

Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Intelligent Systems for Disaster Management

Position Details

Position Information

Position Title

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Who We Are

At BCIT, putting people at the core of everything we do is paramount. This idea is the foundation of BCIT's [People Vision](#), which describes the Institute's goals and priorities in respect to our people. In a complex and uncertain world, it's vital our people feel valued, supported and connected. BCIT champions a culture of innovation and global progress through people's imagination and creativity. With a competitive compensation package, great work-life balance, and career advancement opportunities, see why we've earned the title of one of [BC's Top Employers](#) for over ten years running.

Position Summary

The **British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)** is seeking a **suitable internal candidate for the nomination of a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Intelligent Systems for Disaster Management**, in accordance with the regulations set for Tier 2 Canada Research Chairs.

Please note: This posting is for retention, not recruitment and is only open to internal candidates.

The successful candidate will be an outstanding emerging researcher, who has achieved significant recognition for their research. They will have demonstrated creativity and novelty in their work, while demonstrating the potential to achieve international recognition in the next five to ten years.

Eligibility

Note that nominees for Tier 2 Chair positions must be emerging researchers no more than 10 years from earning their highest degree. Applicants who are more than 10 years from having earned their highest degree (and where career breaks exist, such as maternity, parental, 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 (see [Tier 2 Justification](#)).

BCIT recognizes the legitimate impact that leaves (e.g., parental leave, leave due to illness, community contributions) can have on a candidate's record of research achievement. These leaves will be carefully considered during the assessment process to avoid any negative impact.

Research Focus

The successful candidate will develop and lead an innovative research program focused on deploying advanced intelligent systems that can identify, predict and manage risks related to disaster scenarios. This research directly supports BCIT's strategic priority of applied research with real-world impact, providing solutions that save lives, enhance community resilience, and protect environmental resources.

The position offers a unique opportunity to work at the intersection of Artificial Intelligence, environmental monitoring, and disaster management. The nominee will apply interdisciplinary methods, while collaborating with industry partners, government agencies, and community groups to implement practical, scalable solutions to disaster prevention and management. Through their research, the successful candidate will be expected to attract excellent trainees, students and future researchers.

Canada Research Chairs are subject to review and approval by the CRC Secretariat. Further details on the program can be viewed at www.chairs.gc.ca

Duties & Responsibilities

The successful candidate will:

- Establish and maintain an innovative research program in intelligent systems for disaster prevention and management that achieves international recognition and builds on existing expertise at BCIT.
- Develop methodologies for disaster risk prediction using advanced technologies, which may include AI, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), computer vision algorithms, and multi-spectral imaging techniques.
- Supervise and mentor graduate students, providing hands-on research training and professional development opportunities while fostering the next generation of experts in this field.
- Teach a reduced course load of specialized courses aligned with the chair's expertise and research program, integrating research experiences into the classroom environment.
- Secure external research funding through grants, contracts, and industry partnerships from sources such as NSERC, Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund, and other relevant funding bodies.
- Establish collaborative partnerships with relevant stakeholders including government agencies, technology companies, Indigenous communities, and international research institutions.
- Translate research findings into practical applications for environmental managers, emergency responders, and policy makers through knowledge mobilization activities, workshops, and technology transfer initiatives.
- Contribute to BCIT's applied research mission by developing technologies and approaches that have direct, practical applications in industry and society.
- Participate in departmental, institutional, and professional service activities that advance BCIT's strategic priorities and enhance the institution's research capacity.

Qualifications

The successful candidate must:

- Hold a PhD in a Computer Science or a related field. This is not a general requirement for a Canada Research Chair, but it is being imposed as a requirement for this specific position.
- Meet the eligibility requirements for a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair, which are targeted at exceptional emerging researchers who have completed their highest degree within the past 10 years.
- Demonstrate an exceptional research record in intelligent systems for disaster management and prevention, evidenced by high-quality publications, conference presentations, and innovative contributions to the field, including grants and collaboration with local industry partners.
- Exhibit potential to attract research funding and establish successful collaborations with industry partners, government agencies, and other research institutions.
- Demonstrate a commitment to applied research methodologies that align with BCIT's institutional focus on practical, industry-relevant research with clear applications and impacts.
- Show ability to develop and implement interdisciplinary research initiatives that bridge technology and environmental management domains, while addressing real-world challenges.
- Possess excellent communication and leadership skills necessary to engage with diverse stakeholders, supervise research teams, and translate complex technical concepts for various audiences.
- Demonstrate commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion in research practices, team building, and community engagement.
- Have experience or strong interest in working with Indigenous knowledge systems and collaborating with Indigenous communities on environmental management initiatives.

