

## **Position: Postdoctoral Researcher in Microbiology (Virology focus)**

**Hours: 35 hours per week**

**Location: 3411 Seymour Pl and the University of Victoria and remote**

### **About Origen Air:**

Origen Air harnesses the power of nature to restore biological balance to indoor spaces.

We are an early stage British Columbia-based health-tech Startup dedicated to scrubbing pollutants out of indoor air. We aim to maximize human health and productivity while significantly lowering our clients' energy costs. Our mission is to produce the most effective, beautiful and sustainable living air purifiers in the world.

Origen Air is proud to be an Equal Opportunity Employer. We value and celebrate diversity, and are committed to making an inclusive environment for all employees.

We are looking for a postdoctoral researcher with background in virology who wants to be a part of a small team working to create a more sustainable, healthy world.

To learn more about us, check out our website [here](#).

### **Microbiologist Roles and Responsibilities:**

- Develop and implement tests to simulate effects of fogged micro-biotic aerosol on airborne viruses or viral proxies
- Develop assays to determine its microbial composition of cultures obtained from surface swabs
- Develop and implement assays to test efficacy of probiotics on disruption of various microbial biofilms
- Provide input on aiding in the micropropagation of our genetically modified plants
- Generate ideas from background knowledge, scientific journals and publications, industry experts and other technology areas to generate hypothesis for potential prototype solutions
- Act as an inhouse resource for microbiology & biochemistry related inquiries and projects and work as part of a team.
- Communicate science in language understandable by general public
- Perform other tasks as assigned

### **You Have:**

- A Ph.D. in Microbiology, Biochemistry or another related field, preferably with a focus on Virology;
- Authored or contributed to peer-reviewed journal publications;
- Experience working in biosafety level 2 laboratories (BSL 2);

- Strong understanding of virology, specifically as it pertains to airborne viruses;
- Experience in methodology design for microbiological research projects;
- Strong understanding of surface adherent bacteria;
- Experience in molecular biology assays, including DNA/RNA extractions, PCR, bacterial cultures;
- Experience generating cell cultures and purifying viruses from those cultures (e.g. isolating Tobacco mosaic virus for study);
- Experience with fluorochromes and fluorescent microscopy;
- Electron microscopy experience;
- Strong skills in sterile technique;
- Ability to adapt quickly to changing needs of a start-up;
- Worked with potentially harmful pathogens in a laboratory setting;
- Ability to assess a study's scientific veracity;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills;
- Knowledge of plant micropropagation (bonus); and,
- Relevant independent on-the-side projects (bonus).

**You Are:**

- A self-starter with the ability to manage and execute with minimal supervision
- Able to work independently as well as part of a team
- Interested in environmental sustainability, workplace health and wellness, and project management

**Work Environment:**

Origen Air has been incorporated for just over one year. As a young start-up, we are strongly committed to hard work, creativity, and having fun while producing results. Furthermore, there are opportunities to develop materials and work on projects depending on your interests.

As a small team, you will have the opportunity to work closely with members of staff in diverse positions within the company. You will also work with University professors in Microbiology, Biochemistry, Biology, and/or Engineering.

This position will be partially based out of our office at 3411 Seymour Pl, at the University of Victoria, and remotely. We communicate primarily over our company's Slack, email, and Zoom/Google Meet.

To apply, please email your cover letter and resume to [ryan@origenair.com](mailto:ryan@origenair.com)