

## 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 \$62,500 CAD plus 4% vacation pay
<b>Length of Contract:</b>	Full-time (2-year Contract)
<b>Supervisor:</b>	Dr. Mary Pat Sullivan (Principal Lead, Rare Dementia Support Canada)

### Summary of Functions:

[Rare Dementia Support \(RDS\) Canada](#) is a national multi-component support community for people affected by rare dementia (non-memory led, young onset, inherited) and a centre for rare dementia education and research delivered by a multidisciplinary team of practitioners, researchers, educators and individuals with lived experience. Led by Nipissing University (NU), Rare Dementia Support Canada's goal is to offer information and *advice*, develop a support *community* of people with lived experience and dedicated practitioners, and engage in ongoing *learning* through education and research about what support works, when it works best, and how it impacts quality of life. RDS Canada works in collaboration with a growing international rare dementia support network in the UK, Japan and Australia.

This Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship will take place in an environment dedicated to research on lived experience and the co-creation of research areas that are of high priority for people affected by rare dementia. The research team aims to conduct research where new knowledge discoveries have real-world impact facilitated by engagement with lived experience and an alignment with RDS Canada's strategic priorities.

Working closely with the Principal Lead, the candidate will be expected to both make an ambitious and independent contribution to high impact research, develop and maintain national and international relationships and collaborate with the existing team to support and advance the execution and delivery of active projects. Current projects examine rare dementia and approaches to rehabilitation, family resilience and models of support, late stages and end-of-life care, brain sight care and support pathways, health service use and expressions of living with dementia through art, culture and language.

### Duties and Responsibilities:

- Support and manage research activities including funding proposals, designing protocols and intervention implementation and evaluation strategies.
- Support participant recruitment, data collection, engagement of non-academic partners, and organizing meetings.
- Grant development and submission – coordinating grant development activities amongst team members and national and international collaborators, with focused contributions to budget development, letters of support, submission processes, and ethics applications.
- Perform quantitative and qualitative data analysis, including preparing datasets, using analytic software and reporting results.
- Prepare knowledge translation outputs, including writing academic and non-academic papers and presentations.
- Support and collaborate with research staff, support staff and student trainees.

## Qualifications:

### Education:

- A PhD in health sciences, cognitive and behavioural neuroscience, or a social science discipline, with no more than five years of postdoctoral experience (consideration will be given to candidates who have experienced career interruptions related to a documented leave of absence or formal clinical training).

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

- Demonstrated experience in project management
- Demonstrated experience of quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods research
- Demonstrated experience of analysis software such as SPSS and NVivo
- Demonstrated skills in critical thinking, research development, problem-solving and communication
- Ability to work collaboratively and independently
- Commitment to reflective and diversity conscious research practices
- Knowledge of the principles of research knowledge translation and mobilization
- Commitment to ongoing learning and professional development
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills including experience in competitive grant writing and research publication
- Experience of secure data tracking and storage
- Ability to plan and prioritize work commitments
- Experience supervising undergraduate and graduate students
- Knowledge of dementia including atypical and young onset dementia considered an asset
- Fluency/ bilingual in French considered an asset

## Relationships/Contacts:

**Supervised by:** Dr. Mary Pat Sullivan, Principal Lead RDS Canada and Professor, Faculty of Education and Professional Studies

### Internal Contacts:

- RDS Canada support, education and research staff and collaborators
- Faculty
- Students
- Graduate Studies and Research Office
- Marketing and Communications

### External Contacts:

- RDS Canada members (i.e., people living with rare dementia, family members, health and social care practitioners)
- National and international education and research collaborators
- Provincial and territorial dementia care and mental health services
- Local, provincial and federal government offices
- Other health and social care practitioners
- Other dementia research centres
- International organizations support people affected by rare dementia
- Knowledge mobilization and exchange organizations

### **Materials Utilized:**

- General office equipment
- Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Teams) and specialized database software
- Data analysis software (SPSS, NVivo)
- RDS Canada policies and handbooks
- Confidential research records
- Videoconferencing software (e.g., Zoom)

### **Physical/Mental Demands and Working Conditions:**

- Fast-paced office environment with multiple research projects and deadlines
- Light to moderate mental demands
- Visual and listening concentration
- Ability to maintain sensitivity to, and cope with, information which may be highly sensitive and confidential
- Stress at peak periods
- Occasional work outside normal work hours and /or business travel
- Little physical effort – some standing, minimal lifting (< 20lbs), sitting, walking.