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

of

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BSW (Thompson Rivers University, 2016)

“Intergenerational Trauma and Stories of Healing Through Jesus”

School of Social Work

Monday, April 26, 2021
10:00am (PDT)
Remote Defence

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Billie Allan, School of Social Work, University of Victoria (Supervisor)
Dr. V.C. Rhonda Hackett, School of Social Work, UVic (Member)

External Examiner:
Dr. John Borrows, Faculty of Law, UVic

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Sarah Wright Cardinal, School of Child and Youth Care, UVic

Dr. Stephen V. Evans, Acting Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Abstract

Through a storytelling/yarning methodology (Bessarab & Ng'andu, 2010) and experience centered narrative research (Patterson, 2008), three Indigenous followers of Jesus and original inhabitants of the lands currently known as Canada, shared their stories of healing. The storytelling/yarning method (Bessarab & Ng'andu, 2010) is rooted in Indigenous ways of knowing and fit seamlessly with the participants diverse Indigenous backgrounds and shared oral traditions. Through the experience centered research model, each participant engaged in meaning making of their personal narratives, reconstructed and presented their stories as their human lived experience, and finally, revealed their metamorphosis (Patterson, 2008) and contributions to Indigenous knowledges. The experience centered research framework utilized for knowledge gathering worked concertedly with the storytelling/yarning methodology as the healing stories presented here evolved not as stories of defeat, but of strength (Bessarab & Ng'andu, 2010). Some key teachings and themes arising from their stories include trauma, forgiveness, resilience, family, healing, and hope.

This study aims to reveal Indigenous stories of healing and cease the perpetuation of harm to Indigenous peoples who have declared Jesus as their source of healing. Furthermore, this study aims to situate the knowledges gathered through these healing stories within the academic body of Indigenous knowledges.