Chair of Social Work, University of Northern British Columbia  
Quesnel or Terrace, British Columbia

UNBC, in conjunction with the School of Social Work, is seeking its next Chair of Social Work. This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to the development of Social Work education at UNBC including the opportunity to teach in multiple modalities. This position is anticipated to be an appointment at the rank of Associate Professor-Chair tenure track. The ideal start date would be July 1, 2022, but a later start date is also possible.

The Organization

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples have walked gently on the diverse traditional territories where the University of Northern British Columbia community is grateful to live, work, learn, and play. We are committed to building and nurturing relationships with Indigenous peoples, we acknowledge their traditional lands, and we thank them for their hospitality.

Located in northern British Columbia, UNBC is one of Canada’s best small universities with a passion for teaching, discovery, people, the environment, and the North. UNBC provides outstanding learning opportunities that explore cultures, health, economies, sciences, and the environment. As one of BC’s research-intensive universities, we bring new knowledge to our students and to the world while fostering a welcoming community that is friendly, inclusive, and supportive.

The Role

Reporting to the Dean of Health and Human Sciences, the Chair oversees social work students and supports faculty on 4 campuses – Prince George, Quesnel, Fort Saint John, and Terrace with their primary location being the Prince George campus. The School of Social Work offers an undergraduate (BSW) program and graduate programs (MSWF (Foundation), MSWA (Advanced), and MSWI (Indigenous), all of which emphasize social justice, Indigenous and anti-oppressive approaches to working with communities, families, and individuals. All programs are fully accredited by the Canadian Association for Social Work Education.

UNBC provides broad support for faculty to develop their research and teaching capabilities, a strong mandate for growth, a modern and comprehensive campus, and a distinctive quality of life in central British Columbia. Social Work education at UNBC includes BSW and MSW degrees and is committed to a program of studies informed by a central concern for human rights, personal empowerment, community change, social justice and anti-oppression. Incorporating critical social thinking, the program emphasizes Social Work in northern and remote communities, social work practice with Indigenous peoples, women in human services, and community practice and research through courses that recognize the integration of practice, policy, and research.

The Ideal Candidate
The successful candidate will be based at the Prince George campus, with regular travel to the regional campuses, and is expected to have strong leadership skills, practice experience and be able to teach in a range of subject areas as well as provide evidence of a record of teaching and research excellence. Experience with rural, remote, and northern Social Work practice along with familiarity in the areas of groups/communities, communications, health-based practice, and field education is preferred. As an Associate Professor- Chair, strong administrative experience is also expected.

Qualifications and Experience

- A Ph.D. degree in Social Work or a related discipline.
- Experience teaching at the university level.
- Demonstrated leadership experience or potential through previous roles or projects.
- Demonstrated excellence in research, including:
  - Evidence of high-quality independent research output leading to peer assessed publications and ideally the securing of external research funding.
  - National/international exposure through invited lectures and/or conference symposia as appropriate for their discipline and career stage.

Skills and Attributes

- A strategic and evidence-informed decision-maker with a strong sense of social justice and empathy.
- Well-developed equity lenses and experience working with people from a variety of backgrounds and cultures.
- Excellent communication skills, with the ability to understand and anticipate the needs of different audiences.
- Exceptional community-based research skills, with the ability to communicate the value and importance of their scholarship in compelling ways.
- The ability to face challenges and to exercise integrity, flexibility, wisdom and good judgment in meeting them.
- The ability to work collegially and effectively within a unionized environment; building trusting relationships with students, peers, leadership, and local community partners.

If you are interested in this opportunity, contact Debra Clinton at dclinton@kbrs.ca, Kyle Steele at ksteele@kbrs.ca, or Dr. Jennie Massey at jmassey@kbrs.ca or submit your full application package online at: https://www.kbrs.ca/Career/17344