Welcome.

2011-2012 Indigenous Student Handbook

University of Victoria
We acknowledge with respect the history, customs and culture of the Coast Salish and Straits Salish peoples on whose traditional lands our university resides.

We ask students to respect the protocols of our territory, but also encourage them to continue to practice their own so they can go home stronger in who they are.

- Skip Dick, Elder, Songhees
Welcome to UVic

Welcome to the University of Victoria!

UVic is one of the Canada’s leading universities, noted both for its excellence in teaching and research and its welcoming and beautiful campus. We are home to award-winning teachers and researchers and a growing, vibrant student body, now numbering over 100,000. We offer a learning environment that is respectful and inclusive, embodying our deep commitment to diversity and to meeting the changing needs of society.

We recognize and deeply appreciate our longstanding, unique relationship with Canada’s First Peoples. We continue to make great progress toward our goal of being a university of choice for Indigenous students. UVic’s beautiful First Peoples House has been instrumental in creating a welcoming “home away from home” for our Indigenous students. It is also a place that enriches our entire university community as a source for greater intercultural understanding. Our Office of Indigenous Affairs and our Indigenous advisors in faculties and departments work closely with students, assisting and encouraging them in their university experience. Their efforts support the academic, emotional, spiritual and physical needs of Indigenous students across campus, while recognizing and honouring the diversity of values and beliefs among Indigenous people.

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the University. We trust this handbook will be informative and helpful. We wish you every success on your academic journey.

Greeting from the Director of Indigenous Affairs

Frani Hunt-Jinnouchi

Director, Office of Indigenous Affairs

Frani Hunt-Jinnouchi is on educational leave until September 2012.

In the Office of Indigenous Affairs team and our Elders, I want to welcome you to the University of Victoria which is in the beautiful traditional territory of the Coast Salish. I trust you will find this handbook helpful as you learn more about the Indigenous faculty, staff, programs and services on campus.

The Office of Indigenous Affairs looks forward to providing you with support in navigating the university system from access to transition to completion. We have a developed a broad range of services to assist you with housing, finances, health and well-being, culture, and academic support. I hope you will take the opportunity to visit us at the First Peoples House and join us for the numerous celebratory events and feasts throughout the year.

There is also an ever-growing range of Indigenous courses and programs being offered and we have outstanding Indigenous faculty and staff who are here to provide engaging education and a welcoming environment. Our Indigenous student family continues to grow each year and one can’t help but feel the excitement in the air. We trust you’ll be as happy to be part of the UVic Indigenous movement as we are!

Once again, welcome to the University of Victoria and please do drop in to the Office of Indigenous Affairs where we can assist in your orientation to life at UVic.

President’s greeting

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Doctoral student wins coveted national award

Toucheau scholarship winner and PhD candidate in the Faculty of Law, Johnny Mark (Toquaht, of the Haa-shah-nulth Tribal Council) is investigating how traditional socio-political and legal frameworks of the Haa-shah-nulth people could be informed to better reflect the realities and issues their communities face today. “I thought seriously about going somewhere else for my doctoral studies,” says Mark, “but there was no place in the world that could rival the support UVic has for a project like mine.”

Here are a few snapshots of the people, activities and events that are part of UVic’s Indigenous community.

Drawing on cultural heritage

When Lea Joe (Cowichan Tribes) was sifting through master’s programs offered in North America, she was drawn to the Master of Dispute Resolution Program at UVic. The program’s focus on the exploration of conflict seemed like an ideal match to her interests. “I was interested in conflict and wanted to apply my new conflict, my experience and my observation,” she says. This heritage has been a great asset when in co-operative education job placements at Scenic National Park and the Vancouver Police Department. “The staff turned to me for advice, and I was able to support strategies as we consulted with different Indigenous groups.”

Indigenous graduates are honoured

Nicky Sampson (Theule Nation) of the Esquimalt Singers and Dancers performs during one of UVic’s Indigenous student recognition ceremonies. Each year, UVic honours its Indigenous graduates by holding a celebration at the First Peoples House. Attendees often wear traditional regalia, including button blankets, cedar hats, oriental caps, vest and skirts, Métis sashes, ribbon dresses and shirts.

Learning and teaching in an Indigenous world

Students have the opportunity to deepen their experiences with an inclusive and holistic course celebrating Indigenous ways of teaching, knowing and sharing. “Learning and Teaching in an Indigenous World” — a six-credit course offered as part of UVic’s indigenous pedagogy module — introduces ancient and modern teaching methods to the U.S. TELUS INTELLIGENT. “Working on the canoe,” students are studying the Straits Salish culture and language by creating a traditional W’SANEC dugout canoe and individual paddles under the guidance of UVic instructor Neil Clinton, W’SANEC carver Perry LaFortune and local Indigenous knowledge keepers.

On-campus support

Welcome to UVic. On behalf of the Office of Indigenous Affairs team and our Elders, I want to welcome you to the University of Victoria which is in the beautiful traditional territory of the Coast Salish. I trust you will find this handbook helpful as you learn more about the Indigenous faculty, staff, programs and services on campus.

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Once again, welcome to the University of Victoria and please do drop in to the Office of Indigenous Affairs where we can assist in your orientation to life at UVic.
On-campus support.

Indigenous Affairs Office

The Office of Indigenous Affairs (INAF) promotes and supports UVic’s many Indigenous initiatives, including academic programs, student support services and protocol activities. The office also provides advice to university departments, faculty members, staff and administrators, and it works to expand UVic partnerships with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities and organizations.

Office: First Peoples House, Room 140
Contact: 250-472-4106 | inafev@uvic.ca
Web: www.uvic.ca/inaf

First Peoples House

The First Peoples House is a new addition to campus that is meant to support the academic, emotional, spiritual and physical needs of Indigenous students. The house is located in the quad to the south of the University Centre and houses a variety of resources and services.

Web: www.uvic.ca/fph

Ceremonial Hall

The Ceremonial Hall was created to represent all the Nations of Vancouver Island, which is reflected by the beautiful carved panels on the walls representing the Coast Salish, Nuu-chah-nulth and Heiltsuk/Cheekwreta’lewak Tribal Groups. It is a sacred space which can be accessed for events pertaining to Indigenous education and Indigenous cultural resurgence. If you have any questions regarding booking the space please contact the First Peoples House receptionist at fph@uvic.ca.

Elders’ Voices

Elders’ Voices is a program coordinated by the Office of Indigenous Affairs and led by Elders from several Nations. This group helps lead ceremony, protocol and celebration for our students. Four of the Elders also take part in the “Elders In Residence” program, in which they alternate days spent in residence and take part in a variety of activities.

Contact: 250-472-4106 | inafev@uvic.ca

Indigenous counselling office

The Indigenous counselling office is a welcoming place of sharing, caring and healing for all UVic Indigenous students, where you may address all levels of life’s concerns in a respectful, emotional safe and confidential setting. Counselling provides compassion and responsible care, and acknowledges the history of colonization and its ongoing traumatic impact on Indigenous peoples and our respective ways of life.

Contact: 250-472-5119 | inafic@uvic.ca

Indigenous Law Students’ Association

The Indigenous Law Students’ Association (ILSA) draws its members from self-identifying Indigenous law students. It provides a social support network for Indigenous students who are faced with the questions, concerns and issues being addressed by the law. The ILSA organizes cultural and academic activities to serve that purpose, and when possible, links itself with other Indigenous organizations, associations and communities.

Contact: 250-721-8171 | mmatilpi@uvic.ca
Web: www.uvic.ca/law

Academic and Cultural Support Program (Faculty of Law)

UVic’s Academic and Cultural Support Program (ACSP) provides support to Indigenous law students by helping them adjust to the demands of law school. The program offers a variety of tutorials throughout the year including time management, essay and exam writing, exam preparation, and effective note taking. ACSP also facilitates a free student tutoring and peer support program that links new students to experienced students.

