Canada Research Chair
Open Call

The Canada Research Chairs (CRC) Program provides an opportunity to nominate a diverse cadre of outstanding researchers for professorships in areas that align with McGill's Strategic Research Plan. Chairholders are nationally recognized as exceptional researchers and innovators in their discipline.

This call is open to new recruits and internal candidates at McGill University. This call is launched to fill McGill University's current and upcoming CRC vacancies:

Tier	CIHR	NSERC	SSHRC
1	2	2	-
2	1	1	1

Tier 1 CRCs are reserved for established scholars who have demonstrated their recognition as an outstanding and original researcher of world-class calibre and as a leader in their field.

Tier 2 CRCs are reserved for emerging researchers and are intended to provide them with support that will allow them to realize the exceptional promise that they already demonstrate. Note that Tier 2 Chairs are not intended as a "pipeline" for Tier 1 Chairs.

Eligible Tier 2 Chair candidates will normally have received their highest degree within the last 10 years. A researcher who is more than 10 years post-highest degree may be considered for a Tier 2 CRC where they have experienced career interruptions due, for example, to maternity or parental leave, extended medical leave, clinical training, or family care responsibilities. Questions about Tier 2 CRC eligibility may be directed to crc.provost@mcgill.ca. Decisions about CRC Tier 2 eligibility will be made in accordance with the CRC's Tier 2 justification process.

The results of this recruitment process may be used to nominate additional Canada Research Chairs should additional chair positions become available within the next twelve months. All individuals who may be interested in a Canada Research Chair position who meet the requirements as outlined in this *Open Call* are encouraged to apply.

Nomination Process
Step 1: Faculty-Level
Deans, Associate Deans (Research), Chairs, and Directors should identify and nominate excellent researchers in their Faculties and Departments through a recruitment and nomination process based on the requirements of openness, transparency and accountability as mandated by the Tri-agency Institutional Programs Secretariat (TIPS). Faculties are urged to adopt proactive measures to identify a diverse pool of excellent candidates in support of equity considerations, notably by soliciting applications from talented scholars who are members of under-represented equity-seeking groups, including Indigenous Peoples, Persons with Disabilities, Racialized Individuals, and Women and Gender Equity-Seeking Groups. Members of these designated groups also are encouraged to put their names forward to their Faculty or Department for consideration. Candidates should be informed that

the equity survey they complete is treated in the strictest confidence and is used only for the purposes of applying McGill's CRC EDI Action Plan. In this vein, it is critical to be aware of the equity targets that the Tri-agency Institutional Programs Secretariat has set for McGill.

Faculty decisions regarding nominations should be:
a. based on the candidate's record of scholarly achievement; and
b. made pursuant to a review by a Faculty-level committee composed of at least three members including the Faculty's Dean (or delegate) and Associate Dean (Research). This committee should exhibit diversity, including gender diversity, and its members should have received equity training (contact us to set up such training if necessary); and
c. documented to demonstrate compliance with the TIPS requirements for an open and transparent nomination and recruitment process (template provided to Faculties).

Step 2: Institutional level
Nominations are assessed by the Standing Internal Review Committee (SIRC) with expertise in the nominee's field (i.e., CIHR, NSERC, and SSHRC).

The nomination package will include:
1. A joint recommendation (one letter only) from the Dean and Chair/Director. This letter is used only for the internal review process.
2. CV details (Education, Affiliation and Employment, Funding (reference period for both Tier 1 and Tier 2 is 2020-2025, inclusive), Interruptions and Special circumstances). A MSWord template is provided to the Faculties.
3. A condensed version of the CRC Supporting documents for nominations:
    a. Executive summary (maximum 100 words) (Section 2a of the instructions)
    b. Description of Proposed Research Program (maximum 3 pages following 2b-e of the instructions).
    c. Quality of the Institutional Environment, Institutional Commitment, and Fit of Proposed Chair McGill Strategic Research Plan (maximum 3 pages following 3a-c of the instructions).
4. CV documents (Full version of sections 1-6). The reference period for both Tier 1 and Tier 2 nominations is 2020-2025 (inclusive). Note this does not take any CV extension into account.

Important dates (to be communicated with applicants):
- **7 August 2025**: all Faculty nomination packages to be submitted to crc.provost@mcgill.ca.
- **8 August – 28 August 2025**: Review of nomination packages by the SIRCs.
- **2-3 September 2025:** SIRC meetings for SSHRC, NSERC, CHIR subcommittees.
- **8 September 2025**: Decisions, comments, and recommendations from the SIRC subcommittees will be communicated to Faculties.
- **25 September 2025**: Selected nominees' deadline for uploading FINAL applications with all the comments and recommendations addressed, for administrative review.
- **10 October 2025:** Faculties to send their institutional commitment and budget confirmation memos.
- **15 October 2025**: Deadline for selected nominees to submit any minor modifications to the CRC application online.

