The Trudeau and Blais labs at the University of Ottawa, Department of Biology have a collaborative project and have positions available. We propose to develop novel methodologies that determine the fate and effects of contaminants associated with bitumen extraction. Our team focuses on polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, alkylated PAHs, dibenzothiophenes (collectively called the polyaromatic compounds) and naphthenic acids. There are many of these chemicals from oil sands that are poorly classified, yet are potentially toxic. Some have the ability to upset animal development and hormonal systems. We focus on aquatic amphipods (small crustacean) and frog tadpoles to determine pathways of exposure because of their importance in the ecosystem, and because they are bio-indicator species. There are several graduate student (PhD and MSc) and PDF positions available in laboratories of Vance Trudeau and Jules Blais that are directly linked to this project. Working with Dr. Blais, pathways of exposure and bioaccumulation potential of hydrocarbons and naphthenic acids in the Alberta oil sands will be determined (2 positions). The ideal candidates for these positions will have a keen interest and experience in environmental toxicology and chemistry. The effects of PAHs and naphthenic acids on wood frog development and metamorphosis will be investigated using a suite of molecular biological tools (transcriptomics, metabolomics, proteomics) in the Trudeau lab (2 positions). The ideal candidates for these positions will have a keen interest and experience in animal physiology, endocrinology or molecular biology.

Starting dates for these positions are January 2015 or May 2015. Applications must consist of the following: (1) a letter expressing your interest; (2) an unofficial transcript; (3) names of at least two references; and (4) an example of your scientific writing. The closing date for applications is December 1, 2014. These may be sent by email to: Prof. Vance L. Trudeau, 30 Marie Curie, Department of Biology, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1N 6N5 trudeauv@uottawa.ca or Prof. Jules M. Blais, 30 Marie Curie, Department of Biology, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1N 6N5 Jules.Blais@uottawa.ca.

We encourage people to contact us if they are excellent candidates for the graduate program at the University of Ottawa. All applicants are encouraged to submit an example of their scientific writing skills and apply for scholarships.

Please use the following web links to find out more information about graduate studies at the University of Ottawa.

http://www.biology.uottawa.ca/welcome.html
http://www.biology.uottawa.ca/bio/graduate-students.html
http://www.environmental.uottawa.ca/welcome.html

For those considering applying to the graduate program or for a post doctoral fellowship, please use the following web links to assist in securing external funding.
Masters and Doctoral Candidates:

Post Doctoral Candidates:
http://www.fqrnt.gouv.qc.ca/

International Masters, Doctoral and Post Doctoral Candidates:
http://www.iccs-ciec.ca/
http://www.cies.org/vs_scholars/