Contact: 250-721-8171 | mmatilpi@uvic.ca
Web: www.law.uvic.ca/academic-support

People and communities to share with.

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Keep in touch.

Sign up with a few details about yourself and your interests and you’ll receive regular email updates from UVic. Better yet, we’ll build you a detailed website personal to what you want to know about your program, next steps and your questions about studying, living and experiencing life at UVic.

www.uvic.ca/hotinfo
Academic programs with Indigenous content

In addition to the programs listed below, many UVic courses have Indigenous content or focus. Please refer to the calendar for detailed course information at www.uvic.ca/calendar.

Undergraduate programs

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Indigenous education initiatives
Indigenous education helps to prepare students to serve as educators in an Indigenous context. In addition to an Indigenous admissions policy, we offer support for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students through advising, research and inclusive programming. Courses include language revitalization, counselling for Aboriginal communities, Indigenous pedagogy and Indigenous ways of knowing and are offered both on campus and through community-based distance education.

Contact: 250-721-7826 | abeduc@uvic.ca
Web: Click “Indigenous Education” at www.educ.uvic.ca

Profile: Skip Dick, Elder
Nation: Songhees
A member of the Songhees Nation, Skip began his career as a book/time keeper with the Nanaimo Vocational School. Always looking for ways to help his people, he took on an Employment Coordinator position with the Federal Government. This work led him to Community Economic Development initiatives, with various bands on southern Vancouver Island. Skip finally had a chance to return to the greater Nanaimo area, working with Camosun College and the local school district. Technically he is retired but you can still catch him at appointments for the medical and professional population where he is always looking to help his people:

Nation: Songhees

FACULTY OF NURSING

Nursing offers a variety of opportunities for continued learning and career development, and is flexible to many lifestyles. We offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing for registered nurses and students continuing from partner institutions (see list of current partners at www.uvic.ca/nurs or www.caen.ca). Continuing students in Victoria complete their first two years at Camosun College, which currently has eight seats designated for Indigenous applicants. Seats at UVic for years three and four are guaranteed for students meeting minimum progression requirements at the end of year two.

Contact: 250-472-4702 | njones@uvic.ca
Web: www.uvic.ca/nurs and www.caen.ca

FACULTIES OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Minor in Indigenous Studies
The Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Social Sciences jointly offer an interdisciplinary program in Indigenous Studies intended to provide both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students with a core program incorporating Indigenous worldviews and ways of knowing.

Contact: 250-472-5185 | isminor@uvic.ca
Web: web.uvic.ca/isminor

FACULTY OF LAW

Indigenous Law Program
The University of Victoria leads Canadian law schools in developing expertise on Indigenous law by establishing a unique program for Indigenous students and adopting an Aboriginal equity policy. The Faculty of Law has a separate admissions program for Indigenous people. The selection criteria include such factors as educational background, employment history, community involvement and the potential to succeed in law school.

Contact: 250-721-8171 | mmatalip@uvic.ca
Web: www.uvic.ca/law

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Indigenous specializations
Indigenous students completing a social work degree may choose to focus their undergraduate program with either an Indigenous specialization or an Indigenous child welfare specialization. Both options help develop frameworks that centralize Indigenous knowledge, peoples, nations and communities.

Courses are offered through a blended learning model on campus where face-to-face instruction is enhanced by online learning activities. The programs are also offered through distance education.

Admission to these specializations is limited to students of Indigenous ancestry, which includes Métis, Inuit and First Nations who are Indigenous to North America.

Contact: 250-721-8036 | bswis@uvic.ca
Web: www.socialwork.uvic.ca

NURSING PROGRAM
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Web: www.uvic.ca/law
Graduate programs

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Master of Education in Counselling for Aboriginal Communities

Graduates of this program will have the necessary background to provide culturally responsive counselling to Aboriginal communities. This program is community-based and developed with the support and guidance of local Aboriginal communities. Open to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students, the courses follow requirements for counsellor certification with the Canadian Counselling Association and the BC Association of Clinical Counsellors.

