

Navigating the Shift to Narrative CVs:

Webinar

- **Summary of Webinar**

On September 25, 2025, the Canadian Community of practice on responsible research assessment hosted a webinar titled *Navigating the Shift to Narrative CVs: A New Mechanism for Research Assessment in Canada*. The session brought together members of the Canadian research community to explore how narrative CVs are transforming research assessment, highlight emerging institutional practices, and discuss challenges and opportunities in this area.

- **Presenters**

- **Eli Friedland** (Senior Advisor, Institutional Equity and Recognition Initiatives, Pathways to Impact Team, Concordia University)
- **Raad Fadaak** (Research Impact Specialist, Knowledge to Impact Team, University of Calgary)

- **Key Themes from the Webinar**

- **What is a Narrative CV?**
 - A structured, qualitative account of a researcher's professional journey, research contributions, mentorship activities, and impact.
 - In Canada, the Tri-agency narrative CV (TCV) and Fonds de recherche du Québec CV (CV-FRQ) formats allow researchers to present a holistic view of their contributions beyond bibliometrics and journal impact factors.
- **Support Capacity**
 - Growing requests for assistance with TCV and CV-FRQ preparation.
 - Institutions are responding with both asynchronous supports (guides, FAQs, webinars) and synchronous engagements (workshops, office hours, consultations).
 - Collaboration within and between institutions—such as through working groups and shared resources—is key to meeting demand.
- **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Integrations**
 - Narrative CVs explicitly call for integrating EDI considerations across sections (personal statement, contributions, mentorship).

- Participants discussed challenges in helping researchers learn to reflect differently on their identities and contributions, moving beyond traditional CV formats.
 - **Consultation and Capacity-Building**
 - Consultations serve as two-way learning opportunities, surfacing common obstacles and misconceptions.
 - Support strategies are evolving to focus less on strict instructions and more on fostering reflective processes and holistic approaches.
 - **Collective Challenges and Opportunities**
 - Increasing demand for institutional supports.
 - Balancing thorough engagement with equitable access to support.
 - Leveraging narrative CVs to embed DORA-aligned practices into broader institutional processes (e.g., hiring, promotion, internal awards).
 - Using narrative CVs as an entry point to shift toward more responsible and inclusive research assessment in Canada.
- **Slides and Recording**
 - Slides are available in both [English](#) and [French](#).
 - A recording of the webinar is also available [here](#)
- **Acknowledgements**

Thank you to all attendees, and to our esteemed presenters Raad Fadaak and Eli Friedland, for your engagement and thoughtful discussion. Your contributions are helping shape a more responsible and inclusive future for research assessment in Canada.