



Canada Research Chair (Tier II) Genomics-Driven Natural Product Innovation

Assistant/Associate Professor (Internal Candidates Only)

The University of Northern British Columbia invites applications for a Tier II Canada Research Chair (CRC) in **Genomics-Driven Natural Product Innovation**. This professorship will enable an already outstanding researcher to maximize their contribution as a center of research and research training in this area.

The proposed Chair in Genomics-Driven Natural Product Innovation will advance expertise in genomics-driven natural product discovery and structural elucidation of complex molecules and growing work in flow-chemistry based synthesis, and leverages collaborations for downstream development, such as biocatalytic transformations, heterologous expression systems, and sustainable synthesis. The Chair program will translate solutions sourced from local forests to technologies with global impact. The Chair, in partnership with experts in synthetic biology, enzymes, and enzyme engineering will work to translate discoveries into deployable solutions for pharmaceutical and agrochemical applications

Applicants must have an outstanding record of research for their career stage, having demonstrated exceptional early capacity for research in the field of genomics-driven natural product innovation. The successful candidate will be expected to establish an active, externally-funded research program, including funding from one of Canada's three research councils (SSHRC, NSERC and/or CIHR), as well as supervise graduate students and post-doctoral fellows. Applicants must demonstrate a track record of engaging in interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary research, and they must also demonstrate the potential to build research collaboration across the university community. The program of research proposed by the applicant must align with [UNBC's READY: Research Roadmap 2025-2030](#), provide rich research training opportunities from graduate and undergraduate students, and contribute to developing interdisciplinary academic networks within the institution and beyond.

Tier II Canada Research Chairs are intended for exceptional emerging scholars who are within 10 years of receiving their highest degree. Applicants who are more than 10 years from having earned their highest degree may have their eligibility for a Tier II Chair assessed through the program's [Tier II justification process](#). UNBC advocates for equity in its hiring practices, and is committed to ensuring that all eligible candidates are considered fairly for all positions, including the position of Canada Research Chair.

For researchers who are more than 10 years from their highest degree at the time of nomination and/or have experienced legitimate [career interruptions](#), UNBC will consider requests for accommodation. Please submit all requests with full justification to Dr. Paula Wood-Adams, Vice-President, Research and Innovations, University of Northern BC at paula.wood-adams@unbc.ca.

This competition is limited to internal applicants from the University of Northern British Columbia. In addition, to meet its equity targets, applicants must self-identify as belonging to the federally designated group of Women or people from

minoritized gender identity groups. A Tier II Chair nomination will be submitted soon after a successful candidate has been selected. Chairs are awarded by the Tri-agency Institutional Programs Secretariat in Ottawa after a rigorous evaluation.

Our Commitment to Diversity and Employment Equity

The University of Northern British Columbia is fully committed to creating and maintaining an equitable, diverse, and inclusive environment that is accessible to all. We are devoted to ensuring a welcoming, safe, and inclusive campus free from harassment, bullying, and discrimination. This commitment is woven into our motto and mission. In the Dakelh language, UNBC's motto 'En Cha Huná translates to "he/she/they also live" and means respect for all living things. Through the respect for all living things, we are able to grow and learn better together, each bringing our own unique individual differences and contributions to inspire leaders for tomorrow by influencing the world today.

Employment equity requires that we remove barriers and overcome both direct and indirect discrimination. In this way, the pool of excellent candidates increases substantially. 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.

Applicants should forward their cover letter, curriculum vitae, 5-year research plan (including research program, student and postdoctoral training plan and budget details – maximum 3 pages), teaching statement (maximum 1 page) and the names and addresses of three references (including telephone and email information) to research@unbc.ca.

Persons who anticipate needing accommodation (e.g. to accommodate a person with a hearing impairment or mobility restrictions, or a person who is neurodiverse, etc.) for any part of the application and hiring process, may contact UNBC Health & Wellbeing at wellbeing@unbc.ca. Any personal information provided will be maintained in confidence.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. The University of Northern British Columbia is committed to employment equity and encourages applications from women, aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities and members of visible minorities.

***Applications received on or before January 5, 2026 will receive full consideration;
however, applications will be accepted until the position is filled.***

Position posted: December 1, 2025