

Postdoctoral Fellow in Municipal Water and Wastewater System Planning

The [Department of Civil Engineering](#) at the University of New Brunswick, located in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, is seeking a Postdoctoral Research Fellow with a focus on municipal water and wastewater system planning. The successful candidate will lead a project funded by Infrastructure Canada's [Research and Knowledge Initiative](#) (RKI) to enhance water and wastewater system master planning within Canada's small to mid-sized municipalities.

In addition to working with the principal investigator, the successful candidate will work alongside a postdoctoral fellow who is conducting similar research in Transportation system planning. This integrated team will provide comprehensive insights into infrastructure master planning practices across the country.

Responsibilities

1. Design and execute a nationwide maturity assessment of water and wastewater master planning practices among small to mid-sized municipalities.
2. Conduct a comprehensive literature review to identify industry best practices, standards, and legislation related to infrastructure master planning in Canada.
3. Develop an infrastructure master planning primer document for small to mid-sized municipalities. The primer will introduce the basic concepts, methodologies, and skills related to water and wastewater infrastructure master planning.
4. Create a standardized Request for Proposal (RFP) template for small to mid-sized municipalities to retain engineering consultants to develop municipal infrastructure master plans.
5. Design and deliver national webinars and training programs to municipal staff and stakeholders across Canada.

Qualifications

Required

- PhD in Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering, or related field within the last 5 years.
- Demonstrated experience in municipal water and wastewater system planning.
- Strong analytical and research skills with a focus on practical applications.

- Excellent communication skills, both written and oral, for stakeholder engagement and training delivery.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively within a team environment.

Preferred

- Strong publication record in peer-reviewed journals.
- Experience developing and delivering educational and training materials.
- Proficiency in both English and French languages.

Salary and Duration

- **Salary Range:** \$50,000 to \$62,500 CAD per year, including benefits.
- **Start Date:** January 1, 2025, or as soon as possible.
- **Duration:** Unionized contract term until March 2026, with the potential to renew for up to 3 years depending on funding availability.

Application Process

Interested candidates should submit the following documents to mike.benson@unb.ca.

- A cover letter outlining your research interests, experience, and fit for the position (max 2 pages).
- A detailed CV (max 5 pages).
- Contact information (name, email, phone #, relationship) for three professional references.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

About the Principal Investigator

Dr. Anna Robak, PEng, PhD(Econ): Adjunct Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, University of New Brunswick

Dr. Robak is an engineer and economist with decades of experience in the planning, design and management of infrastructure, with a focus on water and transportation assets. She researches infrastructure investments that are smarter and more equitable, leveraging behavioural economics, natural asset solutions and technology. Dr. Robak's research skills include econometrics, nonmarket valuation, and survey design.

Outside of academia, Dr. Robak is the Executive Director of Research and Innovation at WSP Canada, a 12,000-strong multidisciplinary engineering, science and planning consultancy.

Acknowledgements and Commitment to Diversity

UNB recognizes and respectfully acknowledges that all UNB interactions in Fredericton take place on traditional lands of Wolastoqiyik.

The University of New Brunswick is committed to employment equity, fostering diversity within our community, and developing an inclusive workplace that reflects the richness of the broader community that we serve. We welcome and encourage applications from all qualified individuals, including women, visible minorities, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, and persons of any sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. Preference will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada.