

# Step-by-Step CRC Appointment Guide (previously Appointments Checklist)

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This guide<sup>1</sup> is designed as a step-by-step guide for a Canada Research Chair search and appointment at UBC, designed to fulfil the requirements of the CRC Program and UBC's CRC Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Action Plan. It describes the necessary steps to enable departmental search committee chairs to complete the *Attestation – Recruitment & Nomination Process Form* and attest to the integrity of the process and adherence to the requirements.

*Please review this CRC Appointment Guide in its entirety before beginning your search process because the CRC Program (CRCP) nominations process has changed. Until further notice, nominations to the CRCP are restricted to individuals who self-identify as belonging to one or more of the federally designated equity groups (listed below in section 1.3) to redress the imbalance of representation within the CRCP.*

The Tri-Agency Institutional Programs Secretariat (TIPS) reserves the right to ask institutions to provide, at any time within 48 months following a nomination submission, the documentation that demonstrates that the requirements have been met.

## I. Prior to Active Recruitment

- 1) Analyze your Faculty's needs with respect to diversity amongst your current CRC Tier 1 and 2 chairholders by contacting UBC's CRC Secretariat at [ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca). Consider under-explored or under-examined areas of research, learning, and knowledge within the relevant disciplines.
- 2) Further to our previous communication regarding changes to the CRCP requirements from Ottawa, please be advised that with the [2019 Addendum to the 2006 Canadian Human Rights Settlement Agreement](#), new employment equity 'targets' were established in the spring of 2021, and are subject to change. These targets are to be met incrementally until 2029, and are based on the 2016 and 2019 Canadian Workforce Availability data and the result of a [2021 Canadian Human Rights Settlement Agreement](#). For UBC, as a large institution, the targets have been disaggregated for Tier 1 and Tier 2 chairs. For additional information about the 2019 Addendum, its implementation and the Program's current equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) measures, please see the [frequently asked questions](#).
- 3) When filling a chair, you must consider the need to meet and sustain the targets to address the underrepresentation of chairholders from the **Federally Designated Groups (FDGs): people with disabilities, Indigenous people, racialized people, women, and people from minoritized gender identity groups**. (See: [June 2021 representation in the CRCP and the 2029 targets](#)). Consider the intersectionality of identities in discussing CRC positions – in other words, consider how people at the intersection of multiple identities may be experiencing

both compounding and unique barriers to equity, showing up as an exacerbated gap in representation (e.g., racialized women).

- 4) **Please note:** in accordance with the latest CRCP directive, institutions found not to have met their targets or target deadlines leading up to 2029 are limited to submitting new nominations only from individuals self-identifying as belonging to one or more of the FDGs, until their gaps for that deadline are met. All renewals can continue to be submitted during this time. Institutions that do not meet their targets by the December 2029 deadline will see their total allocation of chairs reduced for an extended period of time. The exact methodology to be used will be shared with institutions prior to 2023.
- 5) **It is essential that the language provided in this guide be used in your position advertisements to ensure that all potential candidates are aware that these positions are restricted to candidates self-identifying as belonging to one or more of the federally designated equity groups: people with disabilities, Indigenous people, racialized people, women, and people from minoritized gender identity groups.**

## II. The Recruitment Process

### A. Advertisements

- 1) All CRC recruitment and nomination processes at universities must be transparent, open, and equitable. This applies to the nomination of new chairs, whether the chair is used for retention purposes or as a recruiting tool. It also applies to the advancement of a Tier 2 chairholder to a Tier 1 chair.
- 2) Place the advertisement in accordance with UBC's [Employment Advertising Policy HR 11](#). Please refer to the advertising guidelines on the Office of the Provost and VP Academic, UBC Vancouver's [site](#). Advertisements must be publicly posted for a minimum of 30 days (even those only open to internal applicants/current faculty members). In keeping with transparency, CRC postings may be advertised no more than two years prior to the nomination being put forward to TIPS.
- 3) Create a CRC advertisement that encourages applications from excellent candidates belonging to the designated equity groups. Ensure that the advertisement is clear that nominations will be restricted to chairholders from traditionally underrepresented groups, and in particular, include the language from the 2019 Addendum to the 2006 Canadian Human Rights Settlement Agreement:

