

## **Habitat preferences and occurrence of the common walking stick (*Diaperomera femorata*) in Québec**

A MSc position is available under the co-supervision of Dr. Clint Kelly (Université du Québec à Montréal, [www.kellylab.weebly.com](http://www.kellylab.weebly.com)), Dr. Maxim Larrivée (Insectarium de Montréal), and Dr. Michel Saint-Germain (Insectarium de Montréal) beginning September 2018.

We are seeking a keen and curious student with a strong interest in conservation biology to develop and test a model of habitat preference and occupancy for the common walking stick (*Diaperomera femorata*). This species is common across North America but is known to occur in only three locations in Quebec (Mont Royal, Gatineau Park, and near the US border). Given that suitable habitat exists in other locations across Quebec, *D. femorata* is likely more widespread than is currently believed. By integrating knowledge of climate, topography and vegetative composition, the student will generate and test predictions of *D. femorata* occurrence throughout the province. The student will also assess behavioural and genetic differences among known Québec populations.

This project will be conducted under the auspices of ReNewZoo ([www.renewzoo.ca](http://www.renewzoo.ca)) and aims to train students for future employment in zoo conservation science. Students will be paid a stipend of \$17,500 for each of two years. ReNewZoo has mandatory components (see details at [www.renewzoo.ca](http://www.renewzoo.ca)) in addition to those of the Département des Sciences biologiques (UQAM) including a 4-month internship at Insectarium de Montréal and coursework.

The candidate must have completed a B.Sc. degree in Biology or a related discipline, have an interest in field work and work in zoological institutions. Interested candidates should submit a brief letter of intent, a curriculum vitae and an unofficial transcript to contacts below. UQAM is a linguistically open environment, however, graduate-level classes are taught in French.

The Kelly Lab is a member of the Groupe de recherche en écologie comportementale et animale (GRECA), which is a part of the large, research-active Département des Sciences Biologiques at UQAM (<https://bio.uqam.ca>) in the heart of Montréal.

If interested, please send a letter of intent, academic transcripts and a CV to Clint Kelly ([kelly.clint@uqam.ca](mailto:kelly.clint@uqam.ca)) and Maxim Larrivée ([maxim.larrivee@ville.montreal.qc.ca](mailto:maxim.larrivee@ville.montreal.qc.ca)).