



**University  
of Victoria**

Graduate Studies

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

of

**ALISHA CHICOINE**

BSc (University of Victoria, 2012)

**“Regional Differences in Canadian Labour Dynamics: A Broad  
Macroeconometric Investigation”**

Department of Economics

Thursday, December 17, 2015  
11:00AM  
Business and Economics Building  
Room 363

Supervisory Committee:

Dr. Judith Clarke, Department of Economics, University of Victoria (Supervisor)  
Dr. Kenneth Stewart, Department of Economics, UVic (Member)

External Examiner:

Dr. Jennifer Baggs, Peter B. Gustavson School of Business, UVic

Chair of Oral Examination:

Dr. Anita Prest, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, UVic

## **Abstract**

We examine the dynamics of Canadian labour markets using data from the Survey of Employment, Payroll, and Hours and the Labour Force Survey from Statistics Canada from 1961-2014. Using univariate, and multivariate Vector Autoregressive methodology, we estimate Impulse Response Functions and perform Granger non-causal tests to explore the relationships between wages, employment, and unemployment. We demonstrate the difference in analysis gained from regional definitions and assumptions regarding the heterogeneity of provinces within the Canadian regional context.

Transitory labour supply shocks propagate different directions and magnitudes in wage growth in Quebec and unemployment growth in Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia when estimating Impulse Response Functions in the provincial trivariate VAR framework. We also find that there exists a statistically significant difference in the estimated parameters of regional multivariate VAR model specifications that allow for influence via the provincial parameters and contemporaneous covariance and a restricted model with no influence via provincial parameters.