

Scientific Lead, Forensic Biology – JR 81010

The Government of Alberta is establishing a new provincial forensic DNA laboratory to enhance investigative support for law enforcement and the justice system. As part of this significant public safety initiative, we are seeking a Scientific Lead to lead the development and delivery of Alberta's forensic DNA program.

This is a rare opportunity to help build a modern, accredited forensic DNA laboratory from the ground up and shape its scientific, operational, and quality frameworks.

The Role

Reporting to the Director of Forensic Services, the Scientific Lead provides senior scientific, operational, and strategic leadership for the provincial forensic DNA program. This role serves as Alberta's subject matter expert in human forensic DNA analysis and ensures services meet Canadian judicial expectations and international accreditation standards.

Key Responsibilities

- Lead the development, validation, and implementation of forensic DNA methods and procedures
- Establish and oversee the laboratory's quality management and accreditation framework
- Ensure scientifically sound, defensible forensic results aligned with judicial and professional standards
- Provide expert scientific advice to support criminal investigations and prosecutions
- Lead and mentor a multidisciplinary forensic laboratory team
- Build and maintain partnerships with law enforcement, scientific organizations, and government partners
- Represent Alberta's forensic DNA program nationally and internationally, including participation in scientific committees and applied research
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Qualifications

Required

- PhD in forensic science, molecular biology, genetics, or related discipline, with 8+ years of progressively responsible experience in human forensic DNA analysis (or Master's degree with 10+ years experience)
- Senior-level experience in an accredited forensic DNA laboratory
- Demonstrated leadership of scientific staff and laboratory operations
- In-depth knowledge of forensic DNA standards, quality assurance, and Canadian court expectations
- Eligibility to provide expert testimony in court

Assets

- Experience in a government or public-sector forensic environment
- Familiarity with the National DNA Data Bank (NDDB/CODIS)
- Contributions to national or international forensic science committees or peer-reviewed research

Additional Information

- Hours: 36.25 hours/week, Monday to Friday
- Enhanced security clearance required
- Written assessment and/or presentation may be required as part of the selection process
- Location: Sherwood Park, AB | Full-time

Please follow the link below to apply:

<https://jobpostings.alberta.ca/job-invite/81010/>