

# Leaders

INTERNATIONAL

Executive Search



## **Three Canada Research Chairs (Tier 2)**

**Indigenous Governance, Indigenous Governance in Education,  
and Indigenous Governance in Health and Wellness**



**SIMON FRASER  
UNIVERSITY**



## Background

Simon Fraser University (SFU) is located on unceded and traditional Coast Salish territories, including those of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), səliłwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh), kʷikʷəłəm (Kwikwetlem), q̓ičəy (Katzie), Kwantlen, qəqəyt (Qayqayt), SEMYOME (Semiahmoo) and s̓cəwəθən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen) Nations. SFU has a long history of engaging with Indigenous communities and Indigenous issues. Prompted in part by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) and by the *Final Report and Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission* (2015), SFU has created the Office of Aboriginal Peoples, the Aboriginal Strategic Plan, a university-wide Steering Committee, and the Aboriginal Reconciliation Council (ARC). The ARC report, *Walk This Path with Us* (2017), identifies a broad range of commitments based on partnerships with Indigenous peoples and communities, provincially, nationally and globally.

## The Positions

In recognition of its commitment to Indigenous scholarship, SFU invites applications for **THREE Tier 2 Canada Research Chairs (CRCs)**<sup>1</sup> focused on aspects of Indigenous Governance in three academic units: The Department of Indigenous Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences; the Faculty of Education; and the Faculty of Health Sciences to begin between July 2021 and January 2022. These CRC appointments, through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) or the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), are intended for exceptional emerging scholars who have demonstrated excellence in research,

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<sup>1</sup> Tier 2 Chairs are intended for exceptional candidates who have been active researchers in their field for fewer than 10 years at the time of nomination. Applicants who are more than 10 years from their highest degree (and where career breaks exist, including maternity leave, extended sick leave, clinical training, etc.) may have their eligibility for a Tier 2 CRC assessed through the program's Tier 2 justification process; please see the CRC website for eligibility details or contact the SFU office for [Institutional Strategic Awards](#).



## The Positions (cont.)

teaching, and the potential to attract, supervise and mentor graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. They must possess the necessary qualifications to be appointed at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor, which at SFU requires a completed PhD by the time of appointment. Appointment to these positions is contingent upon the applicants receiving a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair. Each CRC is tenable for five years and is renewable once.

The successful applicants will demonstrate clear potential to become internationally recognized leaders in Indigenous Governance with an outstanding record of high-impact publications and sustained research funding from national and international foundations, research councils, and/or development agencies.

Candidates will have a demonstrated knowledge of and accomplishment in Indigenous research methodologies, interdisciplinary innovation, and community engagement. Ideally, they will have a demonstrable history and practice of immersion in and engagement with Indigenous cultures and communities. They will provide strategic research leadership and vision in the development of new understandings, knowledges, and practices, and their mobilization in Indigenous partnerships and collaborations. Engagement with First Nations, Inuit or Métis communities and organizations in North America is an asset.

The successful candidates will be expected to collaborate in research clusters and networks at SFU, nationally, and internationally, as well as make significant contributions to service and teaching needs.

The chairholders will be expected to collectively and collaboratively build research strength at SFU in Indigenous Governance as part of this cluster hire.

What follows is a specific description of each of three positions and academic units.



Skwxwú7mesh members Dr. Rudy Reimer (Yumks) and SFU Board Chair alumnus Chris Lewis (Syeta'xtn) at the installation of the Bill Reid Canoe ceremony

## 1. CRC in Indigenous Governance

*The Department of Indigenous Studies* impressively fulfills Simon Fraser University's bifocal strategic vision "to be a world leader in knowledge mobilization, building on a strong foundation of fundamental research" and "to be Canada's most community-engaged university." (External Report 2017). Our faculty members engage with communities in Indigenous-informed ways and through diverse mediums, in fields including activism, archeology, arts, ethnoecology and Indigenous ecological studies, gender studies, Indigenous literary studies, linguistics, Indigenous pedagogies, public policy, and sociology. More information can be found at [www.sfu.ca/indg.html](http://www.sfu.ca/indg.html).

*The Department of Indigenous Studies in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences invites applications for a SSHRC Tier 2 CRC in Indigenous Governance*, in its widest definitions. This CRC opportunity is intended for exceptional emerging scholars in Indigenous Studies or associated disciplines, specifically: cultural sovereignty; Indigenous language sovereignty, Indigenous law and intellectual principles; Indigenous sovereignty; policy studies; traditional governance; as well as an interest in innovative interdisciplinary research and knowledge translation. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to develop a program of research based upon the Tri-Council's stated principles of Indigenous research.

Through strategic partnerships with departments as diverse as Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, the School of Public Policy, the Labour Studies Program, and the Department of French, the Department of Indigenous Studies has more than doubled in size in the past three years with the hiring of six new faculty members. Student numbers have also risen dramatically. At the present time our Department members have connections to First Nations and Métis organizations across Canada and the United States, and with local urban Indigenous communities. The CRC will add new dimensions to our recent growth and renewal and play a leading role in the establishment of a graduate program.