Candidates must demonstrate how their expertise and research agenda will complement and extend existing work in environmental monitoring and preventative approaches to disaster management.

Additional Information

Benefits – Why you'd love working with us

- Competitive pay
- Minimum of twenty-five days of vacation (or more, depending on your [position](#))
- Competitive employer-paid extended health and dental plan – take a look at our [benefit plans!](#)
- Defined benefit [pension](#) plan with employer contributions
- Flexible hybrid work arrangements available
- [Professional Development](#) funds and resources
- Access to most BCIT Flexible Learning [courses](#) free of charge
- [Wellness](#) and Employee Assistance programs
- Complimentary membership with free access to the Fitness Centre, Gymnasium, and [more](#)

BCIT is committed to the principles of equity, diversity & inclusion and to promoting opportunities in hiring for systemically oppressed groups who have been excluded from full participation at BCIT and the larger community. This includes Indigenous Peoples, women, racialized persons, persons with disabilities and those who identify as 2S/LGBTQIA+. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodation for any part of the application or hiring process should contact RecruitmentAssistant@bcit.ca. Please note that all applications must be submitted via the careers page portal. **Email applications will not be accepted.**

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit a detailed curriculum vitae, a brief description of current research program, accomplishments, future plans, and copies of representative publication(s), and all required documentation submitted to the application portal as a single pdf document. Please note that all applications must be submitted via the careers page portal. Email applications will not be accepted.

Please note that all candidates wishing to be considered will need to complete a confidential self-identification form as required by the Government of Canada. This form will be provided at a later date. Please contact Silken Handford-Perronnet at shandfordperronnet@bcit.ca if you have any questions regarding this requirement.

TIMELINE

This competition will remain open for a minimum of 30 days from the date of posting. Review of applications will commence on **July 28, 2025**. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted. If selected for an interview, candidates will be asked to present original copies of credentials. Nominations are subject to budget approval.

The British Columbia Institute of Technology acknowledges that our campuses are located on the unceded traditional territories of the Coast Salish Nations of xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh).

Salary Range

Salary Range: \$65,045 - \$113,545 per annum.

Additional Salary Information

Salary prorated based on percentage and term of appointment. Salary based on education, experience and placement criteria as outlined in the Collective Agreement.

This posting is for a candidate to be nominated for a Canada Research Chair; employment as a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair at BCIT is a separate issue and will not be addressed until after the CRC Secretariat has reviewed and approved the nomination.

Position Details

Posting Category	Applied Research
Department 2	SOCAS Academic Studies
Campus Location	Burnaby campus
Bargaining Unit	BCIT Faculty and Staff Association (FSA)
Job Status	Regular
Full-Time/Part-Time	Full-Time
Number of Vacancies	1
Anticipated Start Date	09/01/2026
Anticipated End Date	

Competition Information

Competition Number	25FSA638
Competition Open Date	06/25/2025
Competition Close Date	07/25/2025
Open Until Filled?	No
Quicklink for Posting	https://careers.bcit.ca/postings/9619

Supplemental Questions

Required fields are indicated with an asterisk (*).

1. * What is the highest level of education attained? Successful candidates will be required to submit official transcript(s) from the granting institution for verification.
 - o GED
 - o High School Diploma
 - o Certificate
 - o Diploma
 - o Associates Degree
 - o Bachelors Degree
 - o Masters Degree
 - o PHD
2. * How many years of experience do you have in this type of position?
 - o 0-1
 - o 1-2
 - o 3-5
 - o 6-9
 - o 10+
3. * Where a successful applicant places within the salary range is dependent on education, experience, and placement criteria as outlined in the Collective Agreement. Are you satisfied with being placed on this range?
 - o Yes
 - o No
4. * All positions at BCIT require on campus presence at the applicable campus location(s). This means the successful candidate must be able to and willing to relocate to the Lower Mainland. Please select from the following that best describes your situation:
 - o I currently reside in the Lower Mainland

- I do not currently reside in the Lower Mainland, however I am willing and able to relocate if found to be the successful candidate
 - I do not currently reside in the Lower Mainland and I am unwilling to relocate
-

Documents Needed to Apply

Required Documents

1. Resume
2. Cover Letter

Optional Documents

1. Additional Supporting Documents