Master’s Graduate Research Assistantship Opportunity

The Next Generation Assessment Applications Project:
Several new or pending initiatives in Canada – including federal government’s proposed new Impact Assessment Act – are emerging as tests of more advanced approaches to the planning and assessment of major projects and strategic plans, programs and policies. These next generation approaches promise to look further ahead, consider a broader range of issues and options, and be more effective in addressing cumulative effects, engaging multiple jurisdictions (including Indigenous authorities) and interests, earning public credibility and delivering lasting gains. The Next Generation Assessment Applications project is examining the potential and implications of the new federal law and other advanced initiatives for practical application – for example, to undertakings that would have significant cumulative effects, or affect transition to a climate responsible economy, or open new areas for industrial activities, or influence prospects for better futures for Indigenous Canadians.

Research opportunities:
The project can support a wide range of research projects, for example examining applications
• to strategic undertakings (policies, regional plans, infrastructure funding programs) or projects (hydropower dams, roads, waste management facilities); or
• in particular regions (rural, remote or urban), sectors (mining, hydrocarbons, technology) and/or issue areas (e.g., climate, biodiversity, urban growth management); or
• though special individual initiatives (in response to a particular controversy, or done independently by a individual communities or coalition) or though law reform or process redesign.

Qualifications for Admission:
Applicants must hold an honours undergraduate degree in a field related to applied sustainability, governance, assessment, planning, law and policy making, public engagement, resource management and development, multi-jurisdictional decision making and/or complex socio-ecological systems. Related experience is advantage as is a record of academic excellence. This opportunity is open to Canadian citizens or permanent Canadian residents admitted as full time Master’s students in the SERS thesis stream.

Project Support:
Two terms of project-based research funding (about $7500 per term), plus support for research and travel expenses, will be available in addition to the funding described at https://uwaterloo.ca/environment/graduate/domestic-research-masters-students.

Expected Start Date:
September 6, 2019.

Further Information Contact:
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SERS Master’s Program:
https://uwaterloo.ca/environment-resources-and-sustainability/graduate/admissions