

Research Chairs – Faculty of Science

BC Regional Innovation Chairs

The Government of BC launched the Leading Edge Endowment Fund (LEEF) in 2002 to encourage social and economic development. The fund established 20 permanent Leadership Research Chairs, and nine Regional Innovation Chairs, designed to create opportunities through BC's colleges, universities and institutes. TRU has an allocation of two Regional Innovation Chairs; each receiving a total endowment of \$2.5 million, with government and the private sector contributing \$1.25 million. BC Innovation Council has administered the LEEF funds since 2012.



Dr. John Church

BC Regional Innovation Chair in Cattle Industry Sustainability

Research area: Dr. Church leads a multidisciplinary research team dedicated to the exploration and invention of innovative practices and technologies tied to the sustainability and enhancement of the cattle industry, rangeland and meat production.

[Website](#)

Canada Research Chairs

The Canada Research Chairs (CRC) program plays a fundamental role in the support of cutting-edge research across the country. Chairholders accelerate and strengthen TRU's research capacity, and are essential threads in the fabric of a research-informed university, creating increased momentum for research at TRU. The role of Canada Research Chairs is to elevate research training opportunities for students, and help answer questions of particular relevance to the communities we serve.



Dr. Yana Nec

Canada Research Chair in Applied Mathematics and Optimization

Research area: Dr. Nec develops mathematical tools to explain complex natural phenomenon that range from gas flow in landfill facilities to the dispersion of atmospheric pollutants, to signaling processes during immune responses.

[Website](#)



Dr. Courtney Mason

**Canada Research Chair in Rural Livelihoods and Sustainable Communities,
Faculty of Adventure, Culinary Arts and Tourism & Part-Time Faculty of Science**

Research area: Dr. Mason collaborates with Indigenous community members and band councils in rural Canada on health initiatives, tourism development and food security, and research results influence policy decisions concerning the development of Indigenous lands and resources.

[Website](#)

NSERC Industrial Research Chairs (IRC)

Industrial Research Chairs are prestigious appointments, intended to assist universities in building on existing strengths to achieve the critical mass required for a major research endeavor in science and engineering of interest to industry; and/or assist in the development of research efforts in fields that have not yet been developed in Canadian universities, but for which there is an important industrial need.



Dr. Lauchlan Fraser

NSERC Industrial Research Chair in Ecosystem Reclamation

Research area: Dr. Fraser is a community and ecosystem ecologist who is at the forefront of research that aids in the recovery of disturbed ecosystems. Fraser has led teams of national and international researchers on reclamation research relating to soil amendments, biodiversity and climate change, with a particular focus on the Southern Interior of BC.

[Website](#)