

CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION ECONOMIST

(Application period closes November 29, 2014)

We have an opening for a post-doctoral fellow with training and experience in economics and policy analysis. The position is located in Vancouver, British Columbia, in the Faculty of Forestry of the University of British Columbia.

POSITION: Climate change mitigation economist

Our team is working on a new project funded by the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (<http://pics.uvic.ca/>) examining the potential contribution of the forest sector to greenhouse gas reductions in the province of British Columbia, Canada. The project will design, evaluate and recommend potential climate change mitigation portfolios to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase sinks through forest management, afforestation, forest conservation and the use of harvested wood that stores carbon and can displace more emissions-intensive products and fuels. To do this the project will evaluate impacts on greenhouse gas balances, the cost of mitigation activities and other socio-economic indicators. Significant effort will be devoted to engaging stakeholders. The project team includes experts from academia, the provincial government and the Canadian federal government. The candidate will have a key role in developing the economic analysis of mitigation options that will be analyzed with forest carbon modeling tools. The candidate will also contribute to developing and maintaining a dialogue with stakeholders about mitigation options, and have a role in the analysis of policy, institutional and financing options for implementation of mitigation options.

TIMING AND COMPENSATION:

The position is for one year. There is some flexibility in the timing of the position but is currently planned for the period from February 2, 2015 to January 29, 2016, with the possibility of extension. A competitive salary and benefit package will be offered, commensurate with experience.

EXPECTED MAJOR DUTIES

- Gather cost and price information relevant to economic evaluation of specific mitigation strategies involving forests, the use of harvested wood and displacement of more emissions-intensive products.
- Participate in the development and application of sound methods and models to combine spatially explicit information on the biophysical impacts of mitigation strategies with economic information in order to determine the mitigation cost of strategies (marginal abatement cost curves).

- Participate in the development and application of sound methods and models to assess other socio-economic indicators of the effects of strategies including employment and provincial government revenues.
- Contribute to dialogues with stakeholders about mitigation options based on the economic results obtained.
- Contribute to analysis of policy options for implementation of mitigation options.
- Write documents describing data, approaches and results for multiple audiences, and participate in the writing of project summary documents and peer-reviewed publications.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE:

- Ph.D. in economics, forest economics or other closely related field(s).
- Experience with analysis of forest management approaches and issues (experience in the Canadian context preferred).
- Experience in the economic analysis of forest issues (experience in the Canadian context preferred).
- Knowledge of policy issues related to forests and climate change in Canada is desirable.
- Ability to undertake detailed quantitative analyses.
- Good written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and in a team setting involving team members in different locations.

APPLICATION

Please direct enquires and applications to the following (email is preferred). Applications must be submitted by midnight Pacific Standard Time on the closing date, and must consist of curriculum vitae, a short description that addresses how you possess each of the skills and experiences listed above, and the names and contact information of three references familiar with your work.

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The University of British Columbia hires on the basis of merit and is committed to employment equity. All qualified persons are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents in Canada will be given priority.