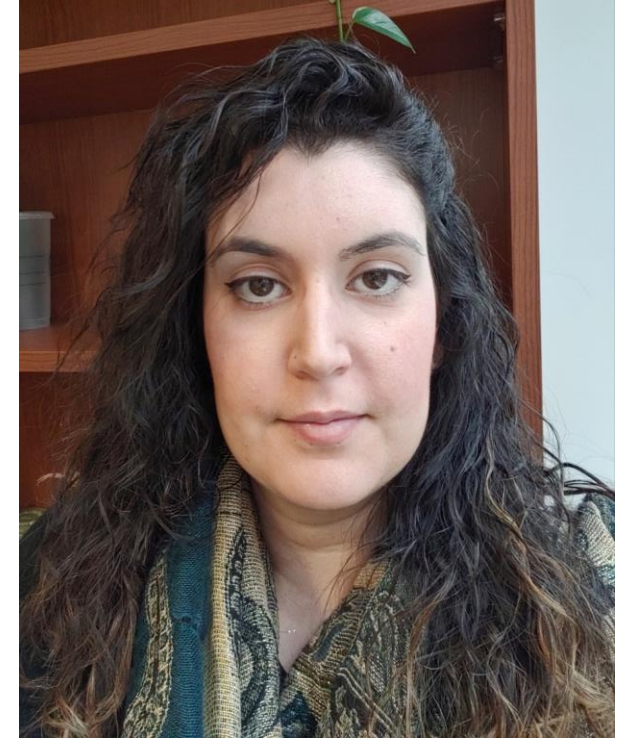




**CONGRATULATIONS
2020 SOCIAL WORK GRADUATES**

NINA TAGHADDOSI

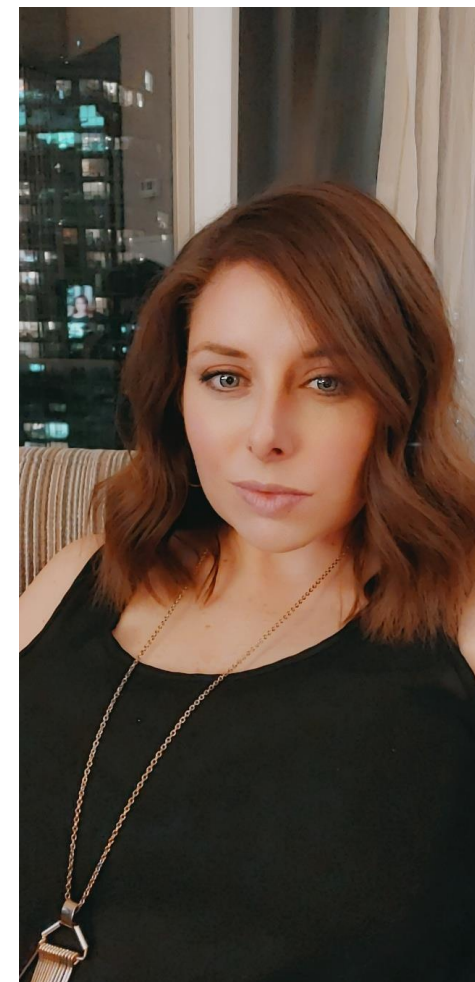
“I am a second-generation settler from Iran living and working on the unceded and ancestral territories of the xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səl̓ílwətəʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) nations known colonially as Vancouver. I am looking forward to working with individuals and organizations to uncover power imbalances and translate personal problems into social issues by working from a decolonizing and anti-oppressive approach in social and public policy.”



KYMBERLEE BAKER

WINDSOR, ON

“My goals as a future social worker are to work with individuals and families building rapport and connection for positive experiences and growth. I hope to continue learning to navigate within the system, breaking down barriers and advocating for changes to injustice.”



JESTINNE PUNZALAN

VANCOUVER, BC

“I am from Vancouver on the stolen lands of the Squamish, Musqueam, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. I am excited to finally complete my Bachelor of Social Work degree. I look forward to continue to translate my learnings into action in social work whether that is working with immigrants and refugees or in the health care sector. I want to continue to center an anti-oppressive and decolonization lens through every aspect of my work.



SAMARAH RIVERS

“I’m so excited to be graduated from UVIC with my BSW!

I have recently had the privilege of being hired by Kw’umut Lelum - a Delegated Aboriginal Agency in Nanaimo.”



