

Apply for Internship Support and to join the 2025-2026 Canopy trainee cohort and contribute as part of a diverse, interdisciplinary community working to strengthen Canada's One Health capacity in emerging zoonotic disease prevention and response

Canopy – the Canadian One Health Training Program on Emerging Zoonoses - is pleased to open a **call for applications** from trainees at the **Master, Doctoral, or Post-Doctoral level, Clinical Interns or Residents**, as well as from **Early Career Researchers** (researchers or professionals who obtained their last degree within the last 5 years).

The goal of Canopy is to develop highly skilled researchers and professionals in various disciplines, shaping an emerging community of practice and a new generation of One Health advocates across Canada. These individuals will collaborate and innovate to accelerate the implementation of One Health in Canada to better prevent and respond to current and future threats caused by emerging zoonotic pathogens.

Canopy aims to support trainees in completing an **internship** that complements or builds on their existing research or experience, while offering **meaningful exposure to a different institution, organization, discipline, or way of working**. The internship should enhance Canada's ability to prevent, prepare for, and respond to emerging zoonotic diseases through a One Health approach. As part of the program, **trainees will be able to participate in targeted learning opportunities** to strengthen their understanding and application of **core One Health competencies** and to **deepen their engagement with Indigenous perspectives and other knowledge systems**. Trainees will also have the opportunity to **build meaningful connections with peers, mentors, and professionals** across disciplines, sectors, and regions, contributing to a growing national community of practice in One Health and emerging zoonoses.

We welcome applicants from **all disciplinary backgrounds**, including but not limited to the natural and health sciences, public health, social sciences, policy, Indigenous knowledge systems, humanities, and the arts. We recognize that preventing and responding to zoonotic diseases requires many perspectives, and we place a high value on **equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) and different ways of knowing**.

Applications will be reviewed using an evaluation rubric (see below). Equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) considerations are an integral part of the selection process, and applicants are invited to complete a short EDI questionnaire to help ensure a fair and inclusive review.

Priority Consideration for Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit, Métis) Applicants

Canopy is committed to fostering equity, diversity, inclusion, and the meaningful integration of Indigenous knowledge and perspectives in One Health training. To support this, **we warmly encourage Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit, Métis) trainees to apply and will give priority consideration to their applications.**

ALIGNMENT WITH ONE HEALTH AND CANOPY PRIORITY AREAS

Trainees are invited to submit proposals explaining how their planned internship is aligned with at least one of the following three priority areas:

Priority 1. Health, Sustainability, and Resilience: This priority focuses on the development and implementation of sustainable, resilient solutions, in coherence with the One Health approach. Proposals should demonstrate how the internship will contribute to practices, policies, or programs that promote human, animal, and ecosystem health at local, national, or international levels, and reduce the impacts of emerging zoonoses.

Priority 2. Disease Prevention: Proposals under this priority should focus on improving the understanding of infection dynamics in natural hosts and environments, pathogen ecology, anthropogenic drivers of disease emergence, and socio-demographic risk factors. The internship should enhance Canada's ability to prevent zoonotic diseases through training in integrated surveillance, artificial intelligence and modelling, and community engagement.

Priority 3. Disease Preparedness and Response: This priority seeks proposals that will help develop capacity in pathogen risk assessment, biocontainment, laboratory diagnostics, genomics, and the management of short- and long-term impacts of zoonotic diseases. Internships that focus on pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical countermeasures, biomanufacturing, and rapid response frameworks are highly encouraged to ensure Canada's preparedness for future pandemics.

APPLICATION INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

AVAILABLE FUNDING	Canopy will offer up to 10,000\$ to each successful applicant to support their internship experience in summer or fall, 2026. This funding is intended to support experiential learning that offers meaningful exposure to an institution, organization, discipline, or way of working that differs from your usual training environment. Some overlap with your research or training is welcome, provided the internship offers clear additional learning or experiential value. The funding can be used to support travel, accommodation, living expenses, tuition or other (up to 3 months).
EXPECTATIONS	All interns are expected to actively participate in the Canopy training program, including: • in-person participation and presentation of their internship experience at a future Canopy symposium or workshop (dates and location to be confirmed), with additional travel support provided. • occasional virtual meetings. • a 20-hr 'Indigenous Canada' MOOC course, offered by the University of Alberta through Coursera, to be completed by the end of the internship (alternative training/experiences may be considered equivalent, to be determined on a case-by-case basis). Canopy will reimburse the fee for obtaining a certificate on demonstration of completion for successful applicants only. Applicants are advised not to start the MOOC until they receive notice of acceptance to Canopy. • completion of a personal learning plan, reflective journalling activities, and private reading (approx. 3-6h/month combined). • completion of seven online CIHR research training modules to be completed by the end of the internship. The internship award is intended to support your travel to a new institution. It is not intended to be used for other aspects of the trainee's research project (e.g. laboratory supplies/equipment). The exact amount of the award will be determined after review of your proposed budget.

ELIGIBILITY	Student enrolled in a graduate program or a post-doctoral fellow, clinical intern/resident, or early career researcher (researchers or professionals who obtained their last degree within the last 5 years) in Canada. Trainees who have already received internship support from Canopy are not eligible for a second internship. Graduate students who have completed an internship are eligible to apply for a research scholarship.
SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS	Each submission must include: • A detailed description of the proposed internship (including host institution, roles and responsibilities, deliverables and outcomes of the internship), a clear rationale for how it aligns with one of the three Canopy priorities and with the needs of the host institution, and an explanation of the expected impact on public health, policy, or research related to emerging zoonotic diseases¹ (500 words). • An explanation of how this experience is different from and complements your current training and experiences to date (250 words). • A statement of motivation explaining why joining the Canopy is relevant for you as a trainee (250 words). • A detailed budget of how the requested funds will be used and for what purpose. • An indication of support from (1) the host organization mentor and (2) the home institution or organisation mentor, to confirm their awareness of the application, willingness to co-supervise the trainee, and willingness to participate in Canopy activities². Your proposed mentors do not need to be your research supervisor; however, you will need to identify someone at your home academic institution who can receive and transfer the award to you. • A CV (traditional or narrative CVs are welcome, maximum 4 pages) • A completed EDI questionnaire. • A commitment to complete the 'Indigenous Canada' MOOC by the end of the internship.