## 2. CRC in Indigenous Governance in Education

*The Faculty of Education* is an internationally noted centre of research and scholarly inquiry, with a long and extensive history of innovative programming grounded in commitments to improving the practice of teaching and responding to community needs and aspirations. The Faculty is non-departmentalized and has a distinctive presence and array of activities at all three SFU campuses (Burnaby, Surrey, Vancouver), united in a shared commitment to the core values of Equity, Indigeneity and a Culture of Inquiry.<sup>2</sup>

In the Faculty's current 5-Year Academic Plan, Indigeneity is described as "a set of philosophies and values... central to knowing and understanding the diversities of Indigenous worldviews. These core values are best understood as interconnected relationships and the 4Rs of respecting Indigenous ways of knowing and being: responsible relationships, relevance, invitation to the work, and reciprocity." It commits the Faculty to working to "understand the complexity and nuances of Indigenous ways of knowing and being that are directly informed by the lands, histories, cultures, languages, and experiences of being Indigenous," and to having this developing understanding inform "the work across the Faculty (e.g., learning, teaching, research, service, community engagement, policy and program development, admissions, and other administrative activities)."

The Faculty has a long tradition of working in partnership with communities across British Columbia and elsewhere, including many Indigenous communities. This work takes the form of innovative programs in undergraduate education, initial teacher education and graduate education, co-designed and co-led with community educators and knowledge holders. Indigenous graduates have made substantial contributions to communities and schools, and have played key roles in developing the field of Indigenous educational scholarship in British Columbia and Canada. The Faculty is also currently home to a number of active and well-regarded Indigenous scholars who are involved in a wide range of community partnerships and interdisciplinary and Indigenous research projects.

*The Faculty of Education invites applications for a SSHRC Tier 2 CRC in Indigenous Governance in Education.* In the context of its core value of Indigeneity, the Faculty of Education wishes to cultivate scholarship that honours and embodies Indigenous Governance in Education with a focus on Knowledges and Indigeneity within the context of Indigenous resurgence. We envision this work as grounded in the integrity, revitalization and resurgence of Indigenous cultures, languages and knowledge traditions that are resonant with the teachings of the land and cultivate "strong minds and strong hearts".

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<sup>2</sup> For further information about the Faculty of Education, please visit [www.sfu.ca/education](http://www.sfu.ca/education).

For details of the Faculty 5-Year Academic Plan, please visit:

[http://www.sfu.ca/content/dam/sfu/vpacademic/files/vp\\_academic\\_docs/pdfs/Education2019-2024.pdf](http://www.sfu.ca/content/dam/sfu/vpacademic/files/vp_academic_docs/pdfs/Education2019-2024.pdf).



## 2. CRC in Indigenous Governance in Education (cont.)

The successful candidate will have a deep understanding of Indigenous inquiry and of the potential of Indigenous pedagogies for the work of transformative reconciliation and Indigenous self-determination, nation-building, and sovereignty. Core dimensions of the work include the growing of places and spaces for dialogue, the enactment of curriculums and pedagogies, and the building of reciprocal relationships with Indigenous communities. These activities will support a program of research that seeks to broaden and deepen a trans-systemic understanding of Indigenous knowledges and Indigeneity across cultural, institutional and disciplinary divides.

As an integral aspect of this work, the successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the strengthening of the Faculty's understanding of and engagement with Indigeneity as a core value. This includes participating in the Indigenous Education and Reconciliation Council and other forms of Faculty self-governance, contributing to professional development and scholarly dialogue with faculty colleagues, engaging in research that advances Knowledges and Indigeneity, and collaborating to enhance and deepen the ways in which our courses and programs engage with issues of decolonization, reconciliation, and Indigenous resurgence.

### 3. CRC in Indigenous Governance in Health and Wellness

*The Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) was created in 2004 with a [mission](#) to improve the health of individuals and populations and to reduce health inequities through excellence in interdisciplinary research and education, in partnership with local, national and global communities and with a commitment to social justice. The successful candidate will join a diverse and dynamic team of more than 50 multi-disciplinary faculty members and will have the opportunity to engage with and teach outstanding students in the PhD, MSc, MPH, and BA/BSc programs. FHS maintains collaborative agreements and partnerships with the BC government, regional health authorities, research centres, and provincial, national and international agencies. Our community engaged work is exciting and at the cutting edge of interdisciplinary work in health. The faculty includes three Canada Research Chairs, five Endowed Chairs, and nine additional faculty members with external salary awards.*

*FHS invites applications for a Tier 2 CRC in Indigenous Governance in Health and Wellness. We seek a scholar who has a PhD or equivalent in a relevant social or health science discipline. The successful applicant's program of research should uphold Indigenous peoples' right to self-determine their own health and wellness journeys. Commitment to Indigenous health governance principles of self-government, self-determination, nation-to-nation decision-making, reciprocal accountability, and meaningful community engagement are preferred. Indigenous peoples worldwide have a long and rich history of health, wellness, community, and Nationhood. Colonization continues to undermine Indigenous approaches to health, healing and community wellness, resulting in significant disparities in health outcomes and access to health services in comparison to settler populations. Recent developments in Canada and globally support the principle that Indigenous governance over local health systems is an essential step towards advancing Indigenous community health and wellness.*

The successful candidate will be expected to build successful policy and related relationships with external stakeholders (e.g., in government, health systems, or NGOs), and gradually assume a leadership role that bridges research strengths and policy impact. They will be expected to assume the leadership of the Centre for Collaborative Action on Indigenous Health Governance, which will have a shared governance model with the BC First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), which is the first province-wide health authority of its kind in Canada.

