



**UK Higher Education Research Security Association (HERSA)
and Canadian Research Security Conference Facilitated by
Team Canada: International Collaboration & Conference
Exchange 2026**



Overview of Conference Exchange

The exchange opportunity will offer 4 funded places for members of each organisation to attend the partner organisation's 2026 flagship conference. The initiative is designed to reduce financial barriers to international participation while amplifying emerging voices, fostering meaningful collaboration and supporting professional development.

Successful applicants will receive support to attend the partner conference, where they will be encouraged to engage with peers, present work (where appropriate) and develop new international connections.

- **Canadian Research Security Conference (CRSC), Winnipeg, MB Canada on 26-27 May 2026**
- **UK HERSA Annual Conference, (Location TBC) UK on 3-4 June 2026**

Application Process

A central goal of this initiative is to support a cohort of participants that reflects a broad diversity of experience, perspectives and knowledge. This commitment is shared by both partners and will form part of the assessment considerations during the selection process.

Applicants must complete the [official application template](#) (provided in MS Word format) and submit it for consideration.

The form will require:

- A short statement outlining your motivation for attending
- A brief description of your current work or interests, related to research security
- An outline of what you would like to see from future UK-Canada collaboration

Completed applications must be submitted to both enquiries@hera.co.uk and researchsecurity@torontomu.ca by the deadline below.

Application Timeline

- Call for applications released: Monday 9 March, 11.00 GMT
 - Application deadline: Tuesday 24 March 17.00 PT (GMT-8)
 - Notification of outcomes: Tuesday 7 April
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Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- **For CRSC:** Must be a HERSA member-organisation and fall within the category of UK university or UK independent research centre or institute (alternative member-organisations are not eligible).
- **For HERSA:** Must be a Team Canada full-member institution (observer status members are not eligible).
- Must be able to travel to and attend the conference in full, on the dates and at the location(s) outlined above and participate in relevant conference sessions.
- Must have the written support of their organisation prior to submission of an application (including line manager approval, where applicable).
- Must be willing to provide a short reflective report after the event, sharing key insights and experiences back to their respective HERSA and Team Canada member communities.
- Must hold a valid passport and be responsible for obtaining any required visas or entry documentation in advance of travel. The host organisation will provide supporting documentation (such as invitation letters) on request, however visa approval cannot be guaranteed.

Please note that the event dates listed are exclusive of travel. Applicants should ensure they are available to travel to and from the conference location on the days immediately before and after the event.

What the Funding Covers

- Economy, return flights to the UK/Canada
- Budget accommodation (standard, double or available equivalent) for the duration of the conference – up to 3 nights, to reflect long-haul travel requirement.

Please note, the applicant (or applicant's organisation) must be prepared to underwrite any remaining associated costs of attendance.

Thank you and we look forward to receiving your application!

Please note, there are additional opportunities for members of HERSA and Team Canada to attend our respective 2026 conferences outside of this exchange scheme, and we would very much welcome wider participation at our events. For places arranged independently of this initiative, attendees are responsible for covering their own travel and accommodation costs and should register directly via the relevant conference booking processes.

If you are unsure whether your organisation is eligible, please get in touch before applying.