

CRC Tier II in Indigenous Oral Tradition and Oral History

Date posted: May 16, 2019

Revised: August 14, 2019

Application deadline: September 15, 2019

The First Peoples Studies Program (FPST) in the [School of Community and Public Affairs \(SCPA\)](#) and the [Department of History](#) in the [Faculty of Arts & Sciences](#) at Concordia University invite applications for a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair (CRC) in Indigenous Oral Tradition and Oral History. We are seeking candidates from wide-ranging disciplinary backgrounds, including but not limited to history. We recognize the varied disciplinary trajectories and methodologies of Inuit, First Nations, Métis and other Indigenous researchers in the academy and acknowledge the history of epistemological violence and the university sector's implication in settler-colonialism. For centuries, Indigenous peoples have been the object of outside ethnographic, archaeological, historical, and linguistic study; their material and intangible cultural heritage mined by national (white) institutions and scholars. There is therefore an urgent need to re-think longstanding knowledge frameworks as part of the decolonizing process. The successful candidate will hold a cross-appointed position between FPST/SCPA and History and become a core member of the Centre for Oral History & Digital Storytelling (COHDS).

It is fitting that the first Indigenous CRC in the Faculty of Arts and Science should be grounded in First Peoples Studies, the first program of its kind in Quebec. FPST has strengths in First Peoples history, contemporary social and political issues, culture, and language. The Department of History is known for postcolonial studies, public history, the study of mass violence, law and society, environmental history, and gender and sexuality. COHDS has a global reputation for supporting community-university research and creative partnerships, with a strong focus on difficult knowledge, the testimonials of survivors of mass violence and genocide, and the life stories of women.

The successful applicant will join, and provide academic leadership for, overlapping cross-disciplinary communities of oral historians and Indigenous studies researchers across the university. Concordia is home to the Indigenous Directions Leadership Group (IDLG); The Indigenous Futures Cluster of the Milieux Institute for Arts, Culture and Technology (a network of academics, artists and technologists advancing Indigenous-led research); the First Peoples Storytelling Exchange; and is

an integral part of DIALOG, the main Indigenous studies network in Quebec. Our expectation is that the CRC will attract new talent to the university, encouraging Indigenous youth (and others) to pursue undergraduate and graduate studies at Concordia.

The ideal candidate will be a scholar, or a scholar-creator, with outstanding promise to be a leading voice in Indigenous Oral Tradition and/or Oral History, as these forms of knowledge and practice pertain to their own particular research focus. The successful candidate will be expected to undertake their chairship in such a way that maintains a living connection to an Indigenous community. The successful candidate will have a track record of Indigenous mentorship and community research partnerships, or can demonstrate the potential to develop such mentoring and partnerships. The successful candidate is expected to lead a CFI funding application that could result, for example, in a mobile story-sharing lab, further facilitating collaborative research with Indigenous communities.

Applicants should have a terminal degree in their field of expertise or equivalent professional experience in their chosen field. Individuals who have taken non-traditional pathways into academia are invited to apply.

Candidates eligible for Tier II chair positions must be excellent emerging scholars within 10 years of their highest degree at the time of nomination (exclusive of career interruptions). Potential Tier II candidates who are more than 10 years from their highest degree should take note that certain career interruptions may still make them eligible for nomination. Potential candidates are encouraged to submit a formal justification by means of the Tier II Justification Assessment Form, which will be considered in the review of applications. Please consult the Canada Research Chairs [website](#) for full program information, including further details on eligibility criteria and acceptable justifications to the extension of the eligibility term.

Notwithstanding the above and irrespective of their submission of a formal justification, candidates are encouraged to share any career interruptions or personal circumstances that may have had an impact on their career goals (such as the decision to have a family, eldercare, illness, and so forth) in their letter of application. These will be carefully considered in the assessment process.

Candidates should submit the following: cover letter, CV, three letters of recommendation (sent separately), teaching evaluations (if applicable), statement of research, and one sample publication to History.Chair@concordia.ca

Persons with disabilities who anticipate needing accommodations for any part of the application process may contact, in confidence, Nadia Hardy, Vice-Provost, Faculty Development and Inclusion at vpfdi@concordia.ca or by phone at 514.848.2424 extension 4323.

Concordia University recognizes the Kanien'kehá:ka Nation as the custodians of the unceded lands and waters upon which it is located. Tiohtiá:ke/Montreal is historically known as a gathering place for many First Nations. Today, it is home to a diverse population of Indigenous, settler, immigrant, refugee, and other peoples. Concordia respects the continued connections with the past, present, and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within the Montreal community.