

MSc Opportunity in Fish Community Responses to Brownification and Deacidification at the Cooperative Freshwater Ecology Unit (CFEU), Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ontario

Research Topic: Understanding the fish community responses to rapidly increasing dissolved organic carbon concentrations (i.e. brownification) and declining acidity (i.e. deacidification) in small lakes within the severely impacted mining region of Sudbury, Ontario and at OMOECP Dorset reference lakes within the Muskokas.

The project will build on long-term monitoring data (>30 years) but will also incorporate novel experimental work and data collections (tissue contaminants, stable isotopes, genomics). These projects are part of a large multi-university NSERC-CRD/OCE greenhouse gas project (L-CARE) involving more than 14 graduate students and post-docs in a highly collaborative research effort.

Ideal Candidate: Applicants should have a strong academic background in aquatic ecology with an interest in fish population and community responses to environmental change and have good statistical skills. The project involves extensive field work (boats, motors, camping, 4WD trucks), making use of the quantitative Nordic gill netting protocol (<https://www3.laurentian.ca/livingwithlakes/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Nordic-Index-Netting.pdf>) in both remote and urban lakes. A valid Ontario G drivers license is required. Competitive NSERC level remuneration, guaranteed GTA (>75% average), and access to several local scholarships are available.

Positions will be supervised by Dr. John Gunn (CRC in Stressed Aquatic Ecosystems) at CFEU (<https://www3.laurentian.ca/livingwithlakes/about/staff/john-gunn/>), which is located within the award winning Living With Lakes Centre (<https://www3.laurentian.ca/livingwithlakes/>), on the edge of Ramsey Lake in City of Greater Sudbury (<https://www.greatersudbury.ca/>). Please email a letter of interest, your CV, a copy of your academic transcripts (unofficial copies are acceptable) and the names of three references to jgunn@laurentian.ca. The position will begin in May 2019.