Web: socialwork.uvic.ca/prospective/mse/msew.php
Contact: 250-721-6119 | calr@uvics.uvic.ca

FACULTY OF HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Master of Arts in Indigenous Governance

The Master of Arts in Indigenous Governance (MAIG) provides students with a strong background in the values, perspectives, concepts and principles of Indigenous political cultures. As more communities reject the models of government imposed on them and return to their traditions, Indigenous leaders and state policy makers alike will benefit from an understanding of traditional thought and its application to contemporary concerns. The MAIG features a special emphasis on the nature and context of Indigenous governments in Canada.

Certificate and diploma programs

Certificate in Aboriginal Language Revitalization

The Department of Linguistics and the Division of Continuing Studies offer this certificate program in partnership with the En’owkin Centre in Penticton, BC. Designed to support the revitalization of Indigenous languages, students complete core courses offered during the summer semester at either the En’owkin Centre or at UVic. Participants choose three additional electives from a range of UVic courses offered on campus and at En’owkin, or language courses offered in community settings. The program is designed to be completed on a part-time basis and encourages participants to relate their learning to practical issues of language loss and strategies for recovery within their communities. The coursework can be taken concurrently with progress towards a degree program.

Web: www.uvic.ca/calr
Contact: 250-721-6119 | calr@uvics.uvic.ca

Certificate in Foundations in Indigenous Fine Arts

The Faculty of Fine Arts offers this certificate in co-operation with the En’owkin Centre in Penticton, BC, where students complete their course requirements. The certificate program is designed primarily for mature Indigenous students who wish to develop specialized skills in creative writing or visual arts in an Indigenous context.

Web: www.uvic.ca/finearts
Contact: 250-721-6119 | calr@uvics.uvic.ca

Certificate in Indigenous Fine Arts

It aims to develop critical awareness and capacity for analysis, skills in practice and policy development for Indigenous service agencies, and knowledge and skills for the conduct of research that will contribute to Indigenous knowledge building and transmission. Students in this program come from a variety of professional social work backgrounds within the Indigenous social service sector.

Contact: 250-472-5622 | bccwmw@uvic.ca
Web: socialwork.uvic.ca/prospective/mse/msew.php

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Web: www.uvic.ca/calr
Contact: 250-721-6119 | calr@uvics.uvic.ca

Connect with Career Services staff to:

- Develop skills for planning and managing your career
- Find part-time, summer or casual work
- Discover volunteer opportunities and internships
- Search for career-related work after graduation
- Benefit from one-on-one job search support from our staff

Co-operative Education Program and Career Services

At UVic, you can complement your academic studies with work experience by connecting with UVic Co-op and Career. Whether you’re looking for a part-time job or a co-operative education work term, we can help you find work experience that suits your life. Plus we can give you the right tools to gain competencies and prepare for your next step after university.

Join the Co-op Program in your academic area and you’ll:

- Alternate terms in school with terms at work in jobs that relate to your degree
- Develop an impressive résumé and network before you graduate
- Receive a salary while you work, which can help you pay for tuition (last year’s average monthly co-op salary was $2,700)
- Graduate with relevant work experience, a co-op degree and first-tuned job skills
- Expand your horizons by working for employers in Canada and around the world

Profile: Robert Kowbel, co-op student

Nation: Kamloops Interior Salish

Program: Electrical engineering

Robert calls himself a dreamer. When it comes to his career, the skills and contacts Robert has gained through UVic’s Co-operative Education Program will help him dream big. Co-op has allowed him to make positive impact as well. During his first work term, Robert worked for Parks Canada, giving presentations about the natural history of the Gulf Islands to passengers on BC Ferries. A second co-op work term as a plant pathology assistant with Natural Resources Canada helped him build his laboratory skills.

“I felt proud of my heritage while working for Parks Canada since it gave me the chance to show my appreciation and knowledge of plants and animals.”

