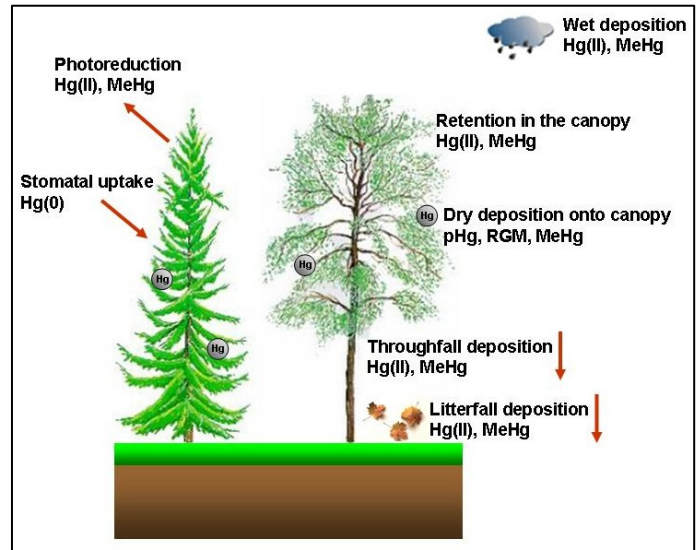


M.Sc. OPPORTUNITY

The interaction of atmospheric mercury with forest canopies

We are looking for an enthusiastic and motivated M.Sc. student for a unique opportunity to study how forest canopies enhance the net deposition of mercury (Hg) to watersheds. Summer field research will be conducted at the Experimental Lakes Area (ELA), a Government of Canada research facility world-renowned for whole-ecosystem experimentation. The successful candidate will be responsible for determining how atmospheric Hg binds to forest foliage by using specific stable-isotopes of Hg. The candidate will also begin developing models of Hg dry deposition using concentrations of Hg species quantified in air at the ELA with state-of-the-art Tekran Hg speciation units. The successful applicant will become part of a team of internationally recognized Hg researchers conducting the whole-ecosystem Mercury Experiment To Access Atmospheric Loadings in Canada and the U.S. The METAALICUS experiment was initiated at the ELA to quantify the relationship between atmospheric loadings of inorganic Hg to watersheds and the bioaccumulation of toxic methyl Hg in fish.



The M.Sc. program will be based out of the University of Alberta, which has a rich and dynamic diversity of ecological and biogeochemical research programs in the Departments of Biological Sciences and Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. The University of Alberta offers recipients of NSERC scholarships bonus awards, and numerous other scholarship opportunities are available to all applicants. Suitable applicants will be flown to the University of Alberta to tour our analytical facilities and the University of Alberta campus, and meet with the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies. Starting date would be September 2009 or sooner.

If interested, please contact either Dr. Vincent St.Louis (vince.stlouis@ualberta.ca) or Dr. Jennifer Graydon (jgraydon@ualberta.ca)

