MSc: Behaviour Change Communication Training for Healthcare Professionals (MOTIVATOR Program)

Project summary:

This MSc will be directly attached to a pan-Canadian CIHR-funded study designed to develop and test behaviour change communication training programs targeting physicians, nurses and allied healthcare providers working in the area of chronic disease management. Using a variety of methodological techniques, the study will develop an optimised training intervention (MOTIVATOR Program) and then test various doses and instructional methods of this core intervention. Though the project is national in scope, the position will be based at the Montreal Behavioural Medicine Centre (https://mbmc-cmcm.ca), which is a collaborative centre between the CIUSSS-NIM, Concordia University, and UQAM.

Position summary:

The individual who is selected for this position will be expected to help the study PI's, Drs. Kim Lavoie (https://mbmc-cmcm.ca/member/kim-lavoie-2/) and Simon Bacon (https://mbmc-cmcm.ca/member/simon-bacon/), in delivering the project. They will also have the opportunity to work with the national investigative team consisting of experts in: behaviour change communication training programs; behavioural intervention development; the application of motivation and behaviour change theories to intervention design; behavioural trial methodology; and integrated knowledge translation/patient-oriented research.

The student will be able to work on a variety of research-related aspects of the study including:

- Behavioural intervention development and design
- Delivery of behaviour change communication skills and training programs
- Behavioural trial methods and reporting
- Participating in stakeholder engagement activities
- Qualitative and quantitative methods and analyses (including validation studies)
- Systematic reviews, meta-analyses and reporting

Required Qualifications

- A bachelor's degree in a related discipline (e.g., Psychology, Physiology, Kinesiology/Exercise Science, Medicine)
- Effective oral and written communication skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated research productivity (e.g., honours thesis, conference presentations, peer-reviewed publications)
- Ability to work autonomously and take a lead role on projects under supervision of principal investigators

Preference will be given to candidates with:

- Experience using integrated stakeholder engagement strategies
- Openness to learn new methods and techniques in an applied clinical setting
- Ability to communicate (orally) in both English and French

Provincial, national and international candidates are encouraged to apply

Start date, Duration, Stipend, and Location

The MSc will start in September 2023 (though there is also the possibility of starting during the summer of 2023); funding has already been received.

The funding package consists of a minimum 2-year stipend (consistent with Fonds de Recherche du Quebec funding levels) plus conference / training funding. For out of province and international candidates there are also tuition waivers potentially available.

The successful candidate will be registered either at Concordia University in the Department of Health, Kinesiology, and Applied Physiology (www.concordia.ca); the actual work would be conducted at the CIUSSS-NIM, Hôpital du Sacré-Coeur de Montreal (https://rechercheciusssnim.ca/). Please note that the language of instruction at Concordia is English.

To apply, please forward the following:

- A complete curriculum vitae, including summary of GPA's, a full publication list (including hyperlinks where possible) and email contact details for two referees
- A letter of motivation and statement of research accomplishments and future research goals

How to apply:

- The complete application package must be emailed to: apply@mbmc-cmcm.ca. Please include "MSc MOTIVATOR" in the subject line.
- Queries about the application should be sent to either Dr. Lavoie (lavoie.kim@uqam.ca) or Dr. Bacon (simon.bacon@concordia.ca).
- The closing date for receipt of applications is **Friday December 2, 2022, 5 pm EST**. Interviews will be conducted in **January 2023** and the successful candidate will need to apply to the University by the official application deadline.