

SECOND PART: APPLICATION FORM IN WORD FORMAT
Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP),
members from Arctic, Asia, North America and Pacific [HRC res. 33/25]
Appointment to be made by the Human Rights Council at the 34th session
of the Human Rights Council (27 February - 24 March 2017)

How to apply:

The entire application process consists of two parts: **1. online survey** and **2. application form in Word format**. Both parts and all sections of the application form need to be completed and received by the Secretariat before the expiration of the deadline.

First part: Online survey (<http://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/397559?lang=en>) is used to collect information for statistical purposes such as personal data (i.e. name, gender, nationality), contact details, mandate applying for and, if appropriate, nominating entity.

Second part: Application form in Word can be downloaded from <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/HRC34.aspx> by clicking on the mandate. It should be fully completed and saved in Word format and then submitted as an attachment by email. Information provided in this form includes a motivation letter of maximum 600 words. The application form should be completed in English only. It will be used as received to prepare the public list of candidates who applied for each vacancy and will also be posted as received on the OHCHR public website.

Once fully completed (including Section VII), the application form in Word should be submitted to hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org (by email). A maximum of up to three reference letters (optional) can be attached in Word or pdf format to the email prior to the expiration of the deadline. For EMRIP candidates, preferably one of the three letters should be from an organization or entity representing indigenous peoples. No additional documents, such as CVs, resumes, or supplementary reference letters beyond the first three received will be accepted.

- **APPLICATION DEADLINE: 16 NOVEMBER 2016 (12 NOON GREENWICH MEAN TIME / GMT)**
- **No incomplete or late applications will be accepted.**
- **Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed at a later stage.**

General description of the selection process is available at <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx>

In case of technical difficulties, or if encountering problems with accessing or completing the forms, you may contact the Secretariat by email at hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org or fax at + 41 22 917 9008.

You will receive an acknowledgment email when both parts of the application process, i.e. the data submitted through the online survey and the Word application form, have been received by email.

Thank you for your interest in the work of the Human Rights Council.

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I. PERSONAL DATA

1. Family name: Thompson	6. Year of birth: 1976
2. First name: Robin	7. Place of birth: Antigonish, NS Canada
3. Maiden name (if any): Vernest	8. Nationality (please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates): Canadian
4. Middle name: Lynne	9. Any other nationality: No
5. Sex: Female	10. Indigenous origin: Swampy Cree Metis
11. Please indicate for which sociocultural region you are applying (please tick a box):	<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic <input type="checkbox"/> Asia <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> North America <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific

You should include in the motivation letter in Section III. why you are applying for the specific sociocultural region.

II. MANDATE - SPECIFIC COMPETENCE / QUALIFICATIONS / KNOWLEDGE

NOTE: Please describe why the candidate's competence / qualifications / knowledge is relevant in relation to the specific mandate:

1. QUALIFICATIONS (200 words)

Relevant educational qualifications or equivalent professional experience in the field of human rights; good communication skills (i.e. orally and in writing) in one of the six official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.)

I have an undergraduate degree in Social and Criminal Justice and a Law degree from one of the top 5 law schools in Canada. I will be called to the Nova Scotia Barrister Society, and will be a practicing lawyer, by 2017.

In addition to formal education, I have over 10 years of experience advancing self determination with Canadian Indigenous Peoples and communities in the areas of self government and economic development.

Through self determination, and independent governance, Indigenous communities and their members are able to take a more active role in their future development. Empowerment through self determination also ensures that Indigenous Peoples have greater access to basic human rights which have continued to be impeded upon by government.

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We have along way to go in North America and I intend to continue this work. Now with a law degree, I have increased my effectiveness and will continue to ensure that the communities I work with have greater access to justice and human rights.

I am proficient in the English language, both verbally and in writing.

2. RELEVANT EXPERTISE (200 words)

Knowledge of international human rights instruments, norms and principles. (Please state how this was acquired.)

Knowledge of institutional mandates related to the United Nations or other international or regional organizations' work in the area of human rights. (Please state how this was acquired.)

Proven work experience in the field of human rights. (Please state years of experience.)

I was a 2015 Indigenous Fellow (English group) with the Office of the High Commission for Human Rights. As such, I participated in the comprehensive human rights training programme which provided us with capacity and expertise on the UN system and mechanisms dealing with human rights in general and Indigenous issues in particular.

The training programme enhanced my professional abilities to protect and promote Indigenous rights at all levels (International, National and Regional).

As stated above, I have over 10 years of experience advancing self determination of Indigenous Peoples through self governance.

Since obtaining my law degree and my UN Indigenous Fellow training, I have focused my attention on criminal justice for Indigenous Peoples in an attempt to address the serious crisis of over incarceration of Indigenous Peoples in Canadian prisons.

I have been writing Gladue reports for Indigenous offenders since 2012. In writing these reports on behalf of Indigenous offenders, I have been assisting the courts to implement section 718.2(e) of the Canadian Criminal Code. Section 718.2(e) is an ameliorative provision which was developed to address the Canada's history of colonialism and it's intergenerational effects on Indigenous Peoples.

3. ESTABLISHED COMPETENCE (200 words)

Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired.)

To expand on the experience listed above, in my work experience, I have assisted with the drafting of a constitution for an Indigenous community. This constitution, or self government agreement, was later ratified by the community. I have assisted many Indigenous communities with the development of their own membership laws, custom election laws, strategic plans etc. Through this work, I have assisted Indigenous communities in implementation of Article 4, 5 (and others) of UNDRIP. I continue to

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support this work as a Board member of the Centre for First Nations Governance, the only Indigenous organization in Canada dedicated to self government advancement.

Since attending law school I have focused more on criminal justice as a human rights issue. In addition to writing Gladue reports to implement section 718.2(e) of the Canadian Criminal Code, I co-founded a national Indigenous organization (Stonebridge Indigenous Justice Inc) dedicated to providing cultural competence to legal professionals and education on how to properly implement s. 718.2(e) of the Criminal Code. These efforts will assist in addressing the crisis of over incarceration of Indigenous Peoples.

I hope to assist Indigenous groups administer their own justice systems, and assist with a more holistic approach to reconciliation with the government and society.

4. PUBLICATIONS OR PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Please list-significant and relevant published books, articles, journals and reports that you have written or public statements, or pronouncements that you have made or events that you may have participated in relation to the mandate.

4.1 Enter three publications in relation to the mandate for which you are applying in the order of relevance:

1. Title of publication:

Journal/Publisher:

Date of publication:

Web link, if available:

2. Title of publication:

Journal/Publisher:

Date of publication:

Web link, if available:

3. Title of publication:

Journal/Publisher:

Date of publication:

Web link, if available:

If more than three publications, kindly summarize (200 words): I have not yet published any of my professional work however I have a couple of law school papers that could be published. I wrote a paper on Indigenous identity and how identity is administered legally in Canada. I also wrote a paper on land and how it is necessary for self government to be properly implemented for Indigenous peoples. I won an award for this paper and it was made available for the lawyers in Nova Scotia Canada.

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4.2 Enter three public statements or pronouncements made or events that you may have participated in relation to the mandate for which you are applying in the order of relevance:

1. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:

Presented on cultural competence and how to properly implement section 718.2(e) of the Canadian Criminal Code

Event organizer: Stonebridge Indigenous Justice Inc.

