



Feast Centre for Indigenous STBBI Research  
Centre du festin traditionnel de recherche autochtone sur les ITSS

**National Director**

**Location:** McMaster University, Hamilton, ON

**Status:** Full time employment

**Background**

**The Feast Centre for Indigenous STBBI Research** is a five-year, cross-Canada initiative that aims to support the development of community and academic scholars and scholarship grounded in Indigenous knowledges, decolonizing approaches, and community-based research to holistically support STBBI research with Indigenous communities. This project joins key stakeholders (community, research and policy) to advance Indigenous research, programs and services in several key strategic areas related to STBBI research, prevention and care.

Grounded in a multi-conceptual framework (i.e., Indigenous and decolonizing methodologies, community-based research approaches and a strengths-based approach) the following activities will be pursued by the Feast Centre:

- Support the use of Indigenous knowledges in the community-led development of Indigenous approaches to the prevention and care of STBBIs;
- Support the development of implementation science approaches across all research areas in ways that seek to improve equitable access to culturally relevant STBBI prevention, testing, screening, diagnosis, treatment and care;
- Support early to late career scholars in their critical and theoretical scholarship;
- Establishes work/study programs for Indigenous students at all levels, including undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate research;
- Supports the meaningful inclusion of community in all Feast Centre training opportunities, but principally, in our community fellowship program;
- Provides release time for early career scholars to establish their programs of research;
- Support publications development via writing retreats and partners with the AHA Centre in the biannual Wise Practices Indigenous STBBI Community-based Research conference, and in McMaster Indigenous Research Institute events;
- Produces an edited monograph focused on Indigenous methodology/methods in the context of STBBI research; and
- Supports developing culturally grounded and innovative knowledge translation products.

Reporting to the Centre co-leads Randy Jackson and Renée Masching, the National Director of the Feast Centre will be guided and supported by the Operations Team, Governing Council, Council of Elders, the National Aboriginal Research Advisory Council (NARAC) and in thorough consultation with affiliated research centres. This position is based in

[feastcentre.mcmaster.ca](http://feastcentre.mcmaster.ca)

Hamilton, ON at McMaster University. Other Feast staff may be working on site and/or from various satellite locations. Although working knowledge of other languages (e.g., French and/or an Indigenous language, etc.) is desired, the primary working language of the Feast Centre for Indigenous STBBI Research is English.

### **National Director Roles and Responsibilities**

The following provides general duties and responsibilities of the National Director of the Feast Centre for Indigenous STBBI Research:

- Coordinates and administers the Feast Centre's strategic priorities and activities by assisting in project planning and ensuring that pre-established work scope, study protocol, and regulatory requirements are followed;
- Represents the Feast Centre team: scholars representing the four pillars of health and community stakeholders, and lead institutions in public;
- Administers and oversees all operations and programs of the Feast Centre in collaboration with members of the Governing Council, Council of Elders, Operations Team and the National Aboriginal Research Advisory Committee;
- Develops community mobilization strategies that engage peer researchers who have lived experience of STBBIs, emphasizing HIV and Hepatitis C;
- Supports activities to enhance the uptake and scaling of research for policy impact;
- Manages Centre staff in day-to-day activities in person and across distance;
- Supports the Principal Investigator, Principal Knowledge User and staff team in planning, facilitating and recording meetings;
- Manages the Centre budget and ensures that financial procedures for fiscal accountability are followed;
- Oversees and coordinates the provision of administrative and staff services to the management team;
- Develops and ensures comprehensive recordkeeping systems and procedures;
- Liaises between the project centre and internal and external study sites and maintains in-depth communication records;
- Assists in the development of data collection tools to support an Indigenous approach to Centre evaluation;
- Assists in future grant development and preparing scholarly papers for publication;
- Works with the Feast Centre's key partners (the McMaster Indigenous Research Institute and the AHA Centre) and the co-funded CIHR STBBI Centres (REACH 3.0 and Wuniska);
- Liaises with McMaster and CAAN administrative structures to ensure smooth operations;
- Maintains and applies knowledge of research related policies and procedures (e.g. Integrity in Research policy, Tri-Council Policy for Research Involving the First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples of Canada, etc.) and develop new policies as required;
- Performs all reporting requirements and all other duties required of this position.

## **Qualifications**

- Significant understanding of Indigenous knowledges and Indigenous research methodologies, implementation and program sciences, Indigenous evaluation and strengths-based approaches in research;
- Knowledge of GIPA/MEPA/ and MEWA principles that emphasize active engagement, leadership, collaboration and training of Indigenous people living with and at risk of with STBBIs;
- A graduate degree in a relevant field (e.g. Indigenous Studies, Social Sciences, Health Sciences, Public Health, etc.) and/or;
- Eight-years management experience, with an emphasis on research environments and Indigenous services, community health and/or social services settings;
- Knowledge and/or lived experience of HIV and AIDS and HCV prevention, care, treatment and support, in Canada and related social and health concerns;
- Experience and/or knowledge of HIV and AIDS, HCV, STBBI research;
- A personal and professional ethical framework which appreciates, honours and centers diverse lived experiences and identities, including those of sex workers, injection drug users, street-involved people, prison-involved people, and two-spirit/gay/lesbian/bisexual/trans/non-binary/queer people.
- Ability to travel.

## **Skills**

- Excellent leadership and supervisory skills;
- Knowledge and experience operationalizing Indigenous principles of community engagement;
- Strong working knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods;
- Experienced in designing presentations and public speaking at events such as conferences nationally and internationally;
- Exceptional relationship building and conflict resolution skills;
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills (ability to speak an Indigenous language and/or French considered an asset);
- Confident working in a fast-paced multidisciplinary environment;
- Operate within a strong work ethic and maintain professionalism;
- Maintain excellent organizational skills and ability to multitask;
- Possess and apply excellent problem-solving skills.

## **Abilities**

- Sound ability to plan and work virtually to engage with all national partners and stakeholders;
- Strong ability to analyze and transfer research information into accessible language and knowledge of effective dissemination strategies;
- Ability to plan content, teach, supervise and provide research advice and support;
- Ability to collaborate effectively with both community and academic representatives and organizations;
- Demonstrated ability to work as part of a team and independently;
- Strong capacity to learn and be self-directed;
- Ability to engage various service contractors (e.g. translation, printing, hotels etc.)

**Please include a cover letter summarizing your interest in this position and what you offer along with your CV (detailed curriculum vitae) and one sample of your sole-authored professional or academic writing (e.g., community report, journal publication etc.).**

**Send your application to Bridget Marsdin at [fstjobs@mcmaster.ca](mailto:fstjobs@mcmaster.ca) by May 27, 2020.**

We would like to thank you very much for your interest in the work of the Feast Centre for Indigenous STBBI Research, however only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

We strongly encourage and support applications from Indigenous applicants (First Nations, Inuit or Métis) and/or people living with or at risk of STBBIs.