Acadia University is recognized as one of Canada’s premier undergraduate institutions. Founded in 1838, Acadia is one of Canada’s oldest and most respected universities and offers a liberal arts education unique among post-secondary institutions. Acadia offers a stimulating, vibrant environment, on and off campus, where dedicated faculty inspire and challenge students to be their best through supportive personalized learning environments, holistic education and nurturing community engagement. Academic innovation and a technology-rich teaching and learning environment have garnered the university a reputation for excellence. Our progressive workplace is located only one hour from Halifax in Nova Scotia’s beautiful Annapolis Valley – a small-town setting offering an affordable lifestyle, outstanding recreational opportunities, internationally acclaimed restaurants, a healthy economy, and the best weather in the Atlantic Provinces.

Acadia University and the Department of Community Development acknowledges that we are in Mi’kma’ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi’kmaq People. This land is governed by the treaties of Peace and Friendship, first signed by the Mi’kmaq, Wolastoqey, Peskotomuhkatiyik, and the British Crown in 1726. These treaties did not implicate or affirm the surrender or transfer of land to the British, but recognized Mi’kmaq and Wolastoqey title and set the rules for what was to be a long-standing relationship between nations, initially preventing war and facilitating trade. As an educational institution, we are continually learning more about how we can deeply engage and move forward the work of truth, reconciliation, and equity. As community development faculty, staff, and students, we are grateful to work and engage in community work in Mi’kma’ki. We recognize that without action, an acknowledgment is empty. It marks the beginning of the work ahead of us, not the end.

Faculty of Professional Studies
Department of Community Development
Assistant Professor
Tenure Track Stream

Position #30304 – The Department of Community Development program values and promotes integrated environmental and social leadership on nested issues of equity, social justice, the environment, and climate. Our comprehensive approach to education combines aspects of social justice and environmental stewardship; our teaching provides a mix of strong theoretical grounding, hands-on learning, and small classes. We emphasize engaging students in critical and creative thought and practice through a range of core courses and community experiences.

The Department of Community Development seeks a tenure-track candidate at the rank of Assistant Professor, to begin on January 1, 2022. This is a focused hire for a Black, Indigenous or persons of colour scholar. Preference will be given to candidates who demonstrate an understanding of multiple ways of knowing and knowledge and experience in community-based practices. Candidates with demonstrated experience in activism, advocacy, and experiential learning are encouraged to apply.

The candidate’s research and teaching expertise must be in one or more of the four Community Development streams that include Social Advocacy and Activism, Community Wellness, Outdoor and Adventure Education, and Recreation Management. The successful candidate will have demonstrable commitment and successful university teaching experience at the undergraduate level that integrates theory with experiential education and community engagement. The successful candidate should be in the process of building or have an established research program. The successful candidate will show a strong commitment to service as demonstrated through a record of community involvement within the academic, disciplinary and broader community. The successful candidate’s teaching responsibilities will include core and elective courses in the Bachelor of Community Development program.

We are interested in recruiting a person who collaborates well and is interested in making a difference in their academic and community environments through teaching, research, and university and community service. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the undergraduate program, support the graduate program, conduct research and participate in the administrative life of the Department.
The main criteria for selection are academic and teaching excellence. The successful candidate will provide evidence of scholarly work that demonstrates a record for independent research leading to peer-assessed, community, and other forms of knowledge mobilization. A commitment to seek external research funding, as well as strong potential for outstanding teaching contributions, dedication to academic and pedagogical excellence, and an ongoing commitment to fostering equity and diversity are requirements for this position.

Preference will be given to candidates who possess a Ph.D. or have completed everything but their dissertation (ABD status).

Acadia University is committed to employment equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI). As part of our strategic priority to advance EDI, this is a focused search for Black, Indigenous (Canadian) or persons of colour. Acadia encourages applications from all qualified candidates in these groups including persons of any sexual orientation, gender identities and/or expressions, persons with disabilities, and other equity-recognized groups. Candidates who identify as being from any of these groups are asked to self-identify as part of their application package (see below). Additionally, in line with SSHRC considerations for merit review of Indigenous research, there is a recognition that reciprocity and co-creation in community-based research is a significant aspect of this work not always captured by conventional scholarship records. The hiring committee recognizes that scholars have varying career paths and that career interruptions can be part of an academic record. Candidates are encouraged to provide any relevant information about their career experience and/or career interruptions.

Applications should include the following:

- A letter of application describing how the applicant meets the criteria for the appointment.
- A statement of the candidate’s self-identification in relation to the focused groups (Black, Indigenous (Canadian) or persons of colour) and the candidate’s approach to truth and reconciliation
- A detailed curriculum vitae including a statement on the candidate’s experience in and approach to training and mentoring diverse students
- A summary of current research, teaching, professional service, and outreach
- A writing sample such as a peer-reviewed article or chapter
- A statement on the candidate’s strengths and experiences in enhancing equity, diversity, and inclusion in an institutional environment
- The names and contact information of three referees who can be contacted should the applicant be short-listed

The University invites applications from all qualified individuals; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Acadia University is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and welcomes applications from Aboriginal people, African Nova Scotians, persons with disabilities, visible minorities, women, and persons of any minority sexual orientation or gender identity. Consistent with the principles of employment equity, the primary criterion for appointment to a position is qualifications and professional excellence. Candidates who identify as a member of one of the afore-mentioned groups, and who wish to have the application considered as such, are invited to submit the online Employment Equity Voluntary Self-Identification Form as part of their application package.

The university will provide support in its recruitment processes to applicants with disabilities, including accommodation that takes into account an applicant’s accessibility needs. If you require accommodation because of a disability or for any other reason during the interview process, please contact: Samantha West, Administrative Assistant, Department of Community Development at samantha.west@acadiau.ca

Candidates are asked to submit their application in one PDF file to:

Dr. Mary Sweatman
Acting Head, Department of Community Development
Chair, Selection Committee, Acadia University
Wolfville, Nova Scotia  B4P 2R6
Tel: (902) 585-1122, mary.sweatman@acadiau.ca

Closing date: September 7, 2021

For additional information about the Department of Community Development, please visit: https://commdev.acadiau.ca/welcome.html