Selkirk College
Selkirk Innovates

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title	Research Intern - Industrial Applications, Electrical & Automation (STAC)
Department/School	Selkirk Innovates
Reports to	Jason Taylor, Department Head and Research Lead
Employee Group	N/A
Pay Grade	$21.97/hr + 4% in lieu (currently enrolled students) $23.97/hr + 4% in lieu (recent graduates)
Total Hours	Approximately 400
Work Term	3-6 months with possibility of 400-hour extension, based on performance and funding availability.
Start Date	Anticipated start in April 2026, pending identification of qualified candidate
Location	Selkirk Technology Access Centre (STAC), Trail BC
How to Apply	Submit resume and cover letter as attachments to jtaylor@selkirk.ca by February 20, 2026

POSITION SUMMARY

This internship specifically designed for 3rd or 4th year undergraduate students training in Electrical Engineering and/or Automation & Controls (or recent graduates) to:

- Develop professional competencies related to their course of studies
- Transfer their classroom understanding of academic concepts to engineering research.

The intern will work with Selkirk Innovates, the Applied Research and Innovation division of Selkirk College, specifically the advanced manufacturing researchers at the Selkirk Technology Access Centre (STAC).

This is a Mitacs Accelerate Internship supporting the STAC. This internship is in partnership with KC Recycling, the largest lead acid battery recycler in Western Canada and the Pacific Northwest of the US. This internship will contribute to the optimization of KC Recycling's lead battery recycling operation. The successful applicant will be required to enroll in Selkirk Innovates' Applied Research and Innovation Internship training program, which currently does not have a fee.

Potential internship deliverables include PLC programming, automation upgrades, and integration of new controls; assisting in the installation and commissioning of a new wastewater treatment and acid reclamation plant; integrating into the existing plant; supporting equipment selection and automation integration; integration of electrical loads, pumps, sensors, flow meters, and system monitoring; assistance with regulatory compliance review, environmental and permitting; Motor Control Center (MCC) modernization, load studies, and strategic energy management focused projects; plant data analysis and hands-on support for R&D and continuous-improvement projects across plastics, lead, and battery recycling.

COMMITMENT TO INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

The diversity of our workforce is at the core of our innovation and creativity and strengthens our research and teaching excellence. In keeping with our strategic commitment to Diversity and Inclusion, Selkirk College strives to embody the values of respect, collaboration and diversity, and has a strong commitment to employment equity.

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Selkirk Innovates seeks qualified candidates who share our commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion, who will contribute to the diversification of ideas and perspectives, and especially welcomes applications from First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples, members of racialized communities ("visible minorities"), persons with disabilities, women, and persons who identify as 2SLGBTQ+.

MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Electrical-system design, calculations, and improvement planning across site-wide power distribution.
- PLC ladder logic programming, HMI development, and controls integration.
- Understanding of industrial power systems, MCCs, switchgear, VFDs, and instrumentation.
- Troubleshooting and optimization of electrical and control systems.
- Support for automation upgrades associated with new process installations (e.g., transformer planning, load flow, MCC modernization).
- Contribute to reports, articles and presentations as required.
- Work both independently and with the research team.
- Complete Mitacs Accelerate Internship paperwork and reports.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Studies underway in (or recent graduate of) an Electrical Engineering or Instrumentation and Control Technician training program.
- A strong candidate will have experience in industrial control wiring or PLCs.
- Experience with industrial electrical systems, including motors, motor control centers (MCCs), VFDs, instrumentation and PLCs considered a strong asset, but not a requirement.
- Experience navigating the 2024 Canadian Electrical Code.
- Strong technical and numeracy skills.
- Excellent attention to detail.
- Excellent interpersonal, time management, and organizational skills.
- Demonstrated experience working independently and as part of a team.
- Proven ability to complete tasks under pressure and be flexible.
- Ability to prioritize work and meet deadlines.
- Candidates from all program areas are welcome to apply, including recent graduates.

RESUME AND COVER LETTER INSTRUCTIONS

Applicants are required to submit a resume and cover letter as attachments. The cover letter should include the following:

- Summary of why the applicant is interested in the position.
- Explanation of how the applicant's skills and experience are relevant to the position.
- Explanation of how the applicant meets the required qualifications.
- Cover letters can be up to one page in length.

OPTIONAL: See complementary posting **"Research Intern - Industrial Applications, Mechanical / Process Engineering (STAC)"** for cross-disciplinary skill sets sought. Please discuss those skills or areas of interest in your cover letter if applicable.