



**CONGRATULATIONS
2022 SOCIAL WORK GRADUATES**

JENNIFER CONWAY-BROWN

MAPLE RIDGE, BC

I am a grateful and uninvited settler on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Katzie and Kwantlen peoples.

My future social work goals include advocacy for drug policy reform and to support the development of harm reduction practice in various settings.

I am so thankful for the ongoing support of my friends, family, and colleagues through this MSW journey and for the teachings and wisdom from the folks I serve.



JOYCE DIEUDONNE

VANCOUVER, BC

I am grateful to the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-waututh nations who have stewarded these lands since time immemorial. I am also grateful for my experience through UVIC's MSW program via distance education. Through the MSW program I learned a lot about myself which supported me in enhancing my social work practice. My experience will support me in my new role within municipal government, expanding community social development.



MARY MACEACHERN

RIVER JOHN, NS

I respectfully acknowledge the land on which I reside as the traditional and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq Peoples.

I am deeply grateful to all those who supported me during this journey of completing UVic's MSWI program. I am grateful for all the academic and personal learning this program cultivated.

My goals are to continue developing as a conscientious/responsible Ally, continued commitment/work as a Wikimanej Kikmanaq facilitator, and taking steps in creating land-based healing experiences/supports, on this farm, for individual/family wellness.

Congratulations to all the graduates!!!



NORIKO MATSUDA

VANCOUVER, BC

My name is Noriko Matsuda. I am an immigrant from Japan.

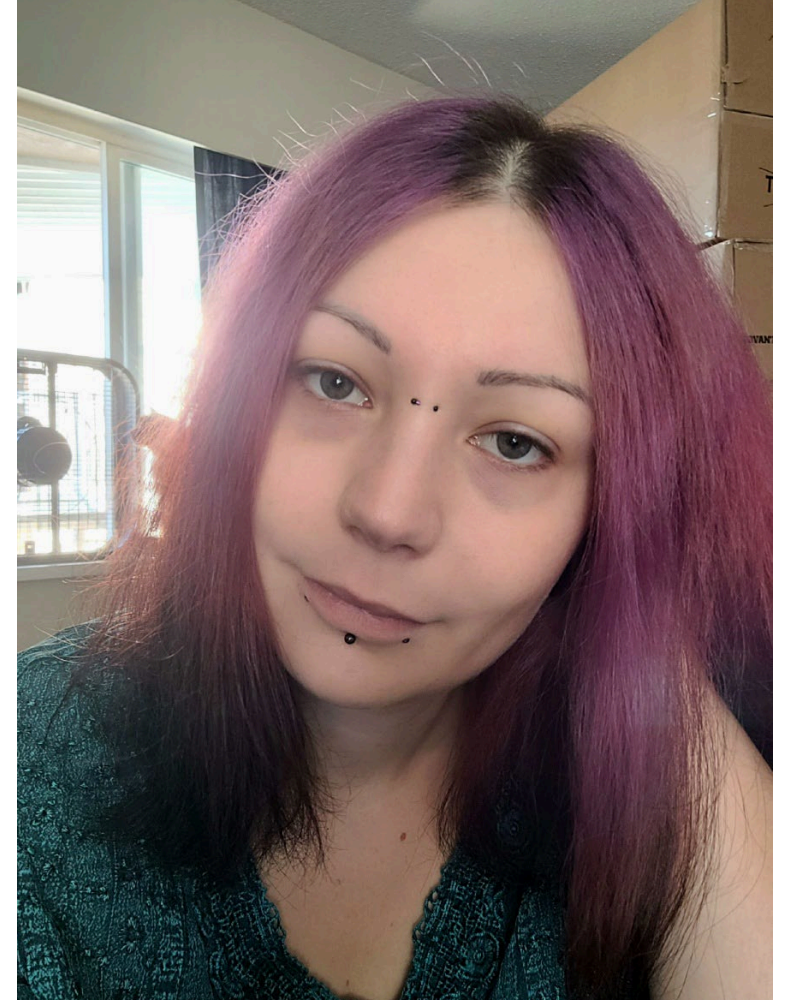
Going back to BSW and MSW at Uvic was the best decision to open up future opportunity and possibilities. I want to be a social worker in service to people and communities with curiosity and a sense of humor.



YVONNE PAQUETTE

VANCOUVER, BC

From Vancouver, moved to Halifax 2 weeks ago after receiving my MSW. I am now bringing front-line community experience into a hospital setting where social work has not yet been integrated. Hoping to make meaningful changes to this system.



STEPHANIE PEDDLE

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Hi, my name is Stephanie Peddle. I am from the beautiful province of Newfoundland and Labrador which is situated on the traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq and former Beothuk peoples. I have been absolutely privileged to have completed the MSW program at UVIC via distance with the most incredible classmates. I am unsure of the career path ahead of me at this moment, but will move toward it in confidence with new learnings and unlearnings that I have experienced throughout this MSW program. Congratulations to my fellow graduates! We did it!



DEBRA RAJPATEE

MILLBROOK, ON

Greetings everyone, my name is Debra Rajpatee and I come to you from the traditional territories of the Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg peoples, known as Millbrook, Ontario. My future social work self will likely continue to practice with trauma survivors in Toronto, but I also see myself delving into medical social work practice that is focused on holistic approaches to health care.



