

The [Dream Legacy Foundation](#) is a black-led organization that is at the forefront of driving economic inclusion in Canada, including by helping to promote inclusivity in Canada's entrepreneurship ecosystems. As part of the federal government of Canada's new [Black Entrepreneurship Program](#), DLF is leading the Black Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub (BEKH) alongside Carleton University's Sprott School of Business. BEKH is the national central hub for research, data and insights on Black entrepreneurship ecosystems in Canada.

DLF seeks a Research Consultant to lead DLF's research activities as part of BEKH. This is a unique opportunity to be part of the team that is building the first national research hub on Black entrepreneurship ecosystems in Canada. Qualified candidates are encouraged to submit resumes with a cover letter outlining how their experience relates to the Job Requirements by **April 18, 2022**. The target start date is as early as April 25, 2022, and applications will be accepted and reviewed as they arrive until the position is filled.

Send your resume(s) and cover letter to connections@dreamlegacy.org.

Job Summary

BEKH envisions a Canada where access to economic opportunities and ownership of wealth is representative of the nation's demographics; a Canada in which Black communities have agency to lead coordinated research efforts and generate knowledge to inform equity and inclusion in entrepreneurship ecosystems.

Our mission is to facilitate and orchestrate structured community-led research collaborations anchored in regional hubs comprised of community and academic researchers, community organizations, post-secondary universities, and colleges. Our goal is that this coordinated network of regional hubs will generate actions and outputs that will:

- ensure capacity strengthening for black communities to lead research
- inform communities' advocacy and policy-making needs
- inform, support, and sustain the development of a strong, self-sufficient Black entrepreneurship ecosystems to facilitate the socioeconomic health and well-being for communities.

Key Responsibilities

1. Work alongside the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Coordinator and in consultation with Black communities in developing national strategies for community engagement and knowledge mobilization.
2. Lead on DLF research activities: research proposal development, developing surveys, planning focus groups, co-leading community research visioning.
3. Conduct (needs-based) community research capacity strengthening activities: includes developing toolkits, designing and facilitating workshops and webinars to build or strengthen community research and advocacy capacity.
 - Plan and facilitate 12 capacity strengthening workshops and toolkit trainings per Fiscal Year; 2 per regional hub (6 hubs) per year for 3 years.
Minimum total of 36 workshops and trainings in 3 years.

- Lead in planning the content and format of the 2 Community Conferences alongside the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Coordinator; one conference in FY22-23 and another in FY24-25
4. Contribute to all research-related discussions at BEKH, including with the Research Advisory Committee. Please note, this is a new initiative and work evolves as we learn and gather insights from stakeholders. The role thus requires commitment, adaptability and initiative.

Job Requirements

Core Knowledge

- Knowledge of the lived experiences of Black entrepreneurs, community members and organizations in Canada
- Practical knowledge of entrepreneurial ecosystem frameworks
- Practical knowledge of models to strengthen or build capacity for community-led research and community-led advocacy
- Alignment with BEKH's vision and mission

Education

- A PhD degree holder **OR** candidate at the ABD stage in a field related to economic and social development, with work experience
- Bilingualism: fluency in written and spoken English and French required

Experience

- 4+ years of work experience, including at least 2 years leading capacity strengthening initiatives for community-led research and advocacy, including through trainings, workshops, development of toolkits
- Experience in conducting needs assessments, landscape surveys and other methods of gathering and analyzing different types of data
- Experience in knowledge mobilization and dissemination
- Experience with funded research and/or understanding of research process/lifecycle
- Experiences engaging in strategic discussions to collaboratively develop research proposals with diverse stakeholders eg. Entrepreneurs, community organizations, academic institutions, governments and corporations
- Industry experience a plus

Work conditions

- This is a part-time role with some weeks being busier than others based on deliverables
- You will work collaboratively with the DLF BEKH team, the joint DLF-Carleton BEKH team and Regional (Community) Hubs
- You will be required to travel across Canada (at least 10 times/year) to lead capacity-strengthening activities, as COVID-19 requirements allow
- When not traveling, you will work remotely
- You will be supervised by the DLF BEKH Program Manager