

Dalhousie University Arthur B. McDonald Chair of Research Excellence

Terms of Reference

The Arthur B. McDonald Chairs have been created to recognize and retain professors of high-calibre at Dalhousie University. A Chair carries with it a \$50k/year cash award and extends for a period of up to seven years (or retirement). The funding may be used entirely for the awardee's program of research or a portion (no greater than half) may be used as a salary stipend with the remainder being used for research support. Faculties are expected to provide partial teaching release to allow awardees increased time to focus their research efforts. The McDonald Chair is a non-renewable award, although the title alone may be held for an additional seven-year term upon written recommendation by the Dean and approval of the Provost and the VP Research.

Nominees are expected to:

- Hold the title of Full Professor;
- Be at the level of an exceptional Tier 1 CRC;
- Be actively involved in world-class research that can be demonstrated to have significant impact on the field;
- Have achieved international prominence in their field;
- Be noteworthy leaders in attracting and training the best and brightest students – offering a rich environment for trainees to gain the skills they need to become future research leaders;
- Undertake an innovative program of research that is strategically aligned with *Dalhousie's Research and Innovation Strategic Direction 2018-2023* and, in so doing, play a significant role in building the institution's strength and renown.

There will be a call for nominations as needed and as award(s) become available; note that up to three (3) inaugural McDonald Chairs will be available in the first call for nominations. All nominations must be made by Deans for candidates in their respective Faculties. Nomination packages must include:

- A letter of nomination (no more than four pages in length) outlining why the nominee is of this calibre and highlighting how the nominee meets all award criteria;
- A two-page description of the proposed program of research that outlines outcomes and impacts that advance Dalhousie's Research and Innovation Strategy;
- A current version of the nominee's CV.

Nominees cannot hold any other significant Chair, such as a Canada Research Chair, and a McDonald Chair concurrently.

A panel of senior administrators –Provost and VPA, VPRI, 2 appropriately representative Deans (*not in conflict*), and the Chair of Senate – will review all nominations and render final decisions for this award. Dalhousie is committed to fostering a collegial culture grounded in equity, diversity and inclusiveness. All Arthur B. McDonald chairholders will be selected with appropriate consideration given to these ideals.