

**Apply for a research scholarship and to join the 2026-2027 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 it's third **call for research scholarship applications** to trainees enrolled in a **Master's or Doctoral program in Canada**.

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 their **research project** that will enhance Canada's ability to prevent, prepare for, and respond to emerging zoonotic diseases and build resilience and sustainability into our health and ecosystems using One Health approaches. 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 **many disciplinary and experiential backgrounds**, including but not limited to the natural and health sciences, public health, social sciences, policy, Indigenous knowledge systems, humanities, and the arts. We also welcome applicants whose work addresses the broader systems, drivers, or root causes shaping One Health challenges and health inequities – including those who may not frame their work explicitly within the context of One Health or zoonotic diseases. 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 research project 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 their research project 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 research project 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. Research projects 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

<b>AVAILABLE FUNDING</b>	<p>Canopy will offer a scholarship of 5,000\$ to each successful applicant interested in One Health and whose research relates to the prevention, preparedness for, and response to emerging zoonotic diseases.</p>
<b>EXPECTATIONS</b>	<p>All Canopy trainees are expected to <b>actively participate</b> in the Canopy training program, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>In-person participation at two Canopy symposium-workshops</b> (approximately 5 days each, planned for 6-10 July 2026, Halifax and July 2027, location to be determined), with additional travel support provided.</li> <li>• <b>5-10 hours per month of unstructured and structured activities</b>, including monthly 2-hour virtual meetings (one of which you will be asked to co-design), coffee meetings, completion of a personal learning plan, reflective journalling activities, and private reading; and</li> <li>• <b>Completion of a 20-hr <a href="#">‘Indigenous Canada’ MOOC course</a></b>, offered by the University of Alberta through Coursera, to be completed by the July 2026 workshop (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.</li> <li>• <b>Completion of seven online CIHR <a href="#">research training modules</a></b> to be completed by the end of enrollment.</li> </ul> <p>The scholarship is intended to be used as a stipend to support trainees and cannot be used to support other aspects of the trainee's research project (e.g. laboratory supplies/equipment, or travel).</p>

<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<p>Student enrolled in a graduate program (Master's or Doctoral) in Canada.</p> <p>Research scholarship trainees are eligible to apply for internship training in the same year or in subsequent years.</p> <p>Trainees who have already obtained a Canopy research scholarship are not eligible for a second scholarship; however, they are eligible to apply for an internship.</p>
<b>SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS</b>	<p>Each submission must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A <b>summary of your graduate research project</b> (including objectives, proposed methods, expected results, whether EDI has been considered<sup>1</sup>, and connection to emerging zoonoses<sup>2</sup>), a clear rationale for how it aligns with one of the three Canopy priorities and a description of how a One Health approach is relevant to your training and research (500 words).</li> <li>• A <b>statement of motivation</b> explaining why joining Canopy is relevant for you as a trainee and what you hope to gain from this experience (250 words).</li> <li>• An <b>indication of support</b> from your proposed mentor to confirm their awareness and support of the trainee and their willingness to participate in Canopy activities<sup>3</sup>. Canopy will contact the proposed mentor following submission of the application to verify these requirements: no letters of support are required for the application. Your proposed mentor does 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.</li> <li>• A <b>CV</b> (traditional or narrative CVs are welcome, maximum 4 pages).</li> <li>• A completed <b>EDI questionnaire</b>.</li> <li>• A commitment to complete the 'Indigenous Canada' MOOC by the July 2026 workshop.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Please highlight if EDI has been considered, and if so, how, and if not, why not.

<sup>2</sup> This includes methodologies/skillsets which may be relevant to emerging zoonoses broadly in the context of the three priority areas.

<sup>3</sup> Please see below for expectations of mentors.

## ELIGIBILITY AND EXPECTATIONS FOR MENTORS

### Eligibility:

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<sup>4</sup>:

- 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 A RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP: [CLICK HERE](#)**

**Application deadline: 6 April 2026 (11:59pm EDT).**

Decisions will be communicated by the end of May 2026.

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

The next call for research scholarship applications will open in Spring 2027.

Questions? Contact [info@canopytraining.ca](mailto:info@canopytraining.ca)

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<sup>4</sup> With the exception of the MOOC, these activities are expected to total ~3 hours/month.

## EVALUATION RUBRIC: RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

	<b>Unsatisfactory</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>
<b>Summary of proposed thesis research</b>	Provides minimal details on thesis OR Research design is not well defined and does link to objectives and impacts OR Project components are not feasible, supported or justified OR EDI is not mentioned.	Provides general description of thesis research but lacks clarity and/or justification AND/OR Data or expected results and methods are not clearly described or justified AND/OR Project components have some feasibility concerns AND/OR EDI is mentioned but few details provided.	Provides a thorough description of thesis research AND Data or expected results and methods clearly described AND Project components are feasible and justified AND EDI has been considered and relevance to their project discussed.
<b>Link with Canopy priority area</b>	Fails to identify a Canopy priority area and/or provides no or limited rationale for link.  No or limited potential to impact selected Canopy priority area.	Selects a Canopy priority area but provides no or limited rationale for how research aligns with selection.  Moderate potential to impact selected Canopy priority area.	Selects a Canopy priority area and provides strong rationale for how research aligns with selection.  Strong potential to impact selected Canopy priority area.
<b>Alignment of thesis research with One Health</b>	Fails to describe why One Health is relevant to their research project.  Does not include any indication of how a One	Describes in general why the One Health approach is relevant to their research project.	Describes specifically why the One Health approach is relevant to their research project.

	Health approach will be incorporated in any part of the thesis.	Includes one example of how a One Health approach will be integrated in the thesis.	Includes several examples of how a One Health approach will be integrated in the thesis.
<b>Connection to EZ</b>	Rationale and need in EZ research not provided and potential to impact EZ in selected priority area not provided*.	Rationale and need in EZ research described but not justified with some potential to impact EZ in selected priority area*.	Rational and need in EZ research well described and justified with good potential to impact EZ in selected priority area*.
<b>Description of motivation</b>	Provides minimal to no evidence of interest or experience in One Health.	Describes exposure to One Health concepts and rationale for interest/motivation.	Shares interest in One Health with discussion of applicability to studies / career.
<b>Support</b>	No support survey from mentor received.	Declaration of support received from mentor.	
<b>CV</b>	CV provides no or limited support of claims made in application and does not illustrate OH experience or curiosity.	CV provides moderate support of claims made in motivation statement and outlines moderate experience and curiosity.	CV strongly supports claims made in motivation statement and outlines relevant experience and curiosity.
<b>Plan to complete MOOC</b>	Does not commit to completing the MOOC and does not demonstrate equivalent experiences or training.	Commits to completing the MOOC and/or describes equivalent experiences or training.	
<b>Overall</b>	Fails to provide justification that they / their thesis is suitable for the program.	Illustrates <u>potential</u> for a One Health approach in their thesis and some motivation for learning.	Illustrates clear justification and plan for a One Health approach in their thesis and motivation for learning.

## 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 Canadian Antimicrobial Resistance Network (CAN-AMR-Net) One Health training platform.

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

### Notes:

- 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.
- Some universities provide additional financial support to enable us to offer more scholarships to candidates from their university. We will fill those spaces first with the highest-ranking applicants from those institutions, to maximise the numbers of spots available across the country.