The Southern Ontario Centre for Atmospheric Aerosol Research (SOCAAR) is an interdisciplinary centre for the study of air quality, with a focus on how aerosols impact human health and the environment. SOCAAR brings together medical personnel, atmospheric chemists and environmental engineers, and promotes collaborative research through access to state-of-the-art facilities and partnerships with government and industry.

SOCAAR is seeking a Research Technician to assist with the deployment of air quality monitors in communities across Toronto. This would be a 9 month appointment for 37.5 hours/week at a rate of $12.45/hour + 4% vacation pay.

The Spatial Characterization of Ultrafine Particles in Toronto (SCULPT) study will investigate the impact of traffic by measuring ultrafine particles, black carbon, fine particulate matter and oxides of nitrogen at different sites across Toronto. The purpose of the SCULPT study is to create a map that illustrates how the concentrations of the abovementioned pollutants vary across Toronto. Air quality instruments will be deployed in the backyards of 20 study participants. The Research Technician will provide pivotal support to the research team prior to, during and after the field study.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Visit the homes of the study participants’ to ensure that their backyard is suitable to host the air quality monitoring equipment
- Ensure that the air quality monitoring equipment is functioning properly prior to field deployment
- Develop calibration factors between the SCULPT study equipment and the instrumentation located in the SOCAAR facility
- Execute the field deployments at the study participants’ homes and visit the homes regularly to ensure continued proper operation of the instruments.
- Enter the data collected from questionnaires and field logs into a database
- Assist with data consolidation and QA/QC

QUALIFICATIONS:

- B.A.Sc. in Engineering, Public Health, Environmental Science, or related field
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Strong interpersonal skills and an ability to maintain good relationships with clients
- Attention to detail and strong organizational skills
- Excellent record keeping skills
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office programs such as Word, Excel and Access
- Valid G class driver’s license (no G1 or G2) with a clean driving record.
- Access to a vehicle or ability to drive a rental car (age 23 or older is desirable)
- Familiarity with the principles of air quality is desirable
- Experience conducting field monitoring would be an asset
- Experience working with and managing large datasets would be an asset

Interested individuals should forward their resume and contact information for two references to Kelly Sabaliauskas (kelly.sabaliauskas@utoronto.ca). Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.