

Congratulations Social Work Graduates!



Natasha Coles-Webb

I'm currently living in Nanaimo, the unceded territory of the snuneymuxw peoples. I'm so happy to have completed my BSW through distance education, while raising both of my boys. It's been a very busy few years, and now I'm looking forward to the next chapter of my life. I'm in the process of receiving my RSW so I'm able to practice with families in my community. Thank you to all of my instructors and practicum supervisors who have made such a difference in my life and in my education!



Antonia Mah

I live in Victoria on the unceded territories of the Songhees, Esquimalt, and WSÁNEC peoples. I am proud to be graduating from such a wonderful program with my BSW. What an interesting time for us all to be taking on the world. I can't wait to hear all the inspiring things that this cohort will achieve. I have recently been hired as a tenant legal advocate with Together Against Poverty Society.



Donya Tehrani

I'm so excited to be done school (for now) and can't believe how fast time flew. I feel like I've grown more in these past two years completing my BSW, than I have in my lifetime. It's been a slice, UVIC! Until next time.



Jessica Craig

Thank you to my partner, my friends, and my family for their patience and understanding while I spent many late nights and weekends completing my BSW. I am continuing in my role with the school division, supporting children and youth facing mental health challenges and other barriers to equity in education. I hope to one day become a clinical social worker.



Paige Aoki

I enjoyed my time as a BSW student at the University of Victoria, and though my program was online, I loved the few on-campus classes I took. The many fond, impactful memories of my studies at UVIC will stay with me as I move forward into my professional life. I plan to continue working in harm reduction, to further my experience within the Addiction and Mental Health support field, and apply for a Master's in the future, either in Social Work or Policy Analysis.



Andrew Sousa

I am glad to finally be graduating with my Bachelor of Social Work Degree. I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to the instructors, advisors, friends and fellow students that have made my time at UVic such an enriching experience. I hope in the future to apply my decolonizing and anti-oppressive lens to mental health work and I am looking forward to continuing my education at the graduate level in the coming years



Vonnita Hepditch

I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to complete my BSW via distance through UVIC. It's been a long two years, and I look forward to the possibility of completing my masters some day in the future. As for now, I have accepted and have started working with community health in my home province of Newfoundland



Margaret Harman

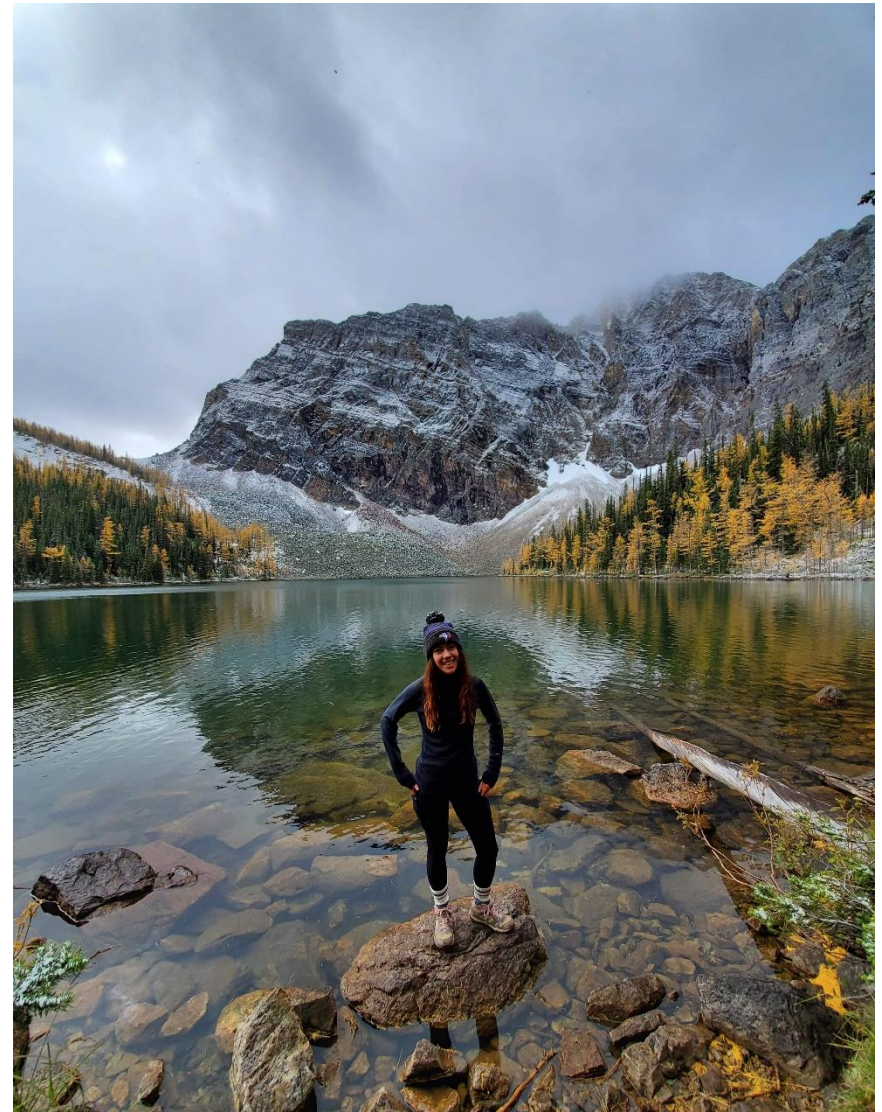
I am from North Vancouver and respectfully live and work on the unceded lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tseil-Waututh Nations. Graduating with my MSW has been a long time goal and my learnings and new knowledge continue to enhance my practice and my worldview. I will continue to work in the anti-violence field with more of a focus on counselling women and children/youth fleeing violence. I value the new learnings I take with me and the friendships established throughout the last two years.