Date on which public statement/pronouncement made: October 11, 2016

Web link, if available: www.stonebridgjustice.com

2. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:

Presented on cultural competence and how to properly implement section 718.2(e) of the Canadian Criminal Code

Event organizer: Nova Scotia Legal Aid

Date on which public statement/pronouncement made: July 2016

Web link, if available:

3. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:

Presented on land and it's significance for Indigenous Peoples from an International perspective

Event organizer: 8th session of EMRIP (side event)

Date on which public statement/pronouncement made: July 2015

Web link, if available:

If more than three, kindly summarize (200 words): In May 2015 I presented to a community regarding their options for the development of a Custom Election code. I have made many more presentations to professional groups and Indigenous groups over my years of work. I have consulted with a variety of national Indigenous organizations, such as the Congress for Aboriginal Peoples and I have been interviewed for magazines and newspeices.

5. FLEXIBILITY/READINESS AND AVAILABILITY OF TIME (200 words) to perform effectively the functions of the mandate and to respond to its requirements, including participating in Human Rights Council sessions in Geneva and General Assembly sessions in New York, travelling on special procedures visits, drafting reports and engaging with a variety of stakeholders. (Indicate whether candidate can dedicate an estimated total of approx. three months per year to the work of a mandate.)

I am able to fully and effectively perform in the functions of the mandate. I co-founded Stonebridge Indigenous Justice Inc and as a result I have a great amount of flexibility in my profession and can be very flexible with my travel and work schedule. I have travelled to Geneva for the Indigenous Fellowship and am willing and able travel internationally.

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I have years of experience in working with multiple stakeholders, I'm an effective communicator and am accustomed to writing legal reports and documents.

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III. MOTIVATION LETTER, INCLUDING WHY YOU ARE APPLYING FOR THE SPECIFIC INDIGENOUS SOCIOCULTURAL REGION(S). (600 word limit)

I am passionate about Indigenous human rights and have chosen my education and professional experience to reflect this passion.

My education, an undergraduate degree in Social and Criminal Justice and my degree in Law, have prepared me to think critically and logically with regard to the complexities of Indigenous rights in Canada. While my work experience is only in relation to Canada, I stay connected to Indigenous Peoples' issues in the United States. This connection and my dedication for the advancement of Indigenous human rights makes me an excellent candidate to represent the continent of North America.

In addition to my formal education, I have over 10 years of experience working with Indigenous Peoples and communities in the areas of self government and economic development.

Through self determination, and independent governance, Indigenous communities and their members are able to take a more active role in their future development and prosperity as a People. Empowerment through self determination also ensures that Indigenous Peoples have greater access to basic human rights which have continued to be impeded upon by the colonial governments.

I have assisted Indigenous communities with a variety of self determination initiatives related to self government, membership, identity, land, economic development, community development, community engagement, strategic planning, election codes etc.

Since attending law school I have focused on Criminal Justice as an Indigenous human rights issue. In addition to writing Gladue reports for Indigenous offenders to implement section 718.2(e) of the Canadian Criminal Code, I co-founded a national Indigenous organization (Stonebridge Indigenous Justice Inc) dedicated to educating legal professionals on the colonial policies effecting Indigenous Peoples so they can deliver their legal services in a more cultural competent manner which will assist in addressing the crisis of overincarceration of Indigenous Peoples.

I hope to someday assist Indigenous groups administer their own justice systems, which will enable a more holistic approach to healing and reconciliation for past harms as a result of colonization. In addition to my interest in justice, I will continue to assist Indigenous Peoples with self determination in a way that meets the individual and collective needs of the communities.

We have along way to go in North America and I intend to continue to work in this field. Now with my law degree, I'll continue to increase my effectiveness and will do my best

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to ensure that the Indigenous communities I work with will have greater access to justice and human rights.

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IV. LANGUAGES (READ / WRITTEN / SPOKEN)

Please indicate all language skills below.

