

**Research Assistant Opportunity
Term Position****COMmunity-based nutrition RISK in Indigenous communities (COM-RISK-Indigenous)****Position start date:** May 6, 2024**Number of positions:** 1**Overview:**

The COMRISK-Indigenous project is aimed to create a pathway strategy that tailors to older adults living in Alberta with poor nutrition, nutrition risk and malnutrition. The objective of the project is to work alongside partners from Alberta Health Services Diabetes, Obesity and Nutrition Strategic Clinical Network (DON-SCN) to collaborate and provide support in acting as the primary liaison between First Nation (FN) community members (i.e., elders) and the project team. The liaison will inform the plan of action and follow the Creating Harmony in Care model developed by community partners and the DON-SCN as a guideline for strategy. The pathway strategy is focused on creating a model that will tailor to FN communities and provide guidance for prevention of malnutrition among both older adults and potentially youth. In addition, it will help address factors of nutrition risk and outline accessible foods that are both traditional and essential to the FN diet. This model is intended to help heal and mend relationships with food and within the community, as well as their health and wellbeing.

Specific activities include, but are not limited to:

The primary job duties for the field research assistant (Graduate Research Assistant - GRA 1 - AU master/certificate/diploma student) will include:

- i. Assist in discussion regarding creating a pathway building upon the Creating Harmony in Care model.
- ii. Assist in arranging in-person meetings with community Elders.
- iii. Take meeting minutes.
- iv. Help with design preparation of traditional and essential FN diet model.
- v. Responsible for connecting with partnering stakeholders.
- vi. Reporting to supervisor in weekly meetings.
- vii. Responsible for supporting knowledge mobilization and translation from FN elders and community members to project team supervisors.
- viii. Responsible for supporting additional of gathering ideas surrounding prior interventions and policies Literature and policy review).

The successful candidate will work with, and directly report to, Dr. Steve Johnson at Athabasca University. Dr. Johnson will provide adequate training for the data collection and analysis. The candidate will have completed or must complete principles of ownership, control, access, and possession ([OCAP® training](#)).

Qualifications:

Completed undergraduate degree preferably BSc in human nutrition or related discipline.

The position is home-based. Requires regular virtual contact with supervisor.

How to apply:

Qualified individuals are encouraged to submit their application by email to Dr. Steve Johnson at sjohnson@athabascau.ca. Applications should include (as a single PDF file) a brief cover letter that summarizes your skills, interests, and experience; a current resume or curriculum vitae; an unofficial copy of your transcript; and the contact information for 1-2 references.

Evaluation of applications will begin immediately and will continue until a suitable candidate is found. All applicants are thanked for their interest in this position; however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

Athabasca University and the researchers are committed and seek to support equity in employment and research opportunities. We strongly encourage applications from Indigenous people, people of colour, people with disabilities, 2SLGBTQ+ people, women, and other historically marginalized groups. Applicants are welcome, but not required, to self-identify in their letter of application.

For more information on this Research Assistant Opportunity, please contact Dr Steve Johnson, PhD at the coordinates below, on or before April 30th, 2024. Applications will be accepted until (April 30th, 2024) or until a suitable candidate is found.

Dr. Steve Johnson,
Dean, Faculty of Health Disciplines
sjohnson@athabascau.ca

