

“An opportunity for lifetime learning...”

Bio-economy Career Profile

Position: Manager, Clinical Services and Epidemiology

Name: Dr. Don Wilson

Company: Vaccine & Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO), University of Saskatchewan

Salary Range: As market demands

What I do:

The Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO) carries out research and development of vaccine and immunity-enhancing technologies for humans and animals. I am the coordinator of animal trial work for the VIDO. I ensure that animals entrusted to our care are handled in a humane and responsible manner.

My day is spent coordinating animal trials, which includes advising on the work feasibility, scheduling, and acquisition of animals and supplies, approval of protocols, ensuring the work meets the standards of the Canadian Council of Animal Care and Supply, and providing clinical evaluations of animals in ongoing experiments.

What education and skills do candidates need for this position?

You require at minimum a Degree in Veterinary Medicine, but you will learn mainly from the job. The ideal path for this position is a combination of experience and specialized training.

You require good administrative skills, which include formulation of budgets, coordination of a variety of research programs, good people skills, attention to detail, prioritizing and problem solving.

It's also important to have knowledge and experience in biocontainment, management skills, experience with the



use of animal models, and knowledge of animals and animal diseases.

What are the best parts of your job?

The best things about my job are exposure to front-line research and novel approaches to difficult problems, and access to critical thinkers in the field of infectious disease research. The job provides the opportunity for lifetime learning, while contributing to research that may positively influence the health of animals and humans.