Selection Criteria

Tier 1 Chairs

Nominees for Tier 1 Chair positions must be full professors or associate professors who are expected to be promoted to the full professor level within one or two years of the nomination. Alternatively, if they come from outside the academic sector, nominees must possess the necessary qualifications to be appointed at these levels.

Tier 2 Chairs

Nominees for Tier 2 Chair positions must be emerging scholars. They should, at a minimum, be assistant or associate professors, or possess the necessary qualifications to be appointed to these levels. See [Tier 2 Justifications](#) for more information.

- **Record of Research Funding, Dissemination, and Impact**
  The candidate must have demonstrated research success via, for example, peer-reviewed granting success, peer-reviewed publications (journals, monographs, books), refereed conferences, keynote or invited presentations, patents, copyrights, products, services, technology transfer, published or shared data sets of high impact to the research or policy communities, policy and governance reports, or knowledge mobilization within public, private or non-governmental sectors. The application must further provide evidence of the nature and scope of the candidate's research impact. The following points shall be recognized in assessing research excellence:
  - High impact venues for research results can vary between disciplines. It is up to the candidate to explain their choice of venues for the dissemination of research results.; and
  - diverse forms of research – such as land-, field- or community-based research or interdisciplinary or partnered research – may take longer to reach the point of knowledge translation/dissemination and its impact may be measured through non-traditional metrics, which would include, for example, work within communities or Indigenous governance structures.

- **HQP Training Record**
  The candidate will be evaluated on the means they have used, and that they will use going forward, to create an environment that attracts, develops, trains, and retains outstanding and diverse researchers in areas and technologies critical to Canada's: cultural, social, and economic growth, vital public policy issues, and quality of life. The application must provide evidence of training effectiveness, for example, by speaking to outcomes for the trainees under the candidate's supervision/training. This should include, especially for early Tier 2 researchers, information about potential to recruit and effectively train emerging researchers.

- **Program of Research**
  The proposed program of research must be original, innovative, and of high-quality. It should be clearly anchored to the research successes of the candidate to-date and to McGill's [Strategic Research Plan](#) (see bullet point immediately below). Further, the research program should demonstrate potential to improve Canada's ability to lead in research of high social, cultural, scientific, or technological impact.

- **Integration with the University's Strategic Research Plan**
  The candidate's research program must demonstrate alignment with and capacity to advance McGill's [Strategic Research Plan](#) in connection with both institutional core commitments and Research Excellence Themes.

- **Demonstrated Engagement in Collegial Governance and Service to the University**
  While the focal criterion of a successful CRC nomination is research excellence and impact, CRCs at McGill must also be scholars willing to engage meaningfully and impactfully in the academic community with a view to supporting strong collegial governance and service at different levels of and beyond the University. As such, Faculties should not be putting forward nominees who are colleagues who have performed below expectations in relation to collegial governance and service. Faculty nomination letters must include a statement that the nominee has performed at the level of at least "reasonable", and ideally "superior", over the past three years (or less if the nominee's appointment at McGill is more recent), integrating examples of service leadership and impact. This information should be no more than one paragraph.

The review committee shall assess applications where candidates have had leaves causing career interruptions equitably, accounting for the candidate's career stage and remembering that each file is assessed on its own terms, and that candidates with different levels of seniority are not compared with one another. Safeguards will be in place to ensure this information is treated fairly and confidentially.

COMMITMENT TO EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

McGill University is committed to equity and diversity within its community and values academic rigour and excellence. We welcome and encourage applications from racialized persons, women, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and persons of minority sexual orientations and gender identities, as well as from all qualified candidates with the skills and knowledge to engage productively with diverse communities. McGill's selection of Tier 1 Canada Research Chairs in the October 2025 round will give preference to qualified nominees who self-identify as a woman or member of a gender equity-seeking group, or as an Indigenous person.

At McGill, research that reflects diverse intellectual traditions, methodologies, and modes of dissemination and translation is valued and encouraged. Candidates are invited to demonstrate their research impact both within and across academic disciplines and in other sectors, such as government, communities, or industry.

McGill further recognizes and fairly considers the impact of leaves (e.g., family care or health-related) that may contribute to career interruptions or slowdowns. Candidates are encouraged to signal any leave that affected productivity, or that may have had an effect on their career path. This information will be considered to ensure the equitable assessment of the candidate's record.

McGill implements an employment equity program and encourages members of designated equity groups to self-identify. It further seeks to ensure the equitable treatment and full inclusion of persons with disabilities by striving for the implementation of universal design principles transversally, across all facets of the University community, and through underlined accommodation policies and procedures. Persons with disabilities who anticipate needing accommodations for any part of the application process may contact, in confidence, this email or phone at 514-398-2477.

Posting date: 15 May 2025