Peatland restoration in a cranberry farm context
(MSc)

Program: Plant biology
Where: Université Laval, Québec City

Starting date: September 2019 or January 2020

Scholarships*: Can$15,000 / yr (MSc)

Project description

In recent decades, the cranberry industry has exploded in Quebec to the point where the province has become the world's second-largest producer of this small fruit. The crops are grown on peat with sand amendment or directly on sand. In Quebec, more than 60% of the crops are on sand while the rest are in peatland. Peatlands are the main type of wetland disturbed by cranberry growing followed, to a lesser extent, by swamps.

The Moss Layer Transfer Technique has proven effective in restoring peatland vegetation communities and a carbon accumulator ecosystem in peatlands where peat was extracted for horticultural purposes. At present, existing restoration methods for the horticultural peat industry are not directly applicable to the cranberry fields. Thus, this project aims to develop peatland restoration techniques on sites that have been used for cranberry growing.

Under the supervision of **Line Rochefort**, an internationally renowned bryology specialist and Director of the Peatland Ecology Research Group, and under the co-direction of **Sylvain Jutras**, Forest Hydrologist and Professor at the Faculty of Forestry, Geography and Geomatics.

Send your application, along with:

1) Motivation letter

2) Resume

3) Most recent transcript

4) Contact information of 3 references

to candidature-gret@fsaa.ulaval.ca

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