

**Internal Posting:** Department of Mechanical Engineering

**NSERC Canada Research Chair – Tier 2 in Algorithmic Decision-making for Autonomous Systems**

**Posting Date:** March 10, 2025

**Closing Date:** April 11, 2025

The Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver campus, invites applications from internal UBC faculty members for an NSERC Tier 2 Canada Research Chair (CRC) position in the field of Algorithmic Decision-making for Autonomous Systems. As this is an internal search, applicants must already hold a full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty appointment in the UBC Department of Mechanical Engineering. Applicants must hold a PhD and be at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor.

Tier 2 Chairs are intended for exceptional emerging scholars (i.e., candidates must have been an active researcher in their field for fewer than 10 years at the time of nomination). Applicants who are more than 10 years from having earned their highest degree (including 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](#). Please contact the UBC CRC secretariat for more information. Tier 2 CRC positions have a term of five years which may be renewed once for a second five-year term. All CRC nominations are subject to review and final approval by the CRC Secretariat and appointment as a CRC is conditional upon their approval. Please consult the [Canada Research Chairs](#) website for full program information, including further details on eligibility criteria.

The Chair holder is expected to have a demonstrated track record of leadership in the fields of control engineering and autonomous systems with extensive expertise in control theory, mathematical optimization, computing and multi-agent systems. The Chair holder will position the Department at the forefront of autonomous systems research, addressing key challenges in the strategic areas of sustainable energy, robotics, and aerospace. The Chair holder will bring a breadth of expertise, establish an innovative research program with the ability to attract substantial external funding and industrial partnerships as well as excellence in undergraduate teaching and learning, and dedication to graduate student teaching, supervision, and mentoring.

In accordance with the 2019 Addendum to the 2006 Canadian Human Rights Settlement Agreement, [UBC's CRC Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Action Plan](#), and pursuant to Section 42 of the BC Human Rights code, the selection will be restricted to members of one or more of the following designated groups: Women and gender equity-seeking groups, Racialized people (members of groups that are racially categorized), people with disabilities, and Indigenous Peoples. Applicants must self-identify as a member of one or more of the designated groups using the equity survey ([https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6WJHoI7SfPxRMu9](https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WJHoI7SfPxRMu9)). As the search is limited to those self-identifying as members of designated equity groups, applicants must also provide their names when completing the equity survey in order 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 only the names of those eligible for the search process will be shared confidentially with the search committee. All responses will be stored in a secure database

The application package must be submitted to **Dr. Dana Grecov** at [dgrecov@mech.ubc.ca](mailto:dgrecov@mech.ubc.ca), Associate Head for Research, Department of Mechanical Engineering by 11:59pm **April 11, 2025**. The Chair is required to apply for the CRC for the 2025 fall cycle and the anticipated start date of the Chair position is April 1, 2026. For any question regarding the Chair position, please contact Dr. Grecov.

The application package should include:

- 1) a curriculum vitae (UBC CV format), cover letter and EDI statement
- 2) a letter of interest describing the proposed research program, addressing i) the context for the research, ii) the methodology to be used, iii) and overall strategy (maximum 2 pages)
- 3) names and contact information for four potential referees who meet the Canada Research Chairs Program's conflict of interest requirements. (Please note references will not be solicited at this time).

UBC recognizes the legitimate impact that COVID-related 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.

As noted above, in addition to the application package, applicants must complete the equity survey ([https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6WJHol7SfPxRMu9](https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WJHol7SfPxRMu9)) as part of the CRC selection process. Applicants must provide their full name on the survey in order to be considered. The information provided will be stored in a secure database and will only be used to determine whether the applicant qualifies for participation in this selection process.

The University is committed to creating and maintaining an accessible work environment for all members of its workforce. Within this hiring process we will make efforts to create an accessible process for all candidates (including but not limited to disabled people). Confidential accommodations are available on request by contacting **Jennifer Pelletier**, Senior Manager Administration, UBC Department of Mechanical Engineering by email at [jen@mech.ubc.ca](mailto:jen@mech.ubc.ca). If you have any questions regarding accommodations or accessibility during the recruitment and hiring process or for more information and support, please visit UBC's Center for Workplace Accessibility website at <https://hr.ubc.ca/health-and-wellbeing/working-injuryillness-or-disability/centre-workplace-accessibility> or contact the Centre at [workplace.accessibility@ubc.ca](mailto:workplace.accessibility@ubc.ca). To learn more about how the university is working to create a more inclusive working and learning environment, see the [Strategic Equity & Anti-Racism \(StEAR\) Framework's](#) goals related to recruitment and retention.

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. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply.