

The Opportunity

The Faculty of Arts Business and Science at the University College of the North is presently searching for a new Director of the Centre for Aboriginal Language and Cultures (CALC). This is a faculty position which reports to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts Business and Science. The primary focus of this position is research into Aboriginal Languages and Cultures; there will be some teaching duties in the Aboriginal and Northern Studies program. The Director of CALC will also be responsible for the development of other community-based language and cultural programming. The director will be responsible for developing an active externally-funded research program in partnership with Indigenous organizations and communities in northern Manitoba and other members of the academic community including those in the Faculty of Arts Business and Science.

The Candidate

The ideal candidate will hold a PhD in Indigenous studies (or in a relevant discipline with clearly demonstrable research work in the area of interest) or be very close to completion of their PhD. Ideally we seek a candidate with an established research agenda in Aboriginal languages and cultures, but we are also open to candidates who are in the process of establishing a research agenda in this area. The candidate should be a researcher with an active research and publication agenda. Teaching experience at the postsecondary level is also a requirement of this position. The teaching load will be limited as the emphasis for this position is research.

Reporting directly to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Business, and Science, the Director of Centre for Aboriginal Languages will develop an institutional plan for a premier Centre for Aboriginal Languages (CALC) that is consistent with the mission, vision and values of UCN, and that is aligned with long-range planning priorities. Research is the primary task of the CALC and that must be reflected in the institutional plan.

The incumbent will be required to work both independently and in team situations with UCN administrators, faculty, elders, and staff, and with external community, particularly the Aboriginal community, educational, business and governmental agencies. S/he will also have demonstrated technical skills to ensure the effective use of current information technology in the conduct of the work. The competencies which are required for this position are: research experience (conducting research, training in research, evidence of successful external funding for research), effective and culturally relevant communication and interpersonal skills, leadership skills, managing and coordinating for results and change, critical thinking skills, self-management and effective use of current information technology.

Position Duties and Responsibilities

- Develop an active research agenda studying Indigenous languages and cultures;
- Lead in the development of research initiatives studying Indigenous languages and cultures;

- Develop research projects with a plan to attract externally-funded research on Indigenous cultures and languages;
- Develop research teams relevant to the research projects the Centre engages in and manage those research teams;
- Teach courses as required;
- Develop a comprehensive institutional plan for the Centre for Aboriginal Languages (CALC) that creates, nurtures and supports Aboriginal languages, research and language revitalization initiatives;
- Research, identify, evaluate and recommend potential operational models for the CALC, each with infrastructure needs and corresponding budget requirements;
- Forge and sustain linkages with key partners within and external to UCN in order to connect and collaborate at community, provincial, national and international levels with respect to the establishment of the CALC, this will include, but is not limited to, partners such as MKO, KTC and other relevant Aboriginal organizations.
- Establish the CALC as a provider of programs, courses and curricula that meets the diverse needs of learners, including fluent and non-fluent speakers, and that addresses the methodology of teaching Aboriginal languages;
- Establish the CALC as a destination that recognizes excellence and promotes a positive environment of innovation and creativity, in order to attract internal and external researchers and to facilitate research partnerships;
- Identify and cultivate both traditional and more innovative sources of funding for the CALC, and together with the Director of Academic Development, write grant applications and proposals;
- Establish evaluation mechanisms to ensure goals and objectives within the CALC are being met;
- Manage an independent work environment.

About UCN

The University College of the North (UCN) has two main campuses in The Pas and Thompson, complete with a full range of services, twelve postsecondary access centres and a number of teaching locations. UCN's geographical intake area is almost 80% of the total area of Manitoba. The University College of the North is a small teaching-centred institution with a number of certificate programs at the college level, diploma programs, and degree options (both three-year and four-year offerings) that include Nursing, Education, Science, English, Aboriginal and Northern Studies, and a number of other options.

The Thompson Campus

The Thompson Campus is located in the bustling city of Thompson, Manitoba. Thompson is northern Manitoba's Nickel City, or the Hub of the North. Thompson was developed in the northern boreal forest when Inco Ltd. built a mining and refining project here in 1957. It's now a modern community of over 15,000 people with a golf course, museum, several shopping centres, a large swimming pool complex, and a zoo all set in the rugged beauty of northern Manitoba.



The Pas Campus

The Pas Campus is located in the thriving town of The Pas, Manitoba, a community of approximately 6000 people located north of the 53rd parallel and 625 kilometers (375 miles) north of Winnipeg, Manitoba. There is an additional population base of 15,000 people who reside in the service area of The Pas - RM of Kelsey, Cormorant, Moose Lake, Clearwater Lake, Rocky Lake, and the Opaskwayak Cree Nation.