“In accordance with UBC's [CRC Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Action Plan](#) [<https://academic.ubc.ca/sites/vpa.ubc.ca/files/documents/EDIAP - 13 DEC 2018 EE.pdf>], and pursuant to Section 42 of the BC Human Rights code, the selection will be restricted to members of the following federally designated groups: people with disabilities, Indigenous people, racialized people, women, and people from minoritized gender identity groups. Applicants to CRC positions are asked to complete this [equity survey](#) [[https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6WJHoI7SfPxRMu9](https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WJHoI7SfPxRMu9)] as part of the application, and candidates from these groups must self-identify as belonging to one or more of the

designated equity groups to be considered for the position. Candidates must also provide their name in the survey to be considered.

Personal information is collected under the authority of sections 26(a), 26(c) and 26(e) of the BC *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. The information you provide will be used to determine whether you qualify for participation in this restricted process, and to advance accessibility, equity, and fair adjudication in this process. Data will be collected by the Equity & Inclusion Office and shared confidentially with the search committee. All responses will be stored in a secure database.”

*Please note:* as advertisements are posted through different recruitment software, hyperlinks may not work: it is imperative that you provide the link in full beside its description in the posting. (e.g., equity survey

[\[https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6WJHol7SfPxRMu9\]](https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WJHol7SfPxRMu9)). **If the advertisement is posted through Workday, the Workday recruitment process will ask applicants to fill out UBC’s demographic survey. That survey provides aggregate applicant pool data for UBC across staff and faculty. Note, candidates will only be eligible if they fill out the CRC equity survey from the link (above) in the advertisement.**

In addition, this equity survey reproduces the CRCP self-identification survey from Ottawa to provide comparable data, however, it uses language that does not necessarily represent the way that these questions are asked in employment equity surveys conducted by UBC. If you have questions, please contact the Equity & Inclusion Office.

For more information about Restricted Hiring, please refer to the FAQs on our CRC website under the “[Diversity considerations in hiring](#)” tab.

4) Advertisements for Tier 2 Chairs should also contain the following information:

“Tier 2 Chairs are intended for exceptional emerging scholars (i.e., candidates who are less than 10 years from their highest degree at the time of nomination). Applicants who are more than 10 years from having earned their highest degree (and where career breaks exist, such as maternity 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.”

Further information on this process can be found here – [Tier 2 Justification Process](#).

“UBC recognizes the legitimate impact that research interruptions and eligible leaves (e.g., maternity, parental, medical, bereavement) can have on a candidate’s record of achievement. These leaves will be taken into careful consideration during the assessment process.”

For contact information regarding UBC’s accommodation and access policies and resources, please visit the [Centre for Workplace Accessibility](#).

5) As per UBC Policy HR11, all advertisements must include the following equity statement:

“Equity and diversity are essential to academic excellence. An open and diverse community fosters the inclusion of voices that have been underrepresented or discouraged. We encourage applications from members of groups that have been marginalized on any grounds enumerated under the B.C. Human Rights Code, including sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or

expression, racialization, disability, political belief, religion, marital or family status, age, and/or status as a First Nation, Metis, Inuit, or Indigenous person.”

- 6) Accommodations during interview process: UBC has committed to supporting workplace accommodations for CRCs through a pilot for centralized accommodations funding. This includes accommodation expenses (if any) during the interviewing process. Ensure that all advertisements include the following:

“An inclusive work environment presumes an environment where differences are accepted, recognized, and integrated into current structures, planning, and decision-making modes. To learn more about UBC’s Center For Workplace Accessibility, visit the website here <https://hr.ubc.ca/health-and-wellbeing/working-injury-illness-or-disability/centre-workplace-accessibility>. To learn more about how the university is working to create a more inclusive working and learning environment, see the Inclusion Action Plan's goals related to recruitment and retention here <https://equity.ubc.ca/about/inclusion-action-plan/recruitment-retention-and-success/>.