Sample jobs

- Negotiation analyst with the Tsleil-waututh Nation in Campbell River, British Columbia
- Interpretive guide at the Juno Beach Centre Association in Normandy, France
- Athletic therapist at a physiotherapist office in Victoria, British Columbia

Many Indigenous co-op students work with co-op staff to develop opportunities that relate to their Indigenous heritage. Some students even return to their own communities to complete work terms.

Co-op and degree length

Most non-co-op degrees take four years, while co-op degrees usually take five, but that extra year will give you a head start after graduation. Band funded students are still eligible for funding while on a full-time co-op work term, according to INAC guidelines. Speak with your band office to see how funding can work with a co-op degree.

Attend a Co-op and Career Event to:

- Meet employers to learn about career opportunities
- Practice your interview skills
- Hear from alumni about transitioning to a career
- Perfect your résumé

For more information about Co-op and Career options, visit www.uvic.ca/coopandcareer
Faculty members, instructors and staff

UVic is committed to having Indigenous educators in all faculties. There are faculty members from many nations including Lyackson, Cherokee, Mohawk, Metis, Ojibway, Dakota, Haisla, Cree and Lil’wat. If you’re interested in a particular program, please feel free to contact one of the faculty members for guidance.

Talaiake Alfred (BA, MA, PhD) is Mohawk from the community of Kahnawake. Talaiake is a professor in the Faculty of Human and Social Development, adjunct professor in the Department of Political Science and director of the School of Indigenous Governance.

Cheryl Aro (Gitksan from the Gitgans House and the Firwood Clans) is the Indigenous practicum coordinator with the School of Social Work.

Christine O’Bonsawin (PhD) is Algonaki (Odanak Nation). She is director of the Indigenous Studies Minor Program and assistant professor in the Department of History.

John Borrows (BA, MA, JD, LLM, PhD, FRSC) is Anishinabe and a member of the Chippewa of the Nauvash First Nation. He is a professor in the Faculty of Law and is serving as associate dean, Academic and Student Relations in the Faculty of Social Work.

Sylvie R. Cottell (Maliseet) is a sessional instructor with Educational Psychology and Leadership Studies and the School of Child and Youth Care. Sylvie is the interim Indigenous student counselor through the Office of Indigenous Affairs.

Kundoque (Jacquie Green) (BSW, MPA, PhD—ABD) is from the Hasla Nation and is an associate professor with the School of Social Work.

Shanne McCaffrey (BEd, MA, BAKL) is Cree/Metis with ancestry in the Batoche-Beardys Okanawa area of central Saskatchewan. She is a senior instructor in the School of Child and Youth Care.

Onowa McIvor (BA, MA, PhD in progress) is Lakehead University (Swamp Creek) from Northern Manitoba and Scottish-Canadian. Onowa is a professor and the director of Indigenous Education in the Faculty of Education.

Naadi (Todd Omiston) (Northern Tutchone and Tinglit, Wolf Clan) is a sessional instructor in the School of Social Work.

Heather Raven (Brokenhead Ojibway First Nation) is a senior instructor in the Faculty of Law and is serving as associate dean, Academic and Student Relations from May 2009 to June 2012.

Charlotte Reading (BSW, MA, PhD) is Metis from Nova Scotia. She is an associate professor in the Faculty of Human and Social Development’s School of Public Health and Social Policy. She is also a researcher with UVic’s Centre for Aboriginal Health Research.

Jeff Reading (BPE, MSc, PhD) is Mohawk from southern Ontario. He is a professor in the Faculty of Human and Social Development and director of the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research.

Onowa McIvor (BA, MA, PhD in progress) is Lakehead University (Swamp Creek) from Northern Manitoba and Scottish-Canadian. Onowa is a professor and the director of Indigenous Education in the Faculty of Education.

Lorna Williams (EdD) is Wanostoa7 of the Lil’wat First Nation. She is an assistant professor with the Faculty of Education and the Department of Linguistics and Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Knowledge and Learning.