PHOEBE RAMSAY

VICTORIA, BC

I am a settler and grew up here on Lekwungen territories, in Victoria BC. Through the course of my MSW I have discovered a joy in youth work, and I am grateful to now be working for Island Health in youth mental health and substance use. I am passionate about uncovering abolitionist social work possibilities and hope to continue exploring these as my practice evolves. I'd like to thank my wonderful MSWF cohort-mates for their solidarity, wisdom and mutual support as we navigated this degree together!



MÉLANIE STAFFORD

THE UNCEDED AND UNSURRENDERED ALGONQUIN TERRITORY

Hello! Salut! My name is Mélanie Stafford and I live on the unceded and unsundered Algonquin territory. I hope to continue work in trauma informed leadership roles, engaging in abolitionist social work and organizational change work.



SHELDON ANDERSON

THE BIGSTONE CREE NATION, TREATY EIGHT TERRITORY

My name is Sheldon Anderson, and I'm a member of the Bigstone Cree Nation located on Treaty Eight territory. My traditional Cree name is Big Bear (Mistahimaskwa), which was given to me by my great-grandmothers. I've been a guest on Coast Salish territory for ten years. I am Woodlands Cree on my maternal side and Métis with mixed ancestry on my paternal side. I completed the Bachelor of Social Work program at the University of Victoria, specializing in Indigenous Child Welfare. My goal is to engage in meaningful work alongside Indigenous children and youth based on ancestral values and knowledge, then explore a master's degree.



CARMIN BEAR-BLOMBERG

THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE ŁƏKʷƏŋƏN, W̱SÁNEĆ,
AND SONGHEES PEOPLES

Hi my name is Carmin Bear-Blomberg. I am from Peter Ballantyne Cree First Nation, and am grateful to have grown up on the traditional territories of the Łəkʷəŋən, W̱SÁNEĆ, and Songhees Peoples. I hope to work with Elders, Knowledge Holders, Youth and community reconnecting with culture through ceremony and traditional practices.



SARAH BENNETT

CALGARY, AB

Hello, my name is Sarah Bennett. I am happy to finally be completed my BSW by distance from Calgary, AB. I have accepted a new role as a Family Support Coach and I am eager to make a difference in my community!



CHEYANNE BRADLEY

NANAIMO, BC

My name is Cheyanne Bradley and I'm from Nanaimo, BC. I'm thrilled to have completed my BSW with Indigenous Child Welfare Specialization. I've already accepted a permanent position within a Child Welfare role as a social worker and can't wait to keep developing myself and learn as I practice.



KAYLA GRUNTMAN

PENTICTON, BC

Hi, I'm Kayla Gruntman, and I was raised in the unceded territory of the Okanagan Nation (known today as Penticton). I am looking forward to a future of anti-colonial and community-centered practice, specifically focused on harm reduction and housing support.



BRADLEY HAMPTON-WALLIS

THE TREATY LANDS AND TERRITORY OF THE MISSISSAUGAS OF THE CREDIT

Hello, my name is Bradley Hampton Wallis and I currently live in the Village in Tkaronto which is located within the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit. My social work goals include being a perpetual learner, embracing the love I have for community-based research and collaborative approaches, and to continue facilitating ACT's Gay Men's Coffee Night, where the most remarkable group of men gather to laugh, lovingly throw shade, and find ways to support each other.



SYDNEY HUYGHE

WINNIPEG, MB

I am originally from Winnipeg, Manitoba.

I hope to become a social worker in the Canadian Armed Forces.



LINA MEADOWS

TREATY 6 - AMISCWACIWASKAHIKAN (EDMONTON, AB)

My name is Lina Meadows I am from Treaty 6 - Amiscwaciwaskahikan (Edmonton). I am so excited to finish my BSW and continue pursuing social justice. I am passionate about building community, connection, and harm reduction.



MORGAN PARKER

CALGARY, AB

My name is Morgan Parker (she/her) and I completed my BSW by distance from Calgary, AB. After completing my coursework in the summer of 2022, I started working as an RSW with the Police and Court Support Team at Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse. I also work as a casual RSW at the East Calgary Health Centre and currently sit on the Housing Affordability Task Force with the City of Calgary.



NOEL PIO RODA

BURNABY, BC

Congratulations to the graduating class of November 2022!

My name is Noel Pio Roda and I was born and raised on the traditional and unceded territories of the hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples which we have come to call Burnaby, British Columbia.

Thanks to the Social Work program and practicum placements, I have gained a newfound appreciation and passion for community work. Since the beginning of September, I have been fortunate enough to begin my community work journey with Seniors Services Society located in New Westminster, BC.

I wish everyone all the best in their future endeavors!



NICOLE SALES

OKANAGAN/SYILX TERRITORY OF PENTICTON

My name is Nic Sales, I reside in Okanagan/Syilx territory of Penticton. I am so thankful for the opportunity of completing the BSW online, I will be pursuing my MSW next year with the hopes of working with gender-diverse youth and families.



PATTY SCHMIDT

VICTORIA, BC

Hi, my name is Patty Schmidt, residing in Victoria and I am happy to be graduating with my BSW, returning to my alma mater 32 years later! I am grateful for all my classmates' support, as we navigated the online environment. I look forward to continuing my recent Social Work position in acute care in Victoria, supporting patients.

