

Lakehead University/Quetico Foundation Research Program

Guidelines and Procedures

Lakehead University (LU) and the Quetico Foundation (QF) have entered into a partnership to support a pilot research program exploring the wilderness of Quetico Provincial Park.

Lakehead University's Vice-President Research and Innovation (VPRI) is pleased to announce the first call for project proposals through the LU-QF Research Program. The LU-QF research program will support research projects relating to the environment, ecology, and biology of Quetico Park. The program is open to all disciplines (anthropology, archaeology, history, indigenous knowledge, forestry, etc.) and research areas (eco-tourism, climate change, environmental degradation, etc.) as long as the results of the research will contribute to the generation of new knowledge and data related to these primary research priorities. As a vast protected area of more than 480,000 ha of wilderness established more than 100 years ago in Northwestern Ontario, Quetico Provincial Park has been subjected to a minimum of anthropogenic effects. It is ideally located to support studies including but not limited to zoology, botany, ecology, environmental science, soil science, limnology, or interdisciplinary research, that will enrich our understanding of how the wilderness functions, and how it can be protected for future generations to enjoy.

Eligibility: The LU-QF Research Program is open to all full-time faculty members. The Quetico Foundation is seeking to support programs of research that include a high level of Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) training (Masters, PhD and Postdoctoral Fellows).

Grants Available: A total of \$150,000 over three years is available from the Quetico Foundation to support a maximum of two projects (up to \$75,000 per project). The QF is seeking to support research projects that leverage other research funding opportunities which may include but are not limited to programs such as the MITACs Accelerate program, Early Researcher Awards, and NSERC Discovery grants. In-kind support from the University and the researcher will also be considered towards the requirement for matching funds. The Quetico Foundation's contribution to research costs will not exceed 50% of the total project's costs. Projects that involve other stakeholders, in addition to the Quetico Foundation, are also encouraged.

Deadline for Applications: December 1, 2019

Application requirements: All applications must be submitted through the Romeo Research Portal; the following information will be required:

- 1) Description of proposed research, research timelines, and detailed justified budget;
- 2) Specific details on the proposed field work to be conducted within Quetico Provincial Park;
- 3) Current CCVs of the applicant(s);
- 4) Letter(s) of support from other partner organizations, indicating cash and in-kind contributions that will be used to leverage funds from the Quetico Foundation; and

5) In the case of a planned MITACs Accelerate application, partner letters of support should also indicate how they intend to support the mentoring of HQP (i.e., MITACs Accelerate Internships require interns to spend between 25%-50% of their time working with the partner).

Approval procedure: The VPRI and The Quetico Foundation will establish a joint peer review committee to rank and recommend programs of research that will be supported. The following criteria will be used:

- a) The merit of the research program and degree to which the proposed activities contribute to the understanding of wilderness ecosystems;
- b) Potential impact of the program's expected outcomes;
- c) Appropriateness of proposed expenditures and budget justification;
- d) The academic excellence and research background of all researchers involved in the program;
- e) Ability to leverage or attract external research funding or support from community/industry partners; and
- f) Demonstrated commitment from partner organizations through financial or in-kind support of the collaboration

Reporting Requirements:

A final report outlining evidence of project deliverables and projected research outcomes must be submitted to the Quetico Foundation.

For additional information, and in particular questions regarding leveraging requirements, please contact Anne Klymenko, in the Office of Research Services at Ext 8223.

October 16, 2019