Sarah Lamping

Hello to all of you beautiful co-graduates. Congratulations to you all; we did it!! I am so excited to have completed my BSW, and will continue working within the housing first and harm reduction field, with the aspirations to start my MSW this fall! *fingers crossed*

It was so lovely to work with all of you, and I wish you all the best in the future!



Lana Livingstone

My name is Lana and I live in Stoney Creek Ontario. I had a very positive experience at UVIC, and learned a great deal that I am incorporating into my social work practice. I am planning to continue with my education and I am excited to start working on my MSW in January!



Alba Koxha

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to complete my second degree at UVIC. I will take my new learnings and apply them as I move forward in my career. I am excited and looking forward to wherever my journey as a social worker takes me.



Sandra Johnson

Greetings from the unceded territories of the Secwepemc Nations, in a little slice of heaven known as Blind Bay BC.

I extend a huge thank you to my husband (Darin) and my daughter (Lauren). Darin, there is no way to ever fully express what your support and love has meant to me in accomplishing this! Thank you for helping me keep my promise to myself that I made so very long ago.

Thank you to every one within the UVIC community online and on campus that believed in my ability to accomplish this life long dream, even when at times, I felt like it would never happen.

To my father and our ancestors who walked this journey with me, as they have many others, I say “we did it!”. I am so grateful, and I will carry you with me in all that I do in order to stay true to myself and those I will come to serve.

“Progress is impossible without change and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything” ~ George Bernard Shaw

Thank you to the University of Victoria for changing my mind.



Larissa Anthony

I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to complete my BSW at UVIC. The program has taught me so much and I look forward to continue applying my learnings to my social work practice.



Lucie Poisson

I am so very happy for everyone for graduating this fall semester 2020! I am very thankful for being able to live on the unceded traditional territory of the Ktunaxa Nations in BC while completing my BSW online. Thank you for all of the teachings I received from other students and instructors. I am mostly grateful for the incredible love and support from my family, my partner, friends, Elders and employer/colleagues who guided me along the way. I look forward to be a better ally as I strive for health equity and Indigenous community-led system change. I wish everyone great health and wellness on this social justice journey.



Theresa Darling-Spooner

The Bachelor of Social Work program at UVic has taught me a great deal about recognizing the connection between personal troubles and larger structural barriers and processes such as: colonization, marginalization, racism, classism, heterosexism, ageism, ableism, and oppression based on gender expression and transphobia. The program has shown me that as Social Workers we must practice from an anti-oppressive lens and we must recognize and resist against the multiple forms of oppression. We must work as allies to support and advocate those who are “othered” in our society. We need to work to eliminate social problems that may be unfairly created by one’s social position. Problems such as inadequate housing, barriers to education, inequitable healthcare, unjust policies and procedures, discrimination in employment opportunities, and lack of social justice and equity. It is my belief that all people deserve: fair and equal access to resources, full participation in society, equal treatment, and they deserve to live free from discrimination. The Bachelor of Social Work program at UVic has taught me a great deal about the multiple levels of oppression in our society and it has educated me that oppression is the root cause of a vast majority of our social problems. Since graduation, I am currently working in the community supporting young adults with developmental disabilities and I have begun studying for the BSW licencing exam. I want to thank all my wonderful instructors over the years, my fellow students for contributing to my learning, and my family for all their support over the years. Congratulations to everyone for completing your degree and good luck on your future endeavours.



Megan Bateman

I am originally from Ktaqmkuk, the island colonially known as Newfoundland, which is the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq and Beothuk peoples. Completing my Bachelor of Social Work online through University of Victoria allowed me to move from my home to Yellowknife, NT while never missing a class. Yellowknife is the traditional territory of the Yellowknives Dene and North Slave Métis, as well as home to other Indigenous groups from across the north. My learning at UVic has enriched both my social work practice, and my own personal growth and development. My passion lies in working with girls, women, and 2SLGBTQ+ folks, and I am currently working with my local YWCA. I owe many thanks to all of the wonderful instructors and my fellow students for helping me achieve my educational goals!



Messages from Staff and Faculty

Congratulations on your achievement.

It is so exciting to know that you will be out there doing social work in a way that will reflect the School's commitment to decolonial and anti-racist practice. -

Anne Spilker

Congratulations on this exceptional accomplishment, made even more impressive by the challenges you faced due to COVID-19!

Warm wishes of celebration to you all! -

Alexie Glover MSW Program Assistant

Hello BSW and MSW graduates!

I wish that we could gather in person to celebrate your success but am glad to have this opportunity to say congratulations and best wishes for the future. Thank you for your hard work and for sharing your knowledge, skills and experience with your fellow students, instructors and your communities. May your transition from UVIC bring new opportunities for growth.

Congratulations!

Cindy Holmes

Assistant Professor

Wishing you all a weird but wonderful graduation! Congratulations.

- Bruce Wallace

Hello Graduates!

I am so proud to have been able to work alongside and support so many of you. I wish you all the best in your academic journeys and I hope you stay in touch.

- Ryan Khungay

Undergraduate Advisor & Admissions/Sessional Instructor

Congratulations to all of the graduating Social Work students. You are embarking on an amazing career. Having worked in the field for a number of years I can say that I never tired of the work or lost my passion for it. I wish you all the very best. It has been a pleasure to have worked with you in a number of different roles. Take good care,

- Hillary Luis