



**University
of Victoria**

Graduate Studies

Notice of the Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of Master of Social Work

of

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BSW (University of Victoria, 2016)
SSW (George Brown College, 2013)

**“The Next Chapter: A Practical Guide for Individuals, Families,
Communities, Social Workers, and Organizations Supporting
Indigenous Youth Aging-Out of Care”**

School of Social Work

Friday, November 9, 2018
10:00 A.M.
Clearihue Building
Room B017

Supervisory Committee:

Dr. Jeannine Carriere, School of Social Work, University of Victoria (Supervisor)
Dr. Billie Allan, School of Social Work, UVic (Member)

External Examiner:

Dr. Cyndy Baskin, School of Social Work, Ryerson University

Chair of Oral Examination:

Dr. Panajotis Agathoklis, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, UVic

Dr. David Capson, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies

Abstract

In this study, I examine how individuals, families, communities, social workers, and organizations can incorporate culturally-informed transitional policies and practices when working with Indigenous youth who are aging-out of foster care and transitioning into adulthood. To achieve this aim, I constructed an Indigenous research paradigm that is a person-centred, strengths-oriented, solution-focus, and rooted within Indigenous ways of knowing and being including the Medicine Wheel teachings, oral traditions, and storytelling practices. The methods of inquiry included 5 one-on-one Story-Sharing Sessions with Indigenous participants who previously aged-out care, and two Talking Circles comprised of 10 Community Helpers and 15 Delegated Aboriginal Agency workers. The aim of this study is to develop the foundation for a practical guide and theoretical framework that is highly adaptable in a variety of personal or professional contexts related to supporting Indigenous youth aging-out of care either directly and indirectly.