

## Research Assistant Opportunity Casual Position

### *Histories of Transnational Social Justice: Relational Solidarities*

**Start Date: ASAP**

#### **Overview:**

The research assistant will collaborate to help prepare a Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Insight Development Grant (IDG). This project will be a qualitative inquiry into historical transnational relational experiences of solidarity. It asks those from the North who have committed their lives to transnational social justice movements about their lives and the ways they have made meaning about their experiences of solidarity.

Drawing on existing literature around solidarity encounters (see for example Gandhi 2005; Mahrouse 2014; D'Arcangelis 2022) and critical work that looks at “helping” roles often taken on by those with privilege (see for example Heron 2007; Gebhard, McLean and St. Denis 2022) we want to understand the complexities of building intentional relationships across differences for the purpose of social justice. In particular, we will explore not only what those encounters looked like for participants with privilege, but also ask them how those encounters were pedagogical for them - what were the differences it made in their lives and how they understood themselves in relation to the lives and struggles of others.

The research assistant will provide support by conducting a critical literature review on two areas:

- (1) Transnational solidarities
- (2) Innovative methodologies for data collection and knowledge mobilization.

The research assistant will also assist with preparing the SSHRC IDG application for a February 2023 deadline. The successful candidate will gain valuable knowledge and skills in the areas of innovative qualitative methodology and transnational solidarity. They will gain experience in collaborative teamwork. In addition, they will gain experience working in a research environment and develop grant writing skills.

Estimated number of hours: 160 hours

Estimated term: As soon as possible until February 2023.

Location: The position can be performed remotely from anywhere in Canada.

Hourly rate of pay: Dependent on qualifications and experience (potential range \$17.04 to \$23.79/hr)

#### **Qualifications:**

- Interest in the research topic area
- Experience conducting literature reviews
- Excellent organizational skills and high attention to detail
- Strong written communication skills
- Ability to take lead on research



- Self-starter with ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Some knowledge of qualitative research methodologies
- Currently enrolled in or completed studies at the graduate level

### **How to apply:**

Qualified individuals are encouraged to submit their application by email to **Dr. Katie MacDonald**, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities at [macdonaldk@athabascau.ca](mailto:macdonaldk@athabascau.ca). Applications should include (as a single PDF file) a brief cover letter that summarizes your skills, interests and experience; a current resume or curriculum vitae; and the contact information for 1-2 references.

Evaluation of applications will begin immediately and will continue until a suitable candidate is found. All applicants are thanked for their interest in this position; however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

Athabasca University and the researchers are committed and seek to support equity in employment and research opportunities. We strongly encourage applications from Indigenous people, people of colour, people with disabilities, 2SLGBTQ+ people, women, and other historically marginalized groups. Applicants are welcome, but not required, to self-identify in their letter of application.