Notice of the Final Oral Examination for the Degree of Master of Arts

of

JOAN BROWN

“Culture is lived, Language Gives it Life”

Department of Indigenous Education

Friday, July 22, 2016
10:00AM
First People House
Ceremonial Hall Room 110

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Peter Jacobs, Department of Linguistics, University of Victoria (Supervisor)
Dr. Dorothy Kennedy, Department of Linguistics, UVic (Member)
Dr. Donna Gerdts, Department of Linguistics, UVic (Member)

External Examiner:
Dr. Helen Raptis, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, UVic

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Stephen Tax, Peter B. Gustavson School of Business, UVic

Dr. David Capson, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Abstract

The purpose of this study is two-fold; first and foremost, it is an attempt to understand the Coast Salish preferred way of learning by developing a framework that is consistent with a Coast Salish worldview, especially underlying beliefs and assumptions. Secondly, the study will consider this unique learning model’s potential to accelerate and enhance language learning in the Snuneymuxw community. These Coast Salish Ancestral ideas and thoughts will be best understood in the context of canoe racing, a popular Coast Salish event. More importantly, this canoe learning model will help us understand that, like other Indigenous education models, learning progresses and evolves through a sacred process that is reliant on two domains. That is, our learning model is entrenched in two separate but mutually supporting worlds; a spiritual world and a physical world. As I will demonstrate in this study, this foundational principal necessitates a preference to use a whole-system approach to education, especially as it relates to adults learning our own Hul’q’umi’num’ language as a second language or Indigenous Adult Language Learning (IALL) if you will.