ANIKO FARKAS

KELOWNA, BC

“My name is Aniko Farkas and I live in the beautiful Okanagan – Kelowna, BC – where you can ski, golf, and go boating all in the same day! I’ve worked in the Mental Health & Substance Use field for 8 years and with my Bachelor of Social Work, I plan to continue my work with this population and within this sector of social work.”



BROOKE CUNNINGHAM

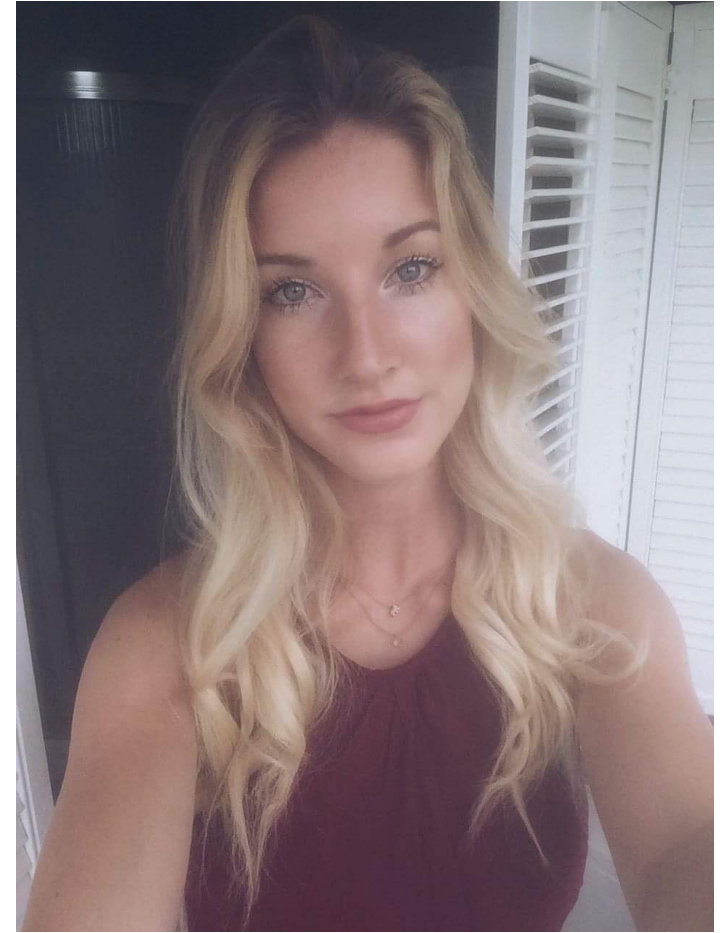
"I'm very proud to be a graduate of the UVIC MSW program. I plan to bring my new valuable knowledge into work with young refugee and immigrant families in the Dish With One Spoon shared territory, otherwise known as Toronto."



MORGAN PORTER

ANNAPOLIS VALLEY, NOVA SCOTIA

“I am so happy to have finished my BSW degree and to begin my career with Child Protection Services!”



BART KNUDSGAARD

"I am from the Kootenays, that are part of ʔamakʔis Ktunaxa. I am feeling accomplished and relieved that I have completed my MSW with the Indigenous Specialization. This MSW journey has enabled me to reflect on my social work career and my life of experiences to become ever so conscious of how I need to show up in this world. Thank you Robina!"



ASHLEY LAFORTUNE

PITT MEADOWS, BC

“I am so excited to be graduating this summer! I currently work in forensic mental health, and hope to continue in this field with the knowledge and experiences that I have gained while completing my BSW at UVic.”



MEGHAN OLIVER

“I am grateful for all I have learned from my fellow students and professors during my time at UVIC. I am eager to continue working at the Mi’kmaw Native Friendship Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia and expanding the housing and homelessness program to meet the needs of our community. Presently I am enjoying graduation and time away from work to spend with my newborn daughter and partner while on maternity leave.”



MAURA GOWANS

“I am Dene from the NT and grateful to live on the Unceded Traditional Territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. I am the proud mother of 5 boys and this Master's Degree means everything to us and will allow me to fight harder, be a better ally and advocate for Indigenous people from a larger platform.”



DIANA BASKIER

COMOX, BC

“I live in Victoria, BC. on the land of the Lekwungen people, but I come from Comox, BC. I have just completed my Masters of Social Work-Indigenous Specialization via distance. I have just left Island Health to start my new career with First Nations Health Authority, as the Coast Salish Social Worker-based out of Tsawout First Nation; I am very excited about this next chapter in my life.”