1. Mother tongue: English

2. Knowledge of the official languages of the United Nations:

Arabic: Yes or no: **No** If yes,

Read: Easily or Not easily:
Write: Easily or Not easily:
Speak: Easily or Not easily:

Chinese: Yes or no: **No** If yes,

Read: Easily or not easily:
Write: Easily or not easily:
Speak: Easily or not easily:

English: Yes or no: **Yes** If yes,

Read: Easily or not easily: **Yes**
Write: Easily or not easily: **Yes**
Speak: Easily or not easily: **Yes**

French: Yes or no: **No** If yes,

Read: Easily or not easily:
Write: Easily or not easily:
Speak: Easily or not easily:

Russian: Yes or no: **No** If yes,

Read: Easily or not easily:
Write: Easily or not easily:
Speak: Easily or not easily:

Spanish: Yes or no: **No** If yes,

Read: Easily or not easily:
Write: Easily or not easily:
Speak: Easily or not easily:

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V. EDUCATIONAL RECORD

NOTE: Please list the candidate's academic qualifications (university level and higher).

Name of degree and name of academic institution:	Years of attendance (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2003):	Place and country:
Law Degree, Dalhousie University	2012-2015	Nova Scotia Canada
Advanced major in Social and Criminal Justice, St. Francis Xavier University	2000-2004	Nova Scotia Canada
Business, Accounting and Computer Applications diploma, Eastern College	1997-1999	Nova Scotia Canada

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VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD

NOTE: Please briefly list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held, beginning with the most recent one.

Name of employer, functional title, main functions of position:	Years of work (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2005):	Place and country:
Stonebridge Indigenous Justice Inc. Chief Executive Officer Responsible for operations and functions of this national organization	2016-Present	Nova Scotia Canada
Gladue Report Writer Prepare presentence reports for Indigenous offenders	2012-Present	Nova Scotia Canada
National Centre for First Nations Governance Policy Implementation Officer Development and delivery of governance sessions for Indigenous communities	2011-2013	Nova Scotia Canada
Canadian Executive Services Organization National Manager Responsible for the development and delivery of economic development and governance services to Indigenous communities	2004-2011	Nova Scotia Canada

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**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY PROVISIONS
(of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1)**

To be completed by the candidate or by the nominating entity on his/her behalf.

1. To your knowledge, does the candidate have any official, professional, personal, or financial relationships that might cause him/her to limit the extent of their inquiries, to limit disclosure, or to weaken or slant findings in any way? If yes, please explain.

No, Robin is able to efficiently and competently fulfill her professional duties with integrity and impartiality.

2. Are there any factors that could either directly or indirectly influence, pressure, threaten, or otherwise affect the candidate's ability to act independently in discharging his/her mandate? If yes, please explain:

No, Robin is able to efficiently and competently fulfill her professional duties with integrity and impartiality.

3. Is there any reason, currently or in that past, that could call into question the candidate's moral authority and credibility or does the candidate hold any views or opinions that could prejudice the manner in which she/he discharges his mandate? If yes, please explain:

No, Robin is able to efficiently and competently fulfill her professional duties with integrity and impartiality.

4. Does the candidate comply with the provisions in paragraph 44 and 46 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1?

Para. 44: The principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions at a time shall be respected.

Para. 46: Individuals holding decision-making positions in Government or in any other organization or entity which may give rise to a conflict of interest with the responsibilities inherent to the mandate shall be excluded. Mandate holders will act in their personal capacity.

Yes, Robin is able to efficiently and competently fulfill her professional duties with integrity and impartiality.

5. Should the candidate be appointed as a mandate holder, he/she will have to take measures to comply with paragraphs 44 and 46 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1. In the event that the current occupation or activity, even if unpaid, of the candidate may give rise to a conflict of interest (e.g. if a candidate holds a decision-making position in Government) and/or there is an accumulation of human rights functions (e.g. as a member of another human rights mechanism at the international, regional or national level), necessary

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measures could include relinquishing positions, occupations or activities. If applicable, please indicate the measures the candidate will take.

Robin does not currently hold positions or perform activities that would place her in a conflict of interest. Should a conflict of interest arise then she would relinquish the position, occupation or activity.
