

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

TIER 2 CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMEs IN A CHANGING WORLD

The Universit  du Qu bec   Trois-Rivi res (UQTR) invites applications from candidates in management, engineering, psychology, education or related disciplines for a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Entrepreneurship and SMEs in a changing World. This Chair will be part of the scientific program of the l'Institut de recherche sur les PME (InRPME) [Research Institute on SMEs], which revolves around two main axes, namely entrepreneurship and SMEs, and whose research objects aim to address different facets of these themes. A national and international leader in the field, InRPME is renowned for its close proximity to key players in the sectors concerned by its research activities (public authorities, practitioners, entrepreneurs and managers of SMEs). This proximity allows the development of tools, knowledge mobilization activities and fundamental or applied research that adequately meet the needs of partner organizations. The chairholder must strengthen the InRPME team and work closely with other members on grant applications, highly qualified personnel training, partners' mobilization and knowledge dissemination.

Recent changes in the business environment have considerable effects on entrepreneurship and SMEs: climate crisis and social inequalities, digital transformation, including artificial intelligence, and its impact for cybersecurity, entrepreneurs and SMEs obligation to adapt to supply chains disruption and uncertainty caused by various crises, world of work transformation, demographic challenges, etc. The Chair aims to understand more accurately the implications of these different transformations on entrepreneurship and SMEs. While other topics may be considered for this call for applications, four themes are considered priorities, namely:

- **Sustainable and responsible entrepreneurship and SMEs.** This theme covers issues related to the environment (climate crisis, pollution, etc.) and social inequalities (poverty, exclusion, etc.). Research activities on this theme can focus on different issues such as entrepreneurship and SMEs adaptation to environmental concern, the role of entrepreneurship and SMEs in promoting the inclusion of groups that are often discriminated (women, visible minorities, indigenous peoples, people with disabilities, etc.), and other related topics;
- **Entrepreneurship, business start-ups and SME transfer.** This theme aims to advance the understanding of the "entrepreneurship making", and the SME durability issues. This may concern entrepreneurship education, entrepreneurial commitment and the business startup process, the challenges of long-term business success, entrepreneurial exits and SME transfer;
- **Digital transformation, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence impact on SMEs.** This theme aims to better understand technology's impact on SMEs entrepreneurial and management processes. This includes topics such as scientific and technological entrepreneurship, technology's impact on business and SMEs transformation, SMEs adaptation to the advent of artificial intelligence technologies, new business models linked to digital technology, and other subjects linked to digital transformation impact on emerging and well-established entrepreneurs;
- **Entrepreneurial ecosystems and support for SMEs.** This theme aims to better understand how territorial dynamics are articulated to support the emergence of diversified and renewed entrepreneurship and to study the impact of different support practices (coaching, mentoring, etc.) as well as support structures for entrepreneurs (incubators, accelerators, etc.) and SMEs (public, semi-public and private organizations).

The Canada Research chair program :

Tier 2 Canada Research Chairs (CRCs) are granted to exceptional emerging researchers after a rigorous evaluation process. Individuals wishing to obtain a Tier 2 CRC must have obtained their doctorate fewer than 10 years prior to submitting their CRC application (October 22 2023). Those who received their doctorate more than 10 years before applying (and whose career was interrupted, for example, due to maternity leave, parental leave, or extended sick leave) may ask to have their

eligibility assessed through the Tier 2 Canada Research Chair Program justification process. For more information on the justification process, please contact the *Décanat de la recherche et de la création* at UQTR (drc@uqtr.ca).

Commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion :

The Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières is committed to building an equitable, diverse, and inclusive environment, which is essential for the development of knowledge and of innovative technologies. Accordingly, it is equally committed to complying with federal equity and non-discrimination initiatives related to employment. It particularly encourages applications from women and gender minorities, members of Indigenous communities, racialized individuals, individuals with disabilities and individuals from LGBTQ+ communities. Upon request, the recruitment process can be modified to take into account the needs of individual with disabilities.

Selection process:

Each application will first be evaluated by a committee responsible for identifying candidates who satisfy the selection criteria of the University and of the Canada Research Chairs Program. Applications which proceed to the next step will be reviewed by a committee which ensures that the University's guidelines and objectives related to equity, diversity, and inclusion have been taken into account. Because the creation of this position is subject to approval by the University, candidates must also go through a departmental hiring process. The successful candidate will be invited to submit a full application package to the Canada Research Chair Program in fall 2024 and will be offered a tenure-track professorship.

Useful links :

For more information on the Canada Research Chair Program, consult: <http://www.chairs-chaire.gc.ca/home-accueil-fra.aspx> .

For more information on UQTR's selection process for Canada Research Chairs, consult : http://www.uqtr.ca/CRC_balises

For more information on UQTR, consult: <http://www.uqtr.ca>

For more information on the Institute for Research on SMEs, consult: <http://www.uqtr.ca/inrpme>

For more information on accommodation measures for individuals with disabilities, contact Elisabeth Roberge of the UQTR's Human Resources department, at: Elisabeth.Roberge@uqtr.ca

University requirements :

Education :

The successful candidate will hold the position of full professor at the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières. Candidates must possess a doctorate (PhD) in a field relevant to the theme of entrepreneurship and SME management. The Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières is a francophone university. Knowledge of French is not required at the time of hire, but is an asset. However, the ability to work in this language, and in particular to teach in it, should be developed in the first year. Teaching experience is also an asset.

Other :

Candidates are invited to apply by 5:00 p.m. on March 15 2024. The application package must include: a curriculum vitae, a brief description of their research program related to the chair (maximum of three pages), some examples or copies of significant contributions to the field of entrepreneurship and small business management, and the names of three experts prepared to submit a letter of recommendation. Candidates may also add details on special circumstances which led to a slowdown or interruption of their research activities; UQTR will take these circumstances into account during review of their applications. All documents must be contained in a single PDF file and submitted using the online self-identification form available at http://www.uqtr.ca/CRC_Declaration_volontaire

Salary:

As determined by the collective agreement of UQTR professors. Chairholders can get an annual bonus of up to 20% of their salary.

All applications will be kept confidential

Please submit your application by 5:00 p.m. on March 15 2024.