

Graduate Student Project: West Nile virus transmission

A graduate student (MSc or PhD) position is available to conduct research on the molecular basis of West Nile virus (WNV) transmission. Since its arrival in North America in 1999, WNV has become the most serious mosquito-borne disease in Canada and the US, with thousands of new infections occurring every year. The overall aim of this project is to understand how WNV infects different host species, with an emphasis on both mosquitoes and humans. By examining how the virus interacts with different host cells, we may be able to design new therapeutic drugs against the virus and to develop novel technologies that will reduce the mosquito's ability to transmit the disease. The graduate student on this project will acquire considerable experience in advanced molecular biology and cell biology techniques. A background in these or related areas is desirable, and proficiency in spoken and written English is a necessity. Selection will be based on academic achievements, reference letters and previous research experience. A stipend package commensurate with your experience will be offered.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Steve Whyard via email:

whyard@cc.umanitoba.ca