The ideal candidate will hold proven expertise in research relevant to Indigenous health governance across one or more of the [research challenge areas](#) in the Faculty of Health Sciences. These are Mental Health and Addictions; Infectious Diseases; Developmental Trajectories; Health Systems and Health Policy; Big Data and Social and Technological Innovation; and Planetary Change. Though a reduced teaching load (1.5 courses per year) will be provided during the term of the Tier 2 Chair, successful applicants will be expected to actively contribute to teaching in Indigenous health, as well as supervising graduate students.



## Simon Fraser University

Simon Fraser University (SFU) is acknowledged as one of Canada's foremost comprehensive research universities and with a mission to be Canada's most community-engaged research university through innovative education, cutting-edge research and community partnerships. The SFU community includes 35,000 students, 2,700 faculty and staff, and 130,000 alumni; its activities take place across three vibrant campuses in British Columbia's largest municipalities – Vancouver, Burnaby, and Surrey – as well as in many smaller communities throughout British Columbia and in a variety of locations across Canada and around the world.<sup>3</sup> SFU is a university that serves students of diverse ethnic, cultural, linguistic and international origins, experience in working in multicultural and international settings with students of diverse backgrounds is a desired attribute of all applicants.

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<sup>3</sup> For further information about SFU, please visit [www.sfu.ca](http://www.sfu.ca).

# Application Process

Please apply electronically to:

Laurie Sterritt • Partner  
**Leaders International**  
880-609 Granville Street  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
Telephone : 778-838-4569  
[laurie@leadersinternational.com](mailto:laurie@leadersinternational.com)

Wenda Lee Cameron • Client Services Administrator  
**Leaders International**  
18th Floor, 201 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Telephone : 204-515-3828 Ext. 107  
[wendalee@leadersInternational.com](mailto:wendalee@leadersInternational.com)

Please submit the following as PDF files:

- A signed application letter that includes a description of the applicant's scholarly interests and achievements to date, teaching experience, and potential contributions to the Faculty;
- A proposed program of research (an outline of the proposed CRC research program over five years, 2-6 pages single spaced);
- A current curriculum vitae;
- The names of four referees (with contact information), including one non-academic referee<sup>4</sup> ; and
- Four examples of refereed published scholarly work, or other publications displaying a high standard of scholarship such as research reports written for an Indigenous organization or government body.

**Please specify which of the three CRC positions you are applying for.**

**Applications must be submitted by February 15th, 2021.**

Any general inquiries regarding this posting may be directed to **Laurie Sterritt**.

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<sup>4</sup> Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Please do not ask referees to send letters of reference; they will be contacted directly as needed.

# Additional Information

The position is subject to the availability of funding and to final approval by the University Board of Governors and the CRC Secretariat. Interested applicants are invited to review the initial appointment and chair renewal details of the CRC Program<sup>5</sup>.

SFU recognizes that alternative career paths and/or career interruptions (e.g. maternity leave, leave due to illness) can impact research achievements and commits to ensuring that leaves are taken into careful consideration. Candidates are encouraged to highlight in their application how alternative paths and/or interruptions have impacted their careers. SFU also recognizes the value of mentoring and research training, outreach, professional service, and non-traditional areas of research and/or research outputs; demonstrated experience in increasing diversity in the previous institutional environment, and in curriculum, is also an asset.

Simon Fraser University is an institution whose strength is based on our shared commitments to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Diversity is an underlying principle of SFU's Strategic Vision, which pledges SFU to "foster a culture of inclusion and mutual respect, celebrating the diversity reflected among its students, faculty, staff, and our community." SFU is committed to ensuring that no individual is denied access to employment opportunities for reasons unrelated to ability or qualifications. Consistent with this principle, SFU will advance the interests of underrepresented members of the work force, specifically Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, racialized persons, and women; embrace gender and sexual diversity; ensure that equal opportunity is afforded to all who seek employment at the University; and treat all employees equitably. Candidates that belong to underrepresented groups are particularly encouraged to apply.

SFU offers several benefits and services aimed at creating a more inclusive and accessible campus community for faculty, please see the [Faculty Relations, Benefits and Service page](#) for more details. SFU is also committed to ensuring that the application and interview process is accessible to all applicants; if you require accommodations or have questions about SFU benefits, services, accommodations policies, or equity considerations please contact the Specialist of [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion](#) in Faculty Relations.

Under the authority of the University Act personal information that is required by the University for academic appointment competitions will be collected. For further details see the [Collection Notice](#).

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.chairs-chaieres.gc.ca/program-programme/renewrenouvellement-eng.aspx>