Within this hiring process we will make efforts to create an inclusive and equitable process for all candidates (including but not limited to people with disabilities). Confidential accommodations are available on request for applicants who are short-listed. Please contact\*\* at \*(phone) or \*(email).”

**[Please complete with the name and contact details of the administrator supporting the interviewing process.]**

To support the administrator’s ability to provide necessary accommodations appropriately, information and support is available through the Centre for Workplace Accessibility at [workplace.accessibility@ubc.ca](mailto:workplace.accessibility@ubc.ca). Additional information is available in the [FAQ section](#) under “Diversity in hiring” on the [CRC website](#), as well as the training/resource information available through the HR Advisor (UBCV & UBCO) or the Equity & Inclusion Office (UBCV & UBCO).

- 7) Request that applicants submit a brief statement (1-2 pages) of their current or planned contribution to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion in academic, professional, or community contexts - similar to a teaching or research statement. Include the following language in the application requirement section:

*UBC is committed to advancing inclusive excellence in the academic and research ecosystem. Please provide a brief statement (1-2 pages) that describes any current or planned engagements and contributions made to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion in academic (research/scholarship, teaching/learning), professional (non-academic or clinical work), or community (local, national, international community-based) contexts.*

- 8) To attract and secure excellent candidates, develop and use evaluation criteria that are aligned with the bona fide requirements of the job and qualifications associated with your advertisement.

- 9) If you would like a review of the language in your posting to ensure the content aligns with accessibility and equity commitments and obligations, please contact the Equity & Inclusion Office ([avp.eio@equity.ubc.ca](mailto:avp.eio@equity.ubc.ca)).
- 10) Final drafts of all advertisements must be submitted to [ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca) before they are passed to Faculty Relations through Workday. Final approval will be provided by the Provost's Office.
- 11) A copy of the chair posting/advertisement must be included with all nominations submitted to the CRC program for peer review. Nominations that do not provide evidence of an openly advertised process (please see [Diversifying Your Applicant Pool](#)), with transparent and open language about the restricted nomination program, will not be accepted by the program – this applies to all recruitment, retention, advancement, and international nominations.
- 12) Publicly advertise all Chair positions on the UBC Faculty Careers site and UBC's public accountability web page for a minimum of 30 days prior to the closing of the competition (this applies to all new nominations, even those open only to existing or internal faculty members).
- 13) Clearly indicate the date initially posted in the job posting, and be aware that in keeping with transparency, a job posting may be advertised no more than two years prior to the nomination being put forward to TIP.
- 14) On the day the chair position is posted online, please send a dated copy of the advertisement and links of all job postings to [ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca), who will ensure it is forwarded to CRCP.

## **B. Special efforts to attract the attention of qualified candidates among the federally designated equity groups**

- 1) Consider networks that researchers in the Faculty (and beyond) may have to reach potential candidates from federally designated groups, and develop a strategy to strengthen or develop those networks.
- 2) Review and develop networks among academics and research areas of focus that include members of the federally designated equity groups for this and future searches at UBC.
- 3) Post advertisements in specialized journals, newspapers, list serves etc., directed to persons with disabilities, Indigenous peoples, racialized people or women and people from minoritized gender identity groups. Please refer to the "[Diversifying Your Applicant Pool](#)" database, including Tips & Tricks, to ensure that you have accessed and updated information to support searches that particularly focus on ensuring diversity in your applicant pool.
- 4) Write letters and other communications targeted to members of these groups.
- 5) Encourage personal networking targeted to members of these groups.

- 6) Facilitate measures to ensure the candidate pool is sufficiently large.

