



Job Profile

v.10.20.2023

The O'Brien Institute for Public Health Associate Scientific Director – Policy and Partnerships leads the Institute's Thought Leadership programs/initiatives, including the Centre for Health Policy, and augments the leadership capacity of the Institute, complementing the expertise and experience of the Institute's Directors.

About the Centre for Health Policy:

The Centre for Health Policy ("the Centre") is a cross-faculty, transdisciplinary entity embedded in the O'Brien Institute for Public Health at the University of Calgary. The Centre serves as a collaborative hub that promotes and supports transdisciplinary health policy research and knowledge exchange undertaken by members of faculties/schools across the University of Calgary including the Cumming School of Medicine, School of Public Policy, Social Work, Nursing, Kinesiology and Law. The Centre brings scholars together with clinicians, citizens, governments, businesses and non-governmental organizations to take informed policy action to improve health systems and population health (health in all policies).

Primary purpose of the position:

The Associate Scientific Director, Policy and Partnerships, plays a key leadership role in the Centre's scholarly activities. Under the direction of the Scientific Director, O'Brien Institute for Public Health, and in collaboration with other Institute leadership, the incumbent is responsible for the overall scholarly direction of the Thought Leadership goal, the Centre for Health Policy, and building a community of practice to support campus-wide health policy scholarship and influence.

Qualifications:

The successful candidate will:

- Be a full-time or adjunct faculty member of the University of Calgary, and a member of the O'Brien Institute for Public Health
- Offer demonstrated commitment to and excellence in leading transdisciplinary health policy-related research (research on health policy or research that informs health policy)
- Have advanced academic expertise in health systems or population health (PhD or professional degree (e.g., MD, JD) plus formal research training)
- Demonstrate skills and abilities in leadership, planning, implementation, and team building
- Demonstrate an ability to effectively lead a fast-paced, multi-faceted academic entity with multiple internal and external (to the University) partners
- Inform and assist with the development of dynamic opportunities including university-level strategic initiatives and research relationships
- Have sound decision-making and problem-solving skills
- Be committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion in the advancement of the Centre's goals and the initiatives it supports



- Have exceptional communication and interpersonal skills, maintaining a high level of personal effectiveness

Meaningful involvement and strong relationships with relevant community partners are considered assets.

Resource requirements:

- Adequate protected time (0.2 FTE) for the size and scope of Centre activities
- Support of their Faculty/School and Department

Duties and accountabilities:

- Contribute to the Institute's strategic planning and to the development and delivery of its research support programs and activities
- Act as ambassador of the Institute at internal and external events and meetings
- Lead the strategic scholarly direction of the Centre, aligning with broader Institute priorities as relevant
- Develop and support organizational structures to foster the Centre's activities
- Ensure the Centre tracks and encourages policy-relevant work amongst the Institute's diverse membership, developing tools to support researchers with any level of policy experience to advance their expertise
- Foster health policy collaborations with departments/faculties/schools across the University of Calgary and other universities, government organizations, non-government organizations and businesses
- Maintain a strategic partnership with the School of Public Policy
- Provide scholarly direction and leadership for all research, programs, public events, and other initiatives being led by the Centre
- Advocate for the Centre as a transdisciplinary hub for health policy-related research activities within and external to the University
- Represent, or delegate Centre staff to represent Centre academic opportunities and interests as appropriate across the University of Calgary and with external parties by participating in conversations, projects, events, and initiatives with stakeholders that are relevant to health policy
- Report regularly to the Scientific Director, O'Brien Institute for Public Health, by sharing timely updates and producing annual reports and periodic reviews of the Centre's operations
- Support the financial sustainability of the Centre by nurturing donor relationships and participating in fund development activities
- Provide input on Centre operational and human resources decisions
- Participate regularly in standing Institute meetings (Directors, 1 hour weekly; Core Team, 1 hour biweekly; Membership Services, 2 hours twice yearly; Strategic Advisory Board, 2 hours quarterly; Cumming School of Medicine Strategic Research Council, 2 hours monthly; Cumming School of Medicine Inter-Institute, 1 hour monthly) and major Institute events (approximately 4 hours monthly)



Terms:

The required time commitment for the position will be approximately 0.2 FTE based on comparable Centres within the O'Brien Institute for Public Health and projected future activities. The time commitment is also subject to modification of the projected activities of the Centre.

The Associate Scientific Director will receive an annual stipend (salary or research).

The term of the position is for four years and is renewable once with mutual agreement of the incumbent and the Scientific Director of the O'Brien Institute for Public Health after completion of a mandatory 360° review at the end of the incumbent's first term.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:

The Centre is deeply committed to an equitable, diverse, and inclusive workplace that is accessible to all and free from harassment, bullying, and discrimination. As a University of Calgary entity, we recognize that diverse faculty, staff, students, and alumni benefit and enrich the work, teaching, learning, and research experiences of the entire campus and broader community. We are committed to removing barriers that have been, and continue to be, encountered by equity-seeking groups, including women, Indigenous peoples, visible/racialized minorities, persons with disabilities, and LGBTQ2S+ people.

