Chief Risk Officer, McMaster University

McMaster University is actively seeking a strategic and collaborative leader to serve as their Chief Risk Officer (CRO), to help lead the University in coordinating the integration of risk management strategies across the university. The Chief Risk Officer will join McMaster University at an exciting time, as it continues to work toward its 2021 Strategic Plan with a vision to create impact, ambition and transformation through excellence, inclusion and community, and an overall goal of advancing human and societal health and well-being.

Founded in 1887 and recognized as Canada’s most research-intensive University, McMaster has achieved an international reputation as a centre of excellence for teaching and learning, innovation, and creativity. Consistently ranked among top 5 universities in Canada, McMaster is a member of the U15 group of Canadian universities. McMaster is a research-intensive, student-centred university focused on preparing its students to be engaged and thoughtful citizens, equipped with the skills, knowledge, resilience, and understanding needed to make a positive and effective contribution to the world. In addition to providing an outstanding, personalized learning environment for their students, the University has the ability and the creativity, across all six Faculties, to partner and collaborate on the knowledge, discoveries and innovation that are needed to make a positive and decisive impact on our society and world.

As a member of the leadership team under the direction of the Vice-President (Operations and Finance), the Chief Risk Officer will work alongside with, and regularly present to, the Audit and Risk Committee of the Board of Governors. The CRO will also work with the President and Vice-Presidents, Associate and Assistant Vice-Presidents, Deans to identify key areas of risk, choose suitable methods to objectively assess exposures, and suggest and recommend risk mitigation strategies. The Chief Risk Officer will oversee the overall compliance status and risk exposure for McMaster University. As a vitally important member of the senior management team, the Chief Risk Officer will lead the development of the university’s risk management framework and policy including risk identification, risk assessment, risk register, risk appetite and operational processes.

As the ideal candidate you bring advanced education along with ten years of progressive senior leadership experience in risk management. You possess an advanced level of university acumen, capable of understanding the implications of leading a risk management culture and managing significant change across a highly decentralized university community. You have demonstrated leadership skills with proven ability to lead cross-functional teams including the ability to coach and guide staff to achieve success, manage multiple complex projects, and successfully achieve outcomes with a diverse group of stakeholders. You possess the strategic acumen and global thinking to enable you to understand the goals of the University and to translate them into risk mitigation strategies that support the University’s mission. You have an ability to embrace and champion change and drive collaboration and agile processes in support of the academic, teaching and research mission of the University.

If you’re interested in this opportunity, please apply online at www.kbrs.ca/Career/15690. For more information, contact Katherine Frank (kfrank@kbrs.ca) or Mark Gillis (mgillis@kbrs.ca).
McMaster University is located on the traditional territories of the Haudenosaunee and Mississauga Nations and within the lands protected by the “Dish With One Spoon” wampum agreement.

The diversity of our workforce is at the core of our innovation and creativity and strengthens our research and teaching excellence. In keeping with its Statement on Building an Inclusive Community with a Shared Purpose, McMaster University strives to embody the values of respect, collaboration and diversity, and has a strong commitment to employment equity.

The University seeks qualified candidates who share our commitment to equity and inclusion, who will contribute to the diversification of ideas and perspectives, and especially welcomes applications from indigenous (First Nations, Métis or Inuit) peoples, members of racialized communities, persons with disabilities, women, and persons who identify as 2S/ LGBTQ+.

As part of McMaster’s commitment, all applicants are invited to complete a confidential Applicant Diversity Survey as part of the application submission process. The Survey questionnaire requires voluntary self-identification in relation to equity-seeking groups that have historically faced and continue to face barriers in employment. The entire survey will take approximately two minutes to complete. All information collected is confidential and will be used to support efforts to broaden the diversity of the applicant pool and to promote a fair, equitable and inclusive talent acquisition process. The survey link will be provided at the time of application.

McMaster University and KBRS will provide support in the recruitment processes to applicants with disabilities, including accommodation that takes into account an applicant’s accessibility needs. If you require accommodation in order to participate as a candidate in the recruitment process, please contact accommodate@kbrs.ca or communicate your needs to the recruitment professional named in the job description.