### III. The Selection Process

#### C. The Search Committee

- 7) Establish your search committee with consideration for the diversity of the committee members, with particular attention to inviting faculty from federally designated groups that are currently under-represented among CRCs, where that information is known. Be mindful of workload and any imbalance in other requests for faculty who identify as members of federally designated groups to participate in committees, etc.
- 8) TIPS and the CRC EDI Action Plan require that all search committee members receive training on equity in the search process. Please contact your Associate Dean with responsibility for equity or the Equity & Inclusion Office ([avp.eio@equity.ubc.ca](mailto:avp.eio@equity.ubc.ca)) to arrange required training. [Equity in Hiring](#), an online video series on the workplace learning platform, is an asynchronous way to ensure all search committee members are familiar with some key concepts.
- 9) With the search committee, establish the evaluation criteria for the CRC position, based on the bona fide requirements of the job and listed CRC qualifications by tier. Integrate equity, diversity, and inclusion considerations across the criteria, as well as a criterion specifically to assess a candidate's capacity to contribute to and advance equity, diversity, and inclusion. The CRCP [provides this guidance](#): "Require, as part of the job criteria, a track record related to EDI. Encourage applicants to identify their strengths and experiences in increasing EDI in their previous institutional environment, and in curriculum, and in supporting diverse students." The Equity & Inclusion Office can work with Faculty Equity Leads or Advisors to support the development of evaluation rubrics that holistically consider equity, diversity, and inclusion. Sample rubrics will also be made available.
- 10) Ensure that the selection committee chair and members understand their roles in the selection process and their roles as representatives of UBC.
- 11) Confirm that all selection committee members understand how applicant pool data are collected and used, and their purpose in supporting equitable hiring. The Equity and Inclusion Office will work with the Faculty Equity Advisor to ensure that self-ID data is appropriately reported and stewarded through the recruitment and hiring process.
- 12) Confirm that all selection committee members have received equitable recruitment training within the last two years.
- 13) In order to comply with provincial [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy \(FIPPA\)](#) and Human Rights legislation, all members of the selection committee should ensure transparent advertising practices and confidential recruitment and selection processes.

## **D. Documentation During the Recruitment and Selection Process**

- 1) Keep a record of the recruitment and selection process. Include copies of advertisements as well as descriptions of special measures to recruit members of the designated equity groups. Should human rights groups or government agencies inquire about your recruitment and selection procedures, you may be required to produce evidence that your hiring process was fair. Also, candidates may request access to records relating to them under the Freedom of Information process. Records must be kept for a period of one year from the time of the interview and should be filed in a secure place. In addition, if the successful candidate is an international academic, records must be kept for six years from date of hire.
- 2) To assess the success of hiring strategies, the Equity & Inclusion Office (EIO) will pull demographic data from the applicant equity survey and provide a confidential summary report of the diversity profile of the applicant/candidate pool at various points in the recruitment and selection process (applicants, longlists/shortlisted candidates, finalists, and hires). Please notify the Office of the Provost to [ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca) as soon as the search process is closed, so they can request the report from the EIO.

## **E. Reviewing Applications and Shortlisting**

- 1) **Prior to reviewing any applications**, please contact the CRC Secretariat at [ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca) to receive details of your applicant pool data.

You will be provided with a breakdown of the proportion of applicants who have self-identified as members of each of the federally designated groups and the names of those candidates eligible to be considered.

Those applications from people who have not self-identified as a member of at least one of the federally designated groups are not eligible for nomination.

In cases where a particular position is restricted to one federally designated group because of the equity targets, your candidate pool will only include those people.

The aggregate data as well as the case-level data will be shared with the search committee.

- 2) When submitting the appointment file to the Provost's Office, you will need to provide an explanation as to why each of the candidates who have indicated they have a disability were not shortlisted.
- 3) Each committee member should independently review and evaluate every applicant against the previously established job-related criteria. Members should score and rank applicants to develop their longlist.
- 4) The Committee Chair should aggregate the rankings in preparation for a committee discussion of the longlisted candidates. The Chair should review the diversity profile of the longlisted candidates, and work with the Faculty Equity Advisor to take a 'second look' at any

competitive candidates among FDGs who were excluded from longlists to ensure assessments were fair and unbiased.

