Invitation for Internal Applications: Tier 2 Canada Research Chairs (CRCs)

Date posted: October 28, 2026

Deadline for applications: January 6, 2027

St. Thomas University invites applications from existing full-time faculty members (tenured, tenure-track, or Limited-Term Appointment) for two (2) Tier 2 Canada Research Chairs (CRCs) in any discipline under the remit of the three federal funding agencies (Tri-Agency): the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).

Tier 2 CRCs are tenable for five (5) years and renewable once for an additional five (5) years. They are awarded to exceptional emerging researchers, acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to lead in their field. To meet the criteria of the program, Tier 2 CRC nominees must:

- be excellent, world-class researchers with research creativity and vision;
- demonstrate the potential to achieve international recognition in their field in the next five to ten years;
- have the potential, as a Canada Research Chair, to attract, develop and retain excellent trainees, students, and future researchers (High-Quality Personnel or HQP); and
- propose an original, innovative research program of high quality.

"Exceptional emerging researchers" means that candidates must have held their first independent academic research-related appointment for fewer than ten (10) years at the time of nomination for a Chair.

Applicants who are more than ten (10) years from the beginning of their first independent academic research-related appointment and who have experienced career interruptions due to factors such as maternity, parental or extended sick leave, clinical training, etc. may have their eligibility for a Tier 2 Chair assessed through the program's Tier 2 justification process. Contact the Office of Research Services for more information.

Potential candidates should consult the Canada Research Chairs website for full program information, including further details on eligibility criteria.

Eligibility at STU:

- Candidates must be exceptional emerging researchers (as defined by the CRC Program) who are full-time members of the STU faculty: tenured, tenure-track or holding a Limited-Term Appointment.
- St. Thomas University expects candidates to hold a Ph.D., though this is not a requirement of the CRC Program.

Application Process:

Applications will include the following materials in a single PDF file:

- A two-page (maximum) cover letter outlining the applicant's suitability for the position;
- A six-page (maximum) research plan written in clear, non-specialist language to allow for assessment by committee members who may not be experts in the field. This research plan must: a) outline the applicant's research vision; b) detail their plan for the initial five-year term of the CRC (Tier 2); c) indicate how they intend to develop trainees, students, and future researchers (HQP), and d) address how the applicant's research aligns with one or more of the seven focal areas of St. Thomas University's *Strategic Research Plan* (2025-30);
- A curriculum vitae (applicants are encouraged to consult the CRC Program's guidelines regarding "CV details" and "CV documents" in Instructions for submitting nominations and renewals on the Convergence platform);
- A two-page (maximum) teaching portfolio with a statement of teaching philosophy and evidence of excellence in undergraduate teaching;
- The names and contact information of three referees who can speak to the applicant's research profile, experience and potential for future contributions.

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed by the St. Thomas University's CRC Recruitment and Nomination Committee and will give an oral presentation to the University community, demonstrating how they meet the criteria for a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair.

Applications must be sent to the CRC Recruitment and Nomination Committee, in care of **Dr. Kim Fenwick, Provost and Vice-President Academic & Research (vpacademic@stu.ca).**

Deadline for receipt of applications is Wednesday, January 6, 2027.

Potential candidates are welcome to meet with the Associate Vice-President (Research), Dr. Carey Watt (avpresearch@stu.ca), to discuss their prospective application, the application process, and the CRC program.

About St. Thomas University: St. Thomas University (STU) is a publicly funded, primarily undergraduate, liberal arts institution with a full-time enrolment of 1,650. It features a beautiful campus in Fredericton, the capital city of New Brunswick, where academic researchers can enjoy an excellent work-life balance. Our students can take courses in over thirty programs, departments, or schools to graduate with Bachelor of Arts (Social Sciences & Humanities), Applied Arts, Education, and Social Work (BSW & MSW) degrees. Faculty members are distinguished teachers, researchers and scholars, and the university currently holds one Canada Research Chair as well as a Research Chair in Community Health and Aging. The University also houses the Atlantic Human Rights Centre (AHRC) and the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Narrative (CIRN).

EDI(A), Accommodations and Life Circumstances: St. Thomas University encourages applications from all qualified candidates and is committed to the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI), including employment equity for the following under-represented equity-seeking groups identified in the Canadian Employment Equity Act: women, Indigenous persons, members of visible minority groups (racialized individuals) and persons with disabilities, as well as members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. To request accommodation, accessibility or adaptive measures at any point in the application and recruitment process, candidates may contact Human Resources Director, Jenilyn Bruette (hrdirector@stu.ca; 506-452-0630). STU has a *Workplace Accommodation Policy* and the University's *Full-Time Collective Agreement* for faculty (2025-28) contains articles regarding "No Discrimination" and the "Duty to Accommodate".

St. Thomas University strives to apply EDI principles in the Canada Research Chairs program, in its research ecosystem, and its campus culture. We recognize that a more diverse scholarly community enhances our research capacity and potential for research excellence. STU is in alignment with the CRCP's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Requirements and Practices, and the University has recently completed its first EDI Action Plan, which will be published shortly. STU acknowledges that life circumstances such as illness, disability, family and community responsibilities (e.g., maternity leave, parental leave, leaves due to illness, leaves due to caring for family members, slowdowns due to chronic illness or disability, or COVID-19 impacts) can affect a researcher's career and have an impact on their record of research achievement. Applicant(s) may choose to acknowledge any such life circumstances in their cover letter and CV, if desired. These would be taken into careful consideration during the assessment process.

St. Thomas University is situated on the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik, Wəlastəkewiyik / Maliseet whose ancestors along with the Mi'Kmaq / Mi'kmaw and Passamaquoddy / Peskotomuhkati Tribes / Nations signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the British Crown in the 1700s.