JENNY CASEY BRANTFORD, ON

“I am so excited to have finished my Bachelor of Social Work by distance. In the future, I hope to work with youth who experience mental illness and mental health challenges that create barriers to their elementary, secondary and post-secondary educational pursuits.”

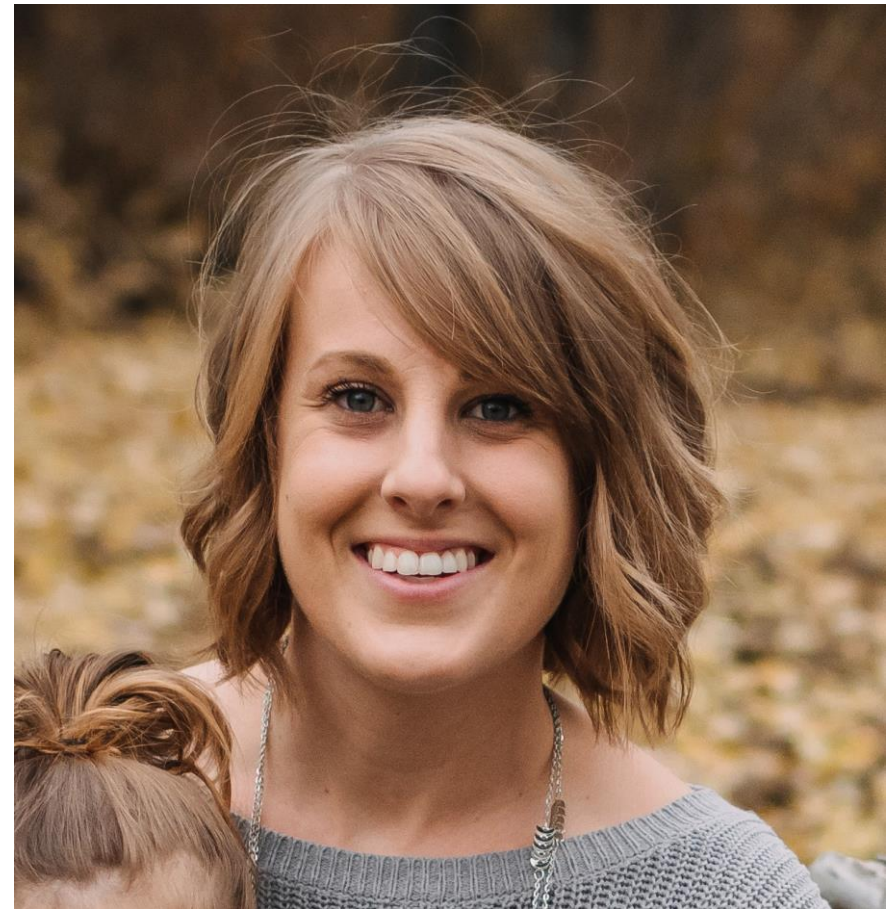


DANIELLE PEYTON

PARKLAND COUNTY, AB

“I live in Parkland County, AB with my husband and 3 kids! I am very happy to be finished my BSW and one day hope to become a Clinical Social Worker, working primarily with children.

Congratulations to everyone graduating this semester!”



AMY HALL

TABER, AB

“My graduation excitement is shared by my kids and husband! I'm looking forward to starting this next chapter and focusing on continually challenging myself, my community and my profession.



ROSELLE CLARE ACCARDO

MISSISSAUGA, ON

“I'm looking forward to using my anti-oppressive social work knowledge to continue supporting children and youth to reach their fullest potential. Thank you to my family and my partner for supporting me through completing my second degree, and thank you to the children I work with for reminding me of my passion for this field every single day.”



HEPZIBETH LEE

TIO'TIA:KE- MONTEAL, QC

“I am immensely grateful for the friends and mentors I have met during my time at the University of Victoria. Currently, I am living in the Cree Nation of Chisasibi, in Eeyou Istchee, where I look forward to growing as a helper in birth work, family safety and advocacy at the Cree Health Board. This September I will be continuing my personal and academic journey at the University of Toronto in the Masters of Social Work - Indigenous Trauma and Resiliency program.”



ELIZABETH MCCALLUM

EDMONTON, AB

“I live in Edmonton, which is Treaty 6 territory. I am grateful for the opportunity to have completed my BSW via distance education. I love working with youth and families and I'm looking forward to my future social work career.”

