

Director of Research – Canadian Institute for Research on Economic Justice (CIREJ)

Location: Remote in Canada (within Canada)

Employment Type: Contract full-time time one year with possibility of extension

Reports to: Executive Director

Term: Full-time contract 80,000/year

Start date: ASAP

About CCFWE

The Canadian Centre for Women's Empowerment (CCFWE) is a national non-profit organization dedicated to addressing economic abuse, advancing women's economic security, and driving systemic change. As the only organization in Canada focused exclusively on economic abuse as a form of gender-based violence, we work across various sectors, finance, housing, government, justice, and community, to develop innovative, survivor-centered solutions.

Our newly established Canadian Institute for Research on Economic Justice (CIREJ) is focused on generating economic justice research. This research will inform national policies, enhance survivor services, and build capacity among grassroots researchers.

We are currently seeking a visionary and skilled **Director of Research** to lead a nationwide research initiative, funded by the Government of Canada, in collaboration with our multidisciplinary team.

Position Summary

The **Director of Research** will play a pivotal role in shaping CCFWE's research agenda, leading the Economic Abuse Research Academy, and producing evidence that transforms how systems support survivors.

This position requires **expertise in qualitative research**, a deep **understanding of GBV, and economic abuse**. We also seek **demonstrated experience preparing and publishing manuscripts in peer-reviewed academic journals**.

The successful candidate will: Lead research design, data collection, and analysis; Mentor grassroots researchers; Oversee the development of academic and policy publications; and Translate research into actionable knowledge for systems change

Key Responsibilities

Research Design and Methodology

- Design and lead original, community-informed research on economic abuse, financial harm, and systemic inequities
- Select and implement appropriate qualitative and mixed-methods approaches
- Facilitate research ethics processes with the CCFWE team
- Develop project scopes, timelines, and research budgets
- Ensure trauma-informed, anti-oppressive, and methodologically rigorous research practices

Research Management and Supervision

- Supervise and train research project volunteers and data collectors to actively participate in all stages of research design and delivery.
- Coordinate internal and external evaluation processes, ensuring data integrity and ethical standards.

Data Analysis and Knowledge Production

- Analyze qualitative and mixed-methods data using tools such as NVivo, Dedoose, SPSS, or Excel.
- Produce research deliverables including high-quality reports, discussion papers, literature reviews, and infographics.
- Translate findings into accessible knowledge products that inform advocacy, policy, and survivor support programs.
- Prepare and submit manuscripts to peer-reviewed journals; address reviewer feedback; manage the peer-review and revision process to publication

Knowledge Translation and Policy Influence

- Present research at national conferences, policy roundtables, community forums, and stakeholder briefings.
- Engage and support CCFWE Economic Abuse Summit and other international conferences, sharing insights into the systemic nature of economic abuse and its impact on survivors.
- Develop policy briefs with the CCFWE Policy team and strategic recommendations for policymakers, financial institutions, housing bodies, and social services.
- Inform and support the work of the **National Task Force on Economic Justice**, including recommendations for improving survivor services (e.g., banking, credit, housing, employment).

Stakeholder Engagement:

- Build and maintain strong partnerships with grassroots organizations, research institutions, government departments, global allies, and financial institutions to support the goals of CIREJ.
- Oversee and coordinate regular meetings with the Institute Executive Committee to ensure research efforts align with strategic priorities and deliver timely updates.
- Represent CCFWE in multi-sector coalitions, advocating for survivor-centered data to be prioritized in policy and program discussions.
- Collaborate with internal teams and external partners to ensure that research outputs are aligned with national policy frameworks and support systems-change efforts for survivors of economic abuse.
- Help amplify the **Help Us Rise** campaign by speaking at key events, contributing to national dialogues, and using public platforms to increase visibility for the needs and voices of survivors.

Required Qualifications

- Master's degree in Law, Gender Studies, Sociology, Political Science, Women's Studies, Public Policy, Criminal Justice, or a related field. An equivalent combination of education and relevant professional experience, such as community-based research, gender equity work, or survivor-led advocacy, will also be considered.
- Minimum of 4 years of experience conducting qualitative or mixed-methods research, including research design, data collection, and analysis; or equivalent demonstrated experience contributing to community-based, participatory, or survivor-centered research projects.
- Strong ability to integrate and apply theoretical frameworks to research design, data analysis, and interpretation.
- Demonstrated expertise in conducting comprehensive literature reviews, synthesizing academic sources, and identifying gaps in existing research.
- Proven experience publishing in peer-reviewed academic journals, including manuscript preparation, responding to reviewer feedback, and navigating the peer-review process (e.g., Journal of Interpersonal Violence, Feminist Economics, Violence Against Women, Canadian Journal of Women and the Law).
- In-depth knowledge of ethical considerations in research with vulnerable populations, particularly survivors of gender-based violence.
- Demonstrated leadership in managing research teams and overseeing data collection efforts.
- Deep understanding of economic abuse, gender-based violence, and the structural barriers faced by survivors.
- Familiarity with GBA+ (Gender-Based Analysis Plus) frameworks and trauma-informed research approaches.
- Strong writing and analytical skills, with the ability to develop materials for academic, policy, and public audiences.
- Experience preparing and reviewing research grant proposals, especially for federal or foundation funders.

- Ability to manage multiple deadlines, stakeholders, and evolving project scopes.
- Knowledge of data management best practices (storage, documentation, and future access for replication)

Preferred / Asset Qualifications

- Experience with feminist, anti-racist, or decolonial research
- Background working with or within BIPOC, newcomer, or refugee communities
- Familiarity with public policy development at the municipal, provincial, or federal level.
- Previous research experience working with GBV and women's economic security
- Published work in academic journals or policy settings is a strong asset

Personal Attributes

- Deep commitment to equity, justice, and survivor-centered approaches
- Highly organized and self-directed; able to manage shifting timelines and priorities
- Skilled collaborator with the ability to lead and work across diverse teams
- Comfortable speaking on behalf of CCFWE and representing the organization externally
- Tactful and empathetic in all survivor-related communication
- Passionate about using research to drive social impact and systems change

What We Offer

- A unique opportunity to lead a national research initiative addressing economic abuse
- Flexible, remote work environment
- Supportive and equity-driven organizational culture
- Opportunities for public speaking, publication, and national visibility
- Mentorship and leadership development within a growing organization
- Access to high-level strategic discussions and policymaking spaces

To Apply

Please send your CV, cover letter, and two writing samples (e.g., research brief, academic article, or knowledge product) to hr@ccfwe.org with the subject line:

Director of Research Application

Application deadline: July 24, 2025, at 11:00 PM EST

We strongly encourage applications from Black, Indigenous, racialized, newcomer, refugee, gender-diverse, and survivor communities. CCFWE is committed to employment equity and recognizes lived experience with economic abuse as valuable expertise.