2023 Social Connectedness Fellowship

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the Social Connectedness Fellowship?

At the heart of the Social Connectedness Fellowship is a strong supportive community among Fellows, our partners and SCSC. Fellows are an invaluable part of the global movement to create a world where everyone belongs. Through the Fellowship, we invest in the growth of their capacity and skills as researchers and changemakers. At the beginning of the Fellowship, we offer an introductory workshop on the theory and concepts of social isolation and belonging, as well as other workshops to strengthen Fellows' skills in research, outreach, advocacy, and community engagement.

At the Samuel Centre for Social Connectedness our mission is to build connectedness within and between communities through partnerships, research, programming, learning initiatives, and advocacy. Belonging is central to our work, and the Fellowship offers the opportunity to apply the lens of belonging to intersectional issues, writing, and problem-solving.

Through the Social Connectedness Fellowship, SCSC offers:

- Competitive wages
- Work with national and international community partners
- Capacity building, skills development, and mentorship
- Meaningful work where your research has impact

2. Is this a paid Fellowship?

Yes!

This is a full-time summer position starting May 8 and running until August 28, 2023. The wage is $22 to 24 Canadian per hour for 35 hours per week.

3. What is the time period for the 2023 Fellowship?

The 2023 Fellowship starts on May 8 and runs until August 28, 2023.

4. Is the 2023 Fellowship remote or in-person work?

The location of the work (for example, Canada) for each 2023 project proposal is different, depending on the needs of our partners. All of the projects will involve a degree of remote work as all interactions with the Samuel Centre for Social Connectedness team will be conducted remotely and much of the day-to-day activities will be remote. However, some project proposals have no geographic requirements so that the Fellow can work remotely from anywhere, and some projects will require outreach in a specific geographic location.

Here's a brief look at the location requirements for each project proposal (details are included in each individual project proposal):

1. Books, Art, Music (BAM) Collective – Toronto, GTA and surrounding area
2. Data-Driven EnviroLab - Remote
3. Foundation for Social Connection - Remote
4. Human Rights Watch - Remote
5. Inside Out Prison Exchange – USA, Remote
6. Misipawistik Cree Nation – Misipawistik Cree Nation, Grand Rapids, Manitoba and surrounding areas, and Winnipeg.
7. Partners In Health – Remote, preference for candidates on the African continent
8. Qajuqturvik Community Food Centre – Remote, preference given to Inuit candidates, and those living in Nunavut
9. Samuel Centre for Social Connectedness – Remote, preference for candidates in Quebec
10. Special Olympics International - Remote

5. Who can apply?

The Social Connectedness Fellowship provides an opportunity for students, new graduates and people with lived experience to carry out innovative research that will inspire local and global action to build community and belonging. Anyone from any part of the world who fits that broad description can apply.

Fellows are required to:

- Be ready to engage in regular online meetings, check-ins, capacity building sessions and remote work.
- Have a passion for building a more inclusive, and connected world.
- Commit 35 hours per week to the program.

6. How do I apply?

Follow these 4 steps to apply:

1. Review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at
   www.socialconnectedness.org/2023Fellowship
2. Browse the 10 research projects listed on the 2023 Fellowship webpage at
   www.socialconnectedness.org/2023Fellowship
3. Choose up to 2 research projects to apply for.
4. Fill out the online application form at www.socialconnectedness.org/2023Fellowship

The application consists of:

- Up-to-date resume
- Cover letter
- Writing Sample. There are two options for the writing sample:
  o Provide a pre-written piece; this can be formal, informal, a school assignment, a story, a blog, published or unpublished. Submissions can include a previously-written document of up to 10 pages long. (for example: a report or assignment written as part of a college or university course).
  o Provide an answer to the following question: "What does belonging mean to you and how do you see social connectedness manifested in society today." (maximum: 1,000 words).

7. What is the deadline to apply?

March 15, 2023 by 11:59 p.m. EST. All applications submitted after this date and time will not be considered

8. How can I learn more?

Visit the 2023 Social Connectedness Fellowship webpage on March 1, 2023 for all of the up-to-date information you will need to submit an application

9. Where can I learn more about the Social Connectedness Fellowship program?

Check out our 2022 Social Connectedness Fellowship program webpage where you'll find details on the research projects conducted, the 2022 Fellows, the 2022 partners, and links the final research reports.

10. What if I'm worried I won't meet all of the requirements?

The Samuel Centre for Social Connectedness is an equal opportunity employer, and we encourage applicants to apply even if they do not meet all the criteria. We believe all candidates have something to bring to the organization and the role. If you have skills outside the job description that you think can benefit the project, let us know in your cover letter. We know everyone can make an impact in their community and the field of social connectedness.

We encourage all equity-seeking groups such as newcomers & immigrants, Black people, Indigenous people, racialized individuals, women, young people, 2SLGBTQ+ community members, low-income, and people with disabilities to apply. Please let us know if you need any accommodation throughout the application and interview process and we will be happy to support you.

We know applying for something when you're worried about meeting all the criteria is challenging but do it anyway – we'd love to read your application!