

## JOB POSTING #

---

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Position:        | Portfolio Manager, Global Health Innovation   |
| Site:            | Hybrid: MaRS Discovery Tower + Work from Home |
| Department:      | Grand Challenges Canada                       |
| Reports to:      | Associate Director                            |
| Responsible for: | Program Associate and/or Program Analyst      |
| Status:          | Full-time, Temporary (one year contract)      |
| Salary:          | \$95,500/year + benefits                      |

---

[Grand Challenges Canada](#) (GCC) is dedicated to supporting Bold Ideas with Big Impact®. Funded by the Government of Canada and other partners, GCC funds innovators in low- and middle-income countries and Canada. The bold ideas we support integrate science and technology, social and business innovation – we call this Integrated Innovation®. We have a determined focus on results, and on saving and improving lives. GCC works closely with a global network of partners to bring successful innovation to scale, catalyzing sustainability and impact.

As one of the largest impact-first funders in Canada, GCC has funded over 1,300 innovations championed by innovators in more than 106 countries. These innovations have already improved 10 million lives, and are expected to save up to 1.78 million lives and improve up to 64 million lives by 2030.

### Global Health Innovation

The Global Health Innovation (GHI) area of impact is the first and largest at GCC. GHI's current investments focus on mental health, maternal and newborn health, sanitation, access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights including safe abortion, and include portfolios of innovative service delivery, digital solutions and medical products. We provide grant and concessionary risk capital, along with technical advisory, to support innovators through seed and transition to scale funding.

The **Portfolio Manager** develops, shapes and manages a dynamic portfolio of global health innovations. Deploying relevant thematic expertise, business acumen, and investment knowledge, the Portfolio Manager has the following responsibilities:

#### Fund innovative deals aligned with portfolio strategy:

- Source and secure sufficient and quality pipeline innovations from external and internal sources in line with GCC and portfolio priorities
- Launch RFPs for targeted innovations and manage the intake and review process
- Evaluate new funding opportunities, including facilitating scientific peer review and conducting operational, financial and programmatic due diligence and risk analysis
- Prepare investment memorandums and present potential investments to GCC's Investment Committee
- Oversee negotiations and their translation into grant agreements
- Monitor portfolio budget and spend to meet annual targets

*\*For the majority of Portfolio Managers, more than half of one's time is allocated to this objective\**

#### Refine and adjust the portfolio's investment strategy:

- Provide strategic oversight of the portfolio and support the development of annual priorities, targets & budgets

- Recommend areas for investment focus based on population needs, health impact, and GCC's catalytic value add in the ecosystem
- Present semi-annual portfolio reviews and raise portfolio strategy, partnership, (re-)investment, and budget considerations for consultation
- Lead and contribute to the analysis of portfolio progress, results, and lessons on a continual basis

**Manage an active portfolio of GCC investments that achieve impact:**

- Manage a portfolio of investments including review and approval of progress reports, financial reports, and results reports; process contract and budget amendments; and manage milestone delays or other concerns as they emerge (act as primary deal lead and/or oversee work done by others on the portfolio)
- Engage with innovators on a regular basis (i.e. relationship management) to support needs in meeting program milestones, including facilitating partnerships or venture advisory as required
- Retain suitable venture advisory services and oversee support and outputs developed with innovators

**Provide collaborative leadership to advance a high-performing, resilient team:**

- Supervise and manage Analyst and/or Associate staff, either directly or through a matrix approach
- Coach junior staff to engage with innovators and partners, exercise judgement in supporting deals, and contribute to project and portfolio progress
- Provide targeted support to priority GCC initiatives, other teams, and/or coverage during staff absences
- Model effective work behaviours that support personal and team wellness, and are aligned with GCC's commitment to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility

**Represent GCC and the portfolio with external audiences to achieve the objectives above:**

- Establish and/or manage partnerships with a range of stakeholders - such as foundations, development organizations, government officials, researchers, impact investors, and social entrepreneurs - to develop quality pipeline, define and collaborate on strategic focus areas, and enable innovators to succeed
- Establish councils/advisory bodies, as required, to ensure a coordinated and strategic portfolio approach that combines funding, research, innovation, policy and advocacy, and engagement with people with lived experience
- Act as an ambassador for GCC, representing GCC's strategic interests and serving as a thought leader in global health and innovation and impact investing through external collaborations, presentations to partners, participation in local and international conferences, and communications with innovators, external thought leaders, and Canadian government representatives
- Contribute to donor and partner reporting as well as fundraising efforts, as required

**Knowledge & Skills:**

- Knowledge of the innovation lifecycle and critical path to market for early-stage innovations, with a strong understanding of industry trends, key players, regulatory considerations, and go-to-market strategies for medical products and technologies. Experience acquired in a health startup or early-stage investment firm is an asset.
- Extensive experience evaluating the commercial and financial potential of early-stage innovations, with a strong ability to assess risks, hurdles, and opportunities related to business models, market approaches, and teams.
- Demonstrated understanding of and engagement with key stakeholders and networks in relevant domain areas
- Excellent analytic, strategic thinking and project management skills to oversee a large portfolio
- Self-directed with an entrepreneurial approach to source, fund, and support innovators

- Highly developed verbal, written and presentation communications skills
- Ability to take initiative and effectively manage competing priorities and deadlines
- Effective people management skills and commitment to teamwork
- Commitment to GCC's strategy of shifting power to those closest to the challenge
- Understanding of early-stage financing structures, including debt, mezzanine, and equity. Practical experience with deal structuring is a valuable asset.
- Working knowledge of French is a significant asset

**Experience & Education:**

- A minimum of 8-10 years of work experience with 3-5 years relevant experience managing large programs, investments, and/or staff, preferably including work with early-stage investments and/or social enterprises in low and middle income countries
- Experience working and/or living in low resource contexts a significant asset
- Advanced degree in a relevant discipline (e.g. impact investing, global health, international development) – or commensurate work experience

People with disabilities and people with lived experiences in relevant thematic areas are encouraged to apply.

*Don't meet every requirement? Studies have shown that women, people of color, people from LGBTQ2S+ and disabilities communities are less likely to apply to jobs when they do not meet every qualification. At Grand Challenges Canada, we are dedicated to building a diverse, inclusive, authentic, and accountable workplace, so if you are excited about this role but your experience does not align perfectly with every qualification in the job description, we encourage you to apply, as you may be the ideal candidate we are looking for.*

**Location and Work Requirements:**

- We are currently working in a hybrid model. However, as a condition of employment, all GCC staff are required to be available to travel to, and work from the Toronto main office, as business and operational needs require. Any expenses related to travel and or relocating to Toronto are the sole responsibility of the employee and will not be reimbursed by GCC.
- Some international travel will be required.
- Applicants must be eligible to work in Canada

**Term**

- Start date: October 2024
- Status: Full-Time, Temporary (one year contract)

**Application Process**

- Please submit your resume and cover letter [here](#)

---

POSTED DATE: September 11, 2024

CLOSING DATE: September 24, 2024