



## **RESEARCH ASSISTANT (Full-time-35 hours per week)**

An interdisciplinary research team requires a Research Assistant to support the project titled “Amplifying the Voices of Young Newcomer Children to Support Social and Emotional Well-Being.” This is a designated position for those with lived experience as an immigrant to Canada.

Supporting the development and well-being of young newcomer children should be a social and economic priority in Canada, especially among the Maritime provinces, as communities are becoming more diverse. While research is beginning to explore the experiences of newcomer parents, much less is known about the settlement experiences of young children. Inclusive education and early childhood environments are identified as a priority among provincial ministries for education in the Maritime provinces, emphasizing feelings of belonging to support learning and success.

This research will employ participatory visual methodologies. Engaging children through participating and sharing their voices is a guiding principle of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. There are several ways to conduct research with children, like drawing and using photographs, to ensure a child’s comfort in sharing perceptions and reduce the power imbalance between the child and researcher. Participatory visual methodologies offer appropriate research methods with newcomer children from diverse language and cultural backgrounds.

The research project is positioned within the research program of Dr. Jessie-Lee McIsaac (Tier II, Canada Research Chair in Early Childhood: Diversity and Transitions, Director of the Early Childhood Collaborative Research Centre, Associate Professor, Mount Saint Vincent University). This project is funded through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

### **POSITION SUMMARY:**

The Research Assistant will support the coordination of project activities and collaborate with Principal Investigator, MSVU research team members and the Research Advisory Committee (RAC); work alongside other staff in data collection and analysis. The incumbent will also be required to perform related communication and administrative office and other tasks as needed.

### **ABOUT YOU:**

- Lived experience as an immigrant to Canada.

- Completion of a Canadian undergraduate degree or enrolled/completed a Canadian Master's degree in a related field (Child and Youth Study, Health Promotion, Education, Family Studies and Gerontology, Sociology, etc.)
- Professional experience working with or supporting the immigrant community in Canada.
- Completion of thesis (undergraduate or graduate level) or practical experience in a research-related role.
- Knowledge of qualitative research methods and community-based research.
- Proficiency in English at an academic level. The ability to communicate in languages other than English is considered an asset.
- Self-motivated and able to work independently, as well as being a member of a team.
- Excellent organizational and communication skills.
- Competence with basic administrative functions and a working knowledge of Microsoft Office programs (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) is required. Experience with web design, social media and Adobe Creative Cloud an asset.

**Status:** Full-time, 35 hrs/week, six-month contract with the potential of renewal

**Start Date:** September 15 2025

**Pay Scale:** \$20-23 per hour, plus fringe benefits

**Application Process:** Please submit a cover letter and resume that outlines your specific experience related to the job information and required skills by email to Nahal Fakhari, Research Coordinator:

[nahal.fakhari@msvu.ca](mailto:nahal.fakhari@msvu.ca). This competition closes on August 15<sup>th</sup> 2025. We thank all candidates for their application but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

*Mount Saint Vincent University is strongly committed to fostering diversity and inclusion within our community and encourages applications from all qualified candidates including women, persons of any sexual orientations and gender identities and/or expressions, Indigenous persons, African Canadians, other racialized groups, persons with disabilities, and other groups that would contribute to the diversification of our campus. Candidates who identify as being from any of these groups are encouraged to voluntarily self-identify in their application materials. All qualified candidates are welcome to apply; however, priority will be given to Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and those eligible to work in Canada. In keeping with the principles of MSVU's employment equity policies and the nature of the position, applications will be restricted to candidates who self-identify as those with lived experience as an immigrant to Canada.*