, First Nations organizations and the aquaculture industry, to study the ecological impacts of lake-based cage aquaculture with a focus on refining environmental monitoring techniques. Students with an interest in aquatic sciences, ecology, aquatic chemistry and environmental monitoring/regulation are encouraged to apply.

Cage aquaculture is increasingly seen as a viable economic activity for Indigenous communities located near large water bodies; however, there is equally a desire to ensure that the activity does not result in environmental degradation and for Indigenous people to be involved in carrying out the monitoring. Rearing fish in cages results in the release of both solid and dissolved waste materials to the environment and, if done to excess or poorly situated, can result in eutrophication, oxygen depletion and the destruction of habitat. Effective environmental monitoring is the key to making this a sustainable activity. One student project will focus on water quality impacts and the other on changes to the benthic habitat. Students will have the opportunity to help design their research questions, they will work in a strong team environment and will work in a government research facility with many colleagues to learn and gain support from. Our lab is well equipped with high quality laboratory and field equipment.

Vacancies: 2

Financial Support: positions come with 2 years of stipend support at approximately 25K per year. If you are interested in pursuing a PhD, please contact us and we will see what we can do about extending the stipend.

To apply:

You must be a Canadian citizen who identifies as an Indigenous person.

You should have completed or be in the last year of your BSc and have a grade point average of B or higher in the last 2 years of study.

Please send a letter outlining your research experience and interests. Include your CV and transcripts (unofficial are fine). Any questions that you might have about the project can be sent to the same address.

Please send to:

Cheryl.Podemski@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Entry to graduate school will require that you apply to the University of Manitoba, providing all their required application materials.

Deadline: we are hoping to find individuals ready to join the team for the 2023 field season so apply soon.

You can start grad school either in January or April, with application materials due to the University of Manitoba approximately 3 months prior to start date. Further information can be found at: [Faculty of Graduate Studies | University of Manitoba \(umanitoba.ca\)](#)