



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of
**Natural Resources
Management**



In partnership with

Canada

GENDER AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION: MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS – GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

For Master's and PhD students in the Faculty of Natural Resources Management

DEADLINE TO APPLY:

- **August 31, 2027 for Fall-Winter 2026-27**
- **January 21, 2027 for Summer-Fall 2027**

The Indo-Pacific Scholarships and Fellowships for Canadians (IPSFC) program is funded by Global Affairs Canada to support Canadian universities to offer programs of scholarships and fellowships to enhance the capacity of Canadians in the areas related to Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy; to increase connectivity between Canadian and Indo-Pacific Institutions; and to support new academic and research pursuits on the Indo-Pacific region. Lakehead's IPSFC project will support graduate student research stays with partner institutions the Indo-Pacific region, on topics related to "Gender and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation for Sustainable Development". The program will run for two years (there will be a second call for the 2027-28 academic year).

The Indo-Pacific region is one of the most vulnerable to the impact of climate change. With more than half of the world's population and a source of half of global greenhouse gas emissions, the region provides an important area for a deeper understanding of the intersections of gender and climate change, mitigation and adaptation for sustainable development. Through a combined scholarship and fellowship program, the project aims to conduct collaborative research with select universities of the Indo-Pacific region. This project will examine the impact of climate change on the natural and social environments, the geographically specific risks from natural hazards, and gendered implications of climate change mitigation and adaptation, using a multidisciplinary approach.

At the center of the initiative is the relationship between Lakehead's Faculty of Natural Resources Management and the **College of Forest and Environmental Science and the Institute of Forest Science, Kangwon National University (KNU), Republic of Korea**. The forestry sectors of both Canada and the Republic of Korea are experiencing severe impacts of climate change, including increased forest disturbances such as insect outbreaks, pest infestations, and wildfires, as well as adverse effects on wildlife and biodiversity, and therefore need to adapt their forest management and operational strategies accordingly. Also, adaptive forest management is a crucial enabler to advancing the bioeconomy strategy because it ensures the sustainable supply of renewable forest-based materials, such as timber, biomass, and non-timber products, which are foundational to bio-based industries. By balancing ecological health with economic productivity, active forest

management supports innovation in areas, like bioenergy, bioplastics, and green construction, contributing to a low-carbon, circular economy.

Eligible Host Institutions - NRM: Kangwon National University, Republic of Korea

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- Must be enrolled at Lakehead in a master's degree or doctoral degree program, be in good standing, and remain enrolled throughout the stay abroad. (Cannot graduate prior to return).
- Must have completed coursework and have an approved thesis or dissertation. If in a course-based program, must be permitted to register for a research option.
- Must find a host supervisor at an eligible institution
- Must have a project proposal that is approved by both home and host supervisor

BEFORE YOU APPLY:

1. Speak with your Lakehead supervisor and secure their support.
2. With your Lakehead supervisor, contact the host supervisor and ask if they would be willing to be the co-supervisor of your thesis and to host your stay
3. Research your destination in South Korea, as well as read the [Government of Canada's "Travel advice and advisories."](#)
4. Be sure to have at least one virtual meeting with both home and host supervisors to review and confirm your research plan as well as proposed length and dates of stay.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Prepare the [Proposal Form](#) offline. When complete, upload to your application on the ROMEQ Research Portal (access through “web utilities” in MyPortal). You will need to register if you haven’t previously done so. To start an application, click on “APPLY NEW” at the top right, and then select “IPSFC NRM Student Scholarships 2026-27.” For more details on using ROMEQ, go to: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/research-and-innovation/research-services/resources/romeo>

In addition to completing the application questions in ROMEQ, the following required documents must be uploaded as Attachments:

1. Proof of Canadian Citizenship or Permanent Residence (e.g. Canadian passport, PR Card)
2. Current certificate of enrollment at Lakehead U. (download from MyPortal)
3. Letter of Invitation from Host Supervisor
4. Letter of Support from Lakehead Supervisor
5. Proposal Form (with approval of both supervisors) [DOWNLOAD](#)
6. Government of Canada Privacy Statement [DOWNLOAD](#)



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FUNDING

Scholarships provide funding for international airfare, comprehensive insurance, and living expenses of 2,000/month for stays of 6 months to one year. The actual amount of funding will vary based on the length of stay. Travel may begin as soon as all approvals are in place.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The NRM scholarship committee to review applications and select candidates for the scholarships. We will particularly look for creative and inquisitive minds with respect to disciplinary innovation potential. At the same time, the students should be open-minded to work in multidisciplinary and multi-cultural teams, which creates a facilitating environment of mutual learning. Their inclination to work in international and multidisciplinary environments will be assessed by means of a motivation letter in combination with their previous experience such as internships.

Selection criteria will include:

- Quality of proposal
- Fit with the strategic objectives of [Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy](#)
- Length of stay (longer is better)
- Strength of supporting documents
 - Host letter of invitation
 - Letter of support (home supervisor)
- Self-identification with an equity-seeking group
- Potential of project to contribute to a sustainable collaboration between Lakehead and the host institution
- Preparedness to undertake international / intercultural experience

Questions?

- For assistance with the application form: Jill Sherman, intl.research@lakeheadu.ca
- For NRM questions: Dr. Brigitte Leblon, Dean of Natural Resources Management, bleblon@lakeheadu.ca