- 5) The Committee should, as a group, deliberate on the longlisted pool and derive the shortlist for interview. Departments must be able to document and justify the way in which they developed their shortlists. The Chair should review the diversity profile of the shortlist and work with the Faculty Equity Advisor to take a 'second look' at competitive longlisted FDGs. It is suggested that selection committee members use an expansive and inclusive, rather than exclusive, frame when deciding on the shortlist, inviting those whom they agree are within the zone of excellence and they would like to learn more about through interviews. Inviting greater numbers to interview may enhance the committee's capacity to advance inclusive excellence in the hiring process.

As with all shortlisting processes, review the applications to ensure the list does not reflect bias. One example of bias that may show up in shortlisting is stereotypical assumptions about the importance of an uninterrupted work record. These assumptions often disadvantage women, persons with disabilities, or recent immigrants. Ask yourself: is an uninterrupted work record a valid test of a candidate's ability to meet the requirements of a position? Other assumptions that may lead to bias will need to be discussed and reviewed among the selection committee.

## F. The Interview

- 1) Prior to the interview, develop a set of questions based on stated criteria and ask all candidates, including internal ones, the same questions. Ensure that questions related to the established evaluation criteria.
- 2) Ensure that the offer to provide any necessary accommodations for the interview process is included in any email communications to set up the interviews [see above and FAQs on our website]:

"UBC is committed to accessibility. If you require any type of accommodation during this process, please contact \*\* at \*\* (phone) or \*\* (email)."

**[To be completed by the department setting up the interviews.** The administrator named in this offer can contact the Centre for Workplace Accessibility for support and information at [workplace.accessibility@ubc.ca](mailto:workplace.accessibility@ubc.ca), and also see the FAQs on the CRC website.]

- 3) After each interview, search committee members should independently make brief notes and quickly score the candidate to help them to recall their impressions at a later date when the entire committee will debrief and deliberate on all candidate interviews. Set aside a few minutes after each interview for this independent note-taking.
- 4) When evaluating and deliberating on finalists and preferred candidates, consider candidates within a 'zone of excellence' rather than a single 'best candidate'. The concept of a 'zone of excellence' is used to encourage expanded ways to measure excellence, inviting Committee members to consider the totality of a scholar's accomplishments and promise for future research excellence. The zone of excellence concept recognizes there can be more than one

excellent candidate who will be deserving and capable of delivering on the expectations of the position. This approach interrupts very narrow and conventional academic conceptualizations of excellence which have been shown to exclude federally designated equity groups. Encourage selection committee members to ground this discussion in examples from the interview or from the application.

#### IV. Finalizing the Appointment

- 1) Before finalizing the appointment, ensure that the successful candidate is provided with information or links to information about the range of institutional supports for comparable chairs based on the annual comparative review, in accordance with [UBC's CRC Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Action Plan](#) and the CRCP requirements.
- 2) Please ensure that the following paragraph (with the appropriate campus contact) is included in the offer letter:

“UBC is committed to accessibility. UBC Canada Research Chairs are invited to discuss their workplace accommodations needs with the Department Chair, before or during the onboarding process. Should you require disability-related information or accommodations, please contact the Centre for Workplace Accessibility at [workplace.accessibility@ubc.ca](mailto:workplace.accessibility@ubc.ca) for information and support as soon as possible.”

- 3) Where relevant, speak to the Vice-President, Academic regarding the possibility of facilitating priority placements for chairholders with disabilities for housing and childcare programs at UBC.
- 4) The CRCP Mid-point Attestation Form should be requested from [ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca). Once completed, it is returned to the same. This form must be completed to have the nomination advanced.
- 5) UBC Faculty Relations provides detailed Appointments Checklists for New Tenure/Tenure Track Appointments. All forms and materials should be completed and submitted to Faculty Relations.
- 6) Upon acceptance of the position by the successful candidate, notify the UBC CRC Secretariat via email at [ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:ubcvpao-g-ubccrc@mail.ubc.ca).

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<sup>1</sup> This Guide was developed by the Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President, Academic and the Associate Vice-President, Equity & Inclusion; with the expertise of the Equity & Inclusion Office, and with thanks to reference materials from the University of Toronto, University of Victoria, McMaster University.