¹ This includes methodologies/skillsets which may be relevant to emerging zoonoses broadly in the context of the three priority areas. Please note if you are working on antimicrobial resistance (AMR), your project may be better suited to the Canadian Antimicrobial Resistance Network ([CAN-AMR-Net](#)) One Health training platform.

² Mentors listed in the application will be contacted directly to confirm their awareness of the application and willingness to mentor. See below for eligibility criteria and expectations for mentors.

ELIGIBILITY AND EXPECTATIONS FOR MENTORS OF TRAINEES UNDERTAKING INTERNSHIPS

Eligibility for home and host mentors:

Individuals working in the one of the following sectors, with a depth of experience in topics related to One Health and emerging zoonoses:

- Academia
- Government
- Industry
- Community or non-profit organisations

Expectations of home mentors³:

- To meet with their trainee(s) monthly.
- Be willing to participate and provide their expertise/perspectives in occasional online training activities and in-person workshops, travel-permitting.
- To participate in communications/networking/activities with other mentors (e.g. book club, discussion forums).
- To complete a 20-hr '[Indigenous Canada](#)' MOOC course, offered by the University of Alberta through Coursera (to be completed over the first year of your mentorship commitments and preferably before engaging in program activities). Alternative training/experiences may be considered equivalent, to be determined on a case-by-case basis.

TO APPLY FOR INTERNSHIP SUPPORT: [CLICK HERE](#)

Application deadline: 9 March 2026 (11:59pm EDT).

We expect decisions to be communicated by the end of April 2026.

The next call for internship support applications will open in Fall 2026.

The next call for research scholarship applications will open in Spring 2026.

Questions? Contact info@canopytraining.ca

³ With the exception of the MOOC, these activities are expected to total ~3 hours/month. Expectations apply to home mentors and not host mentors. Eligibility requirements apply to both home and host mentors.

EVALUATION RUBRIC: INTERNSHIP SUPPORT

	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Outstanding
Description of proposed internship	Provides minimal details of internship.	Provides general description of proposed internship with limited detail about roles, responsibilities, deliverables and expected outcomes.	Provides a thorough description of proposed internship, including clear roles, responsibilities, deliverables and expected outcomes.
Link with Canopy/host institution priorities	Internship description does not clearly link to Canopy or host institution priorities. No or limited explanation of the expected impact on public health, policy, or research related to EZ*.	Internship description generally links with Canopy and host institution priorities but no or minimal details are provided. Moderate potential to impact public health, policy, or research related to EZ is described*.	Internship description clearly links with Canopy and host institution priorities and strong justification provided. Strong potential to impact public health, policy, or research related to EZ is described*.
Description of differences & complementarity	Provides minimal description of how the internship is different to or	Describes to a moderate degree how the proposed internship is different to or complements their current	Clearly describes how the proposed internship differs to their current project in terms of discipline, field, and/or methodologies. Furthermore,

	complements their current project, experiences, and/or training.	project, and/or how it will complement their current experiences and training to date.	describes how this internship complements their current experiences and training to date.
Statement of motivation	Provides minimal to no evidence of interest or relevance in joining Canopy.	Describes general interest, relevance, and rationale for joining Canopy and general description of expectations.	Describes strong and specific interest, relevance, and rationale for joining Canopy and details expectations.
Budget description	No or very limited description of how the requested funds will be used and no detail provided.	General description of how the requested funds will be used but limited detail provided.	Clear and detailed description of how the requested funds will be used and for what purpose provided.
Support	No support survey from host or academic mentor received.	Support survey received from host OR academic mentor received.	Support survey received from host AND academic mentor received.
CV (traditional or narrative)	CV provides no or limited support of claims made in application and does not illustrate OH or other	CV provides moderate support of claims made in motivation statement and outlines moderate OH or other relevant experience or curiosity.	CV strongly supports claims made in motivation statement and outlines relevant OH or other experience and curiosity.

	relevant experience or curiosity.		
Commitment to complete MOOC	Does not commit to completing the MOOC.	Commits to completing the MOOC and/or describes equivalent training.	
Overall	Fails to provide justification that they / their proposed internship is suitable for Canopy support.	Illustrates potential for their proposed internship to benefit both the trainee and the host and impact EZ in Canada.	Illustrates clear justification and plan for their proposed internship to benefit both the trainee and the host and impact EZ in Canada.

EZ: Emerging zoonoses

*: This includes methodologies/skillsets which may be relevant to emerging zoonoses broadly in the context of the three priority areas. Please note that projects related to antimicrobial resistance (AMR) may be better suited to the One Health training platform of the Canadian Antimicrobial Resistance Network (CAN-AMR-Net).

MOOC: 'Indigenous Canada' [Massive Open Online Course](#) from the Faculty of Native Studies, University of Alberta.

Note: Each application will be scored as unsatisfactory, satisfactory, or outstanding, using the above rubric. Applications scored as unsatisfactory will not be retained. The final selection of trainees will consider the application score as well as EDI responses and disciplinary area to ensure a diversity of high-quality trainees in the program.