

## Nipissing University

### POSITION DESCRIPTION

<b>JOB TITLE:</b>	Postdoctoral Research Fellow
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Rare Dementia Support Canada
<b>SALARY LEVEL:</b>	Annual salary range of \$52,900 to \$60,000 CAD plus 4% vacation pay
<b>EMPLOYMENT STATUS:</b>	Full-time researcher (Contract)
<b>SUPERVISOR (POSITION TITLE):</b>	Dr. Mary Pat Sullivan (Director, RDS Canada; Professor, School of Social Work)
<b>LENGTH OF CONTRACT:</b>	36 months (3 years)
<b>DATE POSTED:</b>	Friday August 16, 2024
<b>CLOSING DATE:</b>	Friday September 13, 2024

### SUMMARY OF FUNCTIONS:

The successful candidate will be working on 3-year project, funded by the Canadian Institute for Health Research, that will evaluate [Rare Dementia Support \(RDS\) Canada](#) in relation to the support needs and experiences of our diverse population, living in different geographical places and using virtual spaces to connect with the RDS Canada community. This project aims to evaluate and localize the existing program theory to ensure accessible and inclusive support delivery for diverse groups of people in diverse regions of Canada and living with diverse types of dementia. Our model of delivery recognizes that dementia affects the entire family system, and therefore our proposed research includes participation by people living with dementia as well as their family supporters. The project will include a range of research methods, informed by a realist evaluation approach. The post holder will work with an interdisciplinary and cross-institutional team of researchers, faculty and specialist support advisors from social work, nursing, psychology and others. There is an opportunity to spend a research residency in the UK with colleagues at University College London.

Led by Nipissing University, RDS Canada's vision is for anyone affected by rare dementia to have access to information, tailored and continuous support, and connection with others affected by similar conditions. RDS Canada is funded by the Hilary and Galen Weston Foundation.

### DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

The successful candidate will be supporting all aspects of the research project over the duration of the project. Specific duties will include:

- Undertake research activities according to the research protocol.
- Assists Knowledge Broker in the preparation and submission of REB applications.
- Conduct literature reviews, including systematic reviews and syntheses.

- Identify and recruit research participants, including vulnerable groups affected by dementia (i.e., being conscious of diverse, equitable, and inclusive recruitment practices).
- Assess capacity for consent for participating research participants.
- Collect and analyze different types of data using a range of qualitative and quantitative methods.
- Coordinate intersecting work packages of the research project.
- Present research findings at internal and external meetings and scientific conferences.
- Prepare and format data for scientific publications, including statistical analyses.
- Draft scientific papers.
- Attend all research project meetings.
- Collaborate with the wider project and research team.
- Travel will be required.
- Other duties as they may arise.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

### **Education:**

- Completed PhD in a social or health science; near completion (ABD) would be considered.

### **Training, experience, knowledge & skills required:**

- A Criminal Reference Check, with vulnerable sector screening is mandatory.
- Demonstrated ability in collecting and analyzing complex data, including qualitative and quantitative data sets.
- Commitment to reflective and diversity conscious research practices.  
Experience of secure data tracking and storage.
- Demonstrated experience of using analytical data software (e.g. NVIVO, SPSS, Qualtrics).
- Evidence of research productivity and outputs.
- Demonstrated knowledge of research processes and principles and the mobilization of research knowledge for practice.
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite (Teams, Word, Excel, PowerPoint).
- Demonstrated commitment to ongoing learning and skill development.
- Experience of working with people with dementia or neurodegenerative conditions would be considered an asset.
- Knowledge of rarer dementia diagnoses would be considered an asset.
- Evidence of excellent oral and written communication skills.
- An ability to plan and prioritize work to meet deadlines.
- A collaborative ethos and a willingness to work proactively to achieve shared goals.
- Ability to work independently.
- Fluency/ bilingual in French considered an asset.
- Adheres to ethical research standards, respecting individuals' rights and considering societal and environmental impacts. Successful completion of the TCPS Core-2 certificate is mandatory.

## **RELATIONSHIPS/CONTACTS:**

**Supervised by:** Dr Mary Pat Sullivan

**Internal:**

- Faculty (co-investigator team)
- Project team
- RDS Canada
- Research office

**External:**

- RDS UK
- External project team
- Research participants

**MATERIALS UTILIZED:**

- RDS Canada website and handbook
- Microsoft Office Suite (Teams, Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and specialized database software
- Videoconferencing software (e.g. Zoom)
- Event management and project management software (e.g. Event Brite)
- Confidential research participant records
- Confidential research data
- Computers, laptops, printers
- Telephone and voicemail
- Scanner, photocopiers, shredder

**PHYSICAL/MENTAL DEMANDS & WORKING CONDITIONS**

- Ability to work on multiple aspects of research projects in parallel.
- Ability to work under pressure and to timelines.
- Ability to work to deadlines.
- Ability to work on different work activities in parallel.
- High degree of visual attention and mental concentration as required as well as ability to respond to deadlines and work under pressure.
- Ability to maintain sensitivity to, and cope with, information which may be highly confidential and may cause emotional fatigue (e.g. responsive behaviors, adult safeguarding, end-of-life).
- Occasional evening and/or weekend work may be required to attend support group activities.
- Light to moderate mental demands.
- Audio/visual concentration.
- Little physical effort – some standing, minimal lifting (< 20lbs), sitting, walking.
- A hybrid working arrangement would be considered.