

## Canada 150 Research Chairs Program

- The program will fund between 15 and 35 non-renewable chairs, each with a term of seven years, and valued at either \$350,000 per year or \$1 million per year.
  - There is no established distribution between the two award values within the program's budget envelope; the two award values acknowledge the varying costs of research objectives.
  - There is no restriction regarding the career stage of the individual nominated to either award value. However, it is expected that candidates nominated for the \$1 million awards will be of exceptional calibre.
  - The award value that is applied for must be justified in terms of research costs.
  - Selection criteria are listed in Appendix A.
- York can submit up to \$3 million worth of nominations, in any combination of \$350,000 and \$1 million award values.
- Institutions may also submit, at the same time as their application, a request for infrastructure support from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, which draws upon their John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF) allocation.
- Only researchers who are internationally based at the time of the application (both working and residing outside of Canada), including Canadian expatriates, are eligible. Researchers who are already at a Canadian institution are not eligible.
  - Individuals nominated to the Canada Research Chairs Program prior to March 22, 2017, cannot be nominated as a Canada 150 Research Chair; however, potential Canada Excellence Research Chairs candidates may be nominated. An individual cannot hold a Canada 150 Research Chair and a Canada Research Chair or a Canada Excellence Research Chair award simultaneously.
  - The nominated individual must hold a full-time academic appointment at the nominating institution as of the start date of the chair award.
- Institutions may submit applications in all disciplines of research in the social sciences and humanities; natural sciences and engineering; and health and related life sciences. An institution may recruit within an existing area of strength or it may use the research chair to build critical mass in a new area.
- Matching funds from external partners are not a requirement. However, it is expected that institutions will offer additional financial support to increase the level of institutional support being provided.
- All institutions' practices for recruiting chairs are expected to be open, transparent and equitable. Equity and diversity will be given strong consideration in the competition, consistent with the Government of Canada's expectations for a diverse set of awardees. Institutions are also required to ensure equitable access to opportunities available within the research teams that the program will establish. See Appendix B for more details.
- Registration is due August 18, with full applications due September 15. Results are expected prior to December 31.

## Appendix A - Selection Criteria

The reviewers and the multidisciplinary review panel will assess all applications against the following criteria:

1. Research/academic merit of the nominee
  - The quality of the nominee's research track record, as measured through bibliometric evidence or other measures of research productivity and impact.
  - The candidate is a top-tier, internationally based researcher whose accomplishments have made a major impact in their fields (as appropriate based on career stage).
  
2. Quality of the institutional support
  - The quality of the institutional environment (existing or planned) that will support the chairholder throughout the tenure of the award to ensure the success of the research chair. The assessment of this criteria will include the activities planned to support the chair throughout the award, as well as the plans in place to ensure the sustainability, including retention, of the chair beyond the period of the award.
  - The quality of the institutional environment in which the proposed chair will be established.
  - Level of support that will be provided to ensure the success of the research program, protected time for research (e.g., release from certain teaching or administrative duties), mentoring (if applicable), additional funds, office space, administrative support, and hiring of other faculty members.
  - Opportunities for collaboration with other researchers working in the same or related areas at the nominating institution, in the same region, within Canada and abroad.
  - Plans to ensure the sustainability, including retention, of the chairholder beyond the period of the award.
  
3. Institutional equity and diversity considerations
  - The institutional commitment to ensuring that the opportunities of the award will be made available to individuals from the four designated groups (women, members of visible minorities, Aboriginal Peoples, and persons with disabilities), including:
    - quality of the recruitment and outreach strategy in terms of demonstrated commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion; and
    - quality and extent of the institution's commitment to ensuring that the opportunities of the chairholder's research program will be made available to individuals from the four designated groups.

4. Potential contribution of the proposed chair to the excellence of the Canadian research ecosystem
- The potential contribution of the research chair in enhancing the research landscape in Canada, such as:
    - filling a gap within existing expertise;
    - building research capacity in new fields or increasing critical mass in existing areas;
    - likelihood that the work of the proposed chair will advance Canada's reputation as a global centre for science, research and innovation excellence; and
    - potential for the proposed chair's expertise to create social and economic advantages for Canada.

## Appendix B - Equitable and Diverse Recruitment and Outreach Strategy

In keeping with the federal government's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion, all participating institutions are required to demonstrate that their recruitment and selection processes are based on best practices consistent with the government's expectations for a diverse set of candidates to be put forward to the program. As such, all applications put forward to the program must be based on institutional processes that include the following:

An advertisement consisting of:

- open advertising with a strong and meaningful commitment statement to equity and diversity, and encouragement for persons in the four designated groups to apply (women, Aboriginal Peoples, persons with disabilities and members of visible minorities);
- acknowledgment of the potential impact that career interruptions can have on a candidate's record of research achievement; and
- encouragement for applicants to explain in their application the impact that career interruptions may have had on their record of research achievement.

A candidate search and evaluation process by the search committee including:

- significant efforts to identify a diverse pool of potential applicants, which could include tapping into focus groups/associations and organizations;
- a search committee composed of diverse members;
- training for search committee members on the potential negative impact that unconscious bias can have on the career path of individuals from the four designated groups; and
- mechanisms within the evaluation process to ensure that applicants with career interruptions are not unfairly disadvantaged.