

Dr. Brian Thom is a Professor in the Department of Anthropology and the Department Chair (July 2025), following a term as graduate advisor (3 years), and member of both the UVic Human Research Ethics Board (7 years), and Senate Committee for Libraries (3 years). His scholarly work is centered on more than 30 years of community-engaged research with Coast Salish communities, focusing on the intersection of Indigenous legal orders and state law with a commitment to truth and reconciliation.

Dr. Thom has a strong record of collaborative leadership. He has been recognized by government agencies for his expertise, providing talks and advice to the BC Ministry of Attorney General, the District of Saanich, and other bodies. He has also shown leadership by facilitating complex, multi-partner projects like the Commemorating Ye'yumnuts initiative, which brought together Cowichan Tribes, school districts, and government partners. Within the university, Dr. Thom has demonstrated a commitment to institutional service through activities like lead author of academic program reviews at other institutions, and frequent participation in grant evaluations.