



**Cassidy Centre for Educational Justice**  
Faculty of Education  
Simon Fraser University  
*Lhukw'lhukw'áytan* | Unceded Coast Salish Territories  
8888 University Drive  
Burnaby BC V5A 1S6  
ccej@sfu.ca ccej-sfu.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION: January 2025

## Research Assistant Opportunity

**[Dr. Amy Parent](#), Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Education & Governance (Tier 2)  
Cassidy Centre for Educational Justice (CCEJ) in the Faculty of Education, SFU**

We are looking for a motivated graduate research assistant to undertake the role of: **BC First Nations Women's Self-Determination, Rematriation Research Assistant**. This R.A. position presents a unique opportunity to contribute to the development and success of the BC First Nations Women's Self-Determination, Rematriation & Research Governance Network and support needs identified by BC FN grad students. This position provides an excellent opportunity to develop skills in research design, higher education, peer mentorship and Indigenous methodologies.

As a **Research Assistant**, you will have the opportunity to be mentored by [Dr. Amy Parent](#), Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Education & Governance (Tier 2), Associate Director of the Cassidy Centre for Educational Justice and Dr. Gloria Lin, Post-doctoral Research Fellow, to oversee the coordination of the BC First Nations Women Researcher's Leadership Circle and the BC First Nations Women's Self-Determination, Rematriation & Research Governance Network. The Network Coordinator will also work as part of an extended team of graduate research assistants that will attend bi-weekly team meetings with the [Cassidy Centre for Educational Justice \(CCEJ\)](#). This means that you will have an opportunity for additional mentorship by Director, [Dr. Özlem Sensoy](#). This collaborative environment will provide you with insights into CCEJ's research activities and allow you to contribute to various research, educational, and community outreach initiatives. To learn more about CCEJ, please visit: <https://ccej-sfu.ca/>.

### Primary Responsibilities

- Environmental scan of literature and community resources that will assist in refining a short survey to identify BC First Nations (BC FN) graduate student's needs related to navigating and uplifting professional research relationships in BC FN led research. The surveys will inform the development of a workshop.
- Develop a resource list on academic and community resources related to navigate and uplifting professional research relationships in BC FN led research.



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- Collect and organize responses, ensuring confidentiality and ethical data management (including Indigenous data sovereignty).
- Contribute to preliminary analysis of survey results with research team to identify common themes and needs for workshop and resource development.

### **Required Skills and Qualifications**

- Current female, gender diverse and/or 2SLGBTQQIA+ graduate student enrolled in a BC higher education institution (including Indigenous controlled institution), with preference for BC First Nations students.
- Strong understanding of Indigenous methodologies and community-centered research approaches.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with experience in survey design, and related research activities.
- Knowledge of BC First Nations (including Urban communities) and our diverse realities and contexts.
- Ability to work independently and meet deadlines while communicating effectively with team members.
- Commitment to fostering safe and respectful research environments.

### **Preferred Skills**

- Experience with qualitative and/or mixed-methods research design (including Survey Monkey)
- Knowledge of trauma-informed practices and strategies to address lateral violence in professional settings (or willingness to learn).

### **You are:**

- A current BC First Nations female or gender diverse graduate student enrolled in an Indigenous controlled or BC FN higher education institution in any discipline.
- A member of a BC First Nation and able to provide upon request supporting documentation for your claim of membership or citizenship. To support anyone who has been removed from their Nation due to colonial policies and those experiencing intersecting forms of discrimination and inequality such as those who have lost connection or who have been



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rejected from their communities on discriminatory grounds, and to recognize those still in the process of reconnecting, a candidate not yet in possession of official documentation may be asked to provide a written statement, with supporting documentation about their existing lived experiences and/or ongoing relationship to their Nation.

- A mature ability to consult and work collegially with Indigenous Matriarchs, Knowledge Holders, Distinguished leaders, communities, faculty, fellow research staff, university staff and community partners.
- Known to have an eye for detail with strong writing skills.
- Able to meet deadlines and communicate productively if you have questions or anticipate delays or challenges.

### **Additional Information**

This position is ideally suited for a graduate student who is passionate about advancing BC FN led research, addressing systemic barriers, and fostering ethical and reciprocal relationships in research settings.

### **Time commitment**

Approximately 50 hours, distributed according to project needs. Start date is anticipated for mid-February, 2025.

### **To Apply**

Applicants should submit the following documents:

1. A one- to two-page cover letter that includes:
  - A personal statement introducing yourself (highlighting your Nation, community(ies), and positionality).
  - A brief description of your program of study, including anticipated completion time.
  - An outline of your skills and how they align with the responsibilities of this position.
  - How this opportunity contributes to your future career or educational goals.
2. Your CV.

Please send your application materials as attachments to **Gloria Lin** at [gloria\\_lin@sfu.ca](mailto:gloria_lin@sfu.ca).  
References will only be required from shortlisted applicants.