Waziyatawin (PhD) is Dakota from Pezhiwaya7 Otonwe (Yellow Medicine Village) in southwestern Minnesota. She is the Indigenous Peoples Research Chair and a professor with the School of Indigenous Governance.
Finances and Housing

For many students, UVic life isn’t limited to the classroom. More than 2,100 students live on campus in co-ed student residence, apartment-style housing and family housing.

**Dedicated Indigenous Housing**

Fully furnished apartment and townhouse units are available for students who are at least 20 years old or have second-year standing. Each unit has four private bedrooms plus a shared living room, dining area, kitchen and washroom. The Office of Indigenous Affairs has partnered with Housing to provide dedicated Indigenous Housing units. Available on a yearly basis in September is one Cluster Unit (4 single units) and one Family Unit (two bedroom plus den townhouse). Applications will be available in May 2012. For more information contact 250-472-4913.

**Residence rates for 2011-2012:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Room Rate (in Canadian dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single room (room and board)</td>
<td>$6,318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double room (room and board)</td>
<td>$7,008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AVERAGE COSTS OF STUDY FOR EIGHT MONTHS AT UVIC**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cost (in Canadian dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$4,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student fees</td>
<td>$148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and supplies (up to)</td>
<td>$1,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics and Recreation</td>
<td>$157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus pass</td>
<td>$157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and dental plan</td>
<td>$265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics and Recreation</td>
<td>$157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence</td>
<td>$6,318 to $7,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(room and board)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$13,512 to $15,390</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fees**

In addition to the tuition and student fees, students must pay for a number of other items. These include:

- Health and dental plan: $265
- Athletics and Recreation: $157
- Student fees: $148
- Tuition: $4,861
- Bus pass: $157
- Books and supplies: $1,700
- Total: $13,512 to $15,390

**How to apply**

The University of Victoria welcomes applications from First Nations, Métis, Inuit and non-status Indigenous peoples of Canada. All admissions information can be found in the UVic Admission Preview Handbook and additional information can be found online at www.uvic.ca. Click on “Student support for...” and select “Indigenous students.” Some programs have a specific application process for Indigenous applicants (e.g., Faculties of Law and Education). For more information, contact the individual program advisors.

For complete information please refer to the UVic Calendar at www.uvic.ca/calendar.

**Voluntary declaration**

The category of an “Indigenous person” is designed to be inclusive of all Indigenous peoples of Canada, including Métis, Inuit, First Nations and non-status Indigenous peoples. When applying to UVic programs, it is to your advantage to indicate that you are an Indigenous student in order to receive relevant information.

**Special category application**

The First Nations, Métis and Inuit special category is designed for all Indigenous peoples of Canada who may not qualify under the usual categories of admission. Reasons for denial of admission might include the lack of a required Grade 11 or 12 subject or a less competitive grade-point average (GPA). The Senate Committee on Admission, Reassignment and Transfer will assess your ability to succeed at university based on educational history, non-educational achievements, application, letters of reference and a personal letter outlining your academic objectives. If you wish to apply under this category, you may download the application form online at www.uvic.ca/admissions. For complete information please refer to the UVic Calendar at www.uvic.ca/calendar.

**Questions?**

If you have questions that are not covered in this handbook, please feel free to get in contact with the university. Staff are here to connect with both prospective and new students as well as the Indigenous community here at UVic.

**Profile:** Lalita David

**Indigenous Community Liaison and Outreach Coordinator**

**Nation:** K’omoks (Coast Salish)

Lalita David encourages new Indigenous student enrolment and builds and maintains relationships with Indigenous communities. She is dedicated towards increasing Indigenous student enrolment and assisting with program development to meet Indigenous community needs, as well as promoting the theory, programs and services available to UVic students to ensure their educational success.
THE INDIGENOUS STUDENT HANDBOOK was printed in the fall of 2011, one year before the 2012-2013 winter session. If there are discrepancies between this publication and the University of Victoria Undergraduate Calendar, the calendar will take precedence.