

MARION ERICKSON

EDUCATION

PhD Health Sciences Student

September 2023-Present

Masters of Education

September 2020 – July 2023

Thompson Rivers University

BA: Public Administration and Community Development

September 2015 - December 2018

University of Northern British Columbia

Administrative Assistant Certificate

August 2012 -May 2013

College of New Caledonia

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Faculty of Medicine: UNBC: Health Arts Research Centre

March 2019 – present

Research Manager

Working with Dr. Sarah De Leeuw, I serve as a key liaison between the research team members, partner organizations, stakeholders, social and medical/health scientists and clinicians and other relevant organizations contribute to renewing health and well-being in northern and First Nations communities by addressing health inequities through research and community development initiatives. I have co-developed and implemented UBC-CPD curriculum. Of the largest projects in this role was Indigenous Summer Science where I lead the overall direction, organization, and supervision of the Indigenous summer camp program. I designed a program that sought to specifically benefit rural and remote residing Indigenous youth across northern BC. Supervised camp staff to ensure staff who worked to provide a friendly, safe, and welcoming environment for Indigenous youth. This project resulted in students changing study direction from resource industry jobs typical in their community to towards careers in science and medicine. This position is dynamic and allows for me to pursue innovative research initiatives to engage healthcare and medicine practitioners in anti-racist pedagogies for the benefit of their clinical skills for daily patient interactions.

UNBC First Nations Studies

Sept 2021 – Present

Instructor

Teaching alongside Dr. Bill Poser, we utilized the pedagogy of linguistics, spaced-repetition techniques, and quizzing to teach Dakelh language. My portion of the curriculum focuses on the cultural aspects of the language and how a verb-based language provides insights into Dakelh peoples reciprocal relationship with the world. Learning the Dakelh language requires, not only an understanding of many of language rules but also a requirement to memorize these rules quickly. Each lesson began with a lecture on effective self-learning strategies that are based on neuroscience and linguistics to enhance memorization of a new language providing students with not only the ingredients to success in this class but for many classes that require rapid skill acquisition.

UNBC Office of Research

August 2022 – Sept 2023

Indigenous Research Ambassadors Lead.

Working under the supervision of Dr. Mark Barnes, I serve as the lead for the Indigenous Research Ambassadors Program at UNBC. I have developed strong community connections for 12 Indigenous

Research Ambassadors at UNBC and have worked with the administration to advance the success of this pilot program.

University of British Columbia Faculty of Medicine

June 2019 - present

Facilitator

Each year I lead two training sessions as a contractor on behalf of the Faculty of Medicine. I facilitate the Indigenous Voice Workshop and the UBC 23 24 Cultural Humility & Allyship Workshop. In 2019, the Indigenous Voice lecture was hosted by Faculty. In 2021, I was asked to provide a cultural humility lecture and so I presented a lecture entitled “Dakelh Midwifery Past and Present” which provides a history of colonial processes responsible for the removal of Dakelh women as midwives from birth work. Fourth year medical students were presented with the outcome of Euro-western colonial biomedical domination on the Dakelh Nation which has led to less knowledge transmission about birthing and decreased safety in the mostly rural residing Dakelh communities. I was asked this year to repeat this lecture due to its overwhelming success. Feedback from this lecture by other facilitators was that the medical students were “too prepared” for the training session. This feedback is demonstrative of how I am able to move medical curriculum forward in ways that benefit overall practice of 4th year medical students. The UBC 23 24 Cultural Humility and Allyship Workshop aims to prepare future health care professionals to provide quality, culturally safe care, ultimately leading to improved health outcomes for Indigenous peoples. This workshop allows me to integrate Dakelh traditional stories and my own experiences as an indigenous person accessing healthcare. I was able to tailor this curriculum to the unique needs of medical students who will begin their practice in the north and provided them with some very basic Dakelh language.

Aboriginal Business Development Centre

December 2019 – March 2019

Researcher

Working as the lead researcher for the Community Indigenous Feminist Economic Development Research through a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. Tasked to develop an understanding of trends and characteristics economic development to mitigate potential challenges and increase opportunities for northern Aboriginal women’s participation in economic development in northern British Columbia. The research experience highlighted issues of gender and First Nations identity as a crucial component of wealth inequality in northern BC.

University of Northern British Columbia

December 2017 – March 2018

Center for Excellence in Education

Researcher

Working under Dr. Rhianna Robinson I completed a series of Storytelling videos as primary research to populate a data base with information pertaining to Indigenous Educational Excellence in Northern British Columbia for the National Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Education. I also participated in planning and development sessions for future research.

Northern Womens’ Centre

May 2017 – September 2017

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Summer Research Assistant

This summer position required that I develop resources and materials to educate the public on the dangers of hitchhiking on the Highway of Tears. I informed the public about alternative modes of transportation for people at risk of hitchhiking. This experience allowed me to build relationships with local municipal and First Nations community leaders.

Castlemain Group
Researcher/Report Writer

September 2017 – March 2018

Working as the lead researcher to complete and write a report which included a collection of tasks required as well as mitigation of risks and liabilities for Nak'azdli to consider when working towards separating from the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council. This document resulted in leadership successfully separating from CSTC and maintaining a good working relationship that continued for the Pathways Forward 2.0 agreement with the province, in collaboration with CSTC. My contribution to this project included developing the framework methodology and direction to the other report writer. I was responsible for analyzing the opportunities and liabilities of Nak'azdli exiting from the CSTC. I edited the final document to ensure quality standards were upheld.

District of Fort St. James
Office Assistant / Event Planner

April 2015 – August 2015

Event Planner for Canada Day 2015, the largest free one-day event north of Prince George. From ordering fireworks to completing permits for the parade this position was challenging, exciting, and most of all fun! The event was a huge success! This position resulted my completion of a how-to manual for planning Canada Day for all future event planners. This was a concrete experience in translating community information into a useful community resource.

Nak'azdli Band
Traditional Knowledge Researcher

May 2013 - December 2014

Nak'azdli needed to respond to the Environmental Assessment Office regarding 6 proposed natural gas projects on Nak'azdli territory. Using various qualitative and quantitative methodologies, our team completed various socioeconomic reports for submission to the EAO. The Socio-economic research reports required door-to-door surveying of residence for a community census as well as detailed cartographic mapping. Our team took on the very demanding task of researching our rights and title and documenting the liabilities of natural gas pipeline development on our memberships land rights. This position required collecting data from members about their hunting and traditional land use activities. A major aspect of this research was establishing trust with community members and ensuring their data was utilized respectfully.

Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance
Traditional Knowledge Researcher

January 2013 – April 2013

Working in a holistic team environment. This community-based oral history research project took place in Nak'azdli to collect traditional ecological knowledge on our local sturgeon. This experience allowed me to understand how Western science and traditional ecological knowledge can be braided together to create a Two-eyed Seeing understanding of this endangered species. This research experience provided stunning information on oral history that aids, surprisingly, to traditional prenatal care.

PUBLICATIONS

Erickson, M (2024) What is it that you teach “them”? The Feminist Word. Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women.

Erickson, M., Striegler, L., Deleeuw, S (2023) Tell Us When You Feel Uncomfortable: An Anticolonial Poetic Script with Mosquito, Lisa, Knowing, Western, Cesarean, Written Word, Marion, Being, Medicine, and Other Unruly Characters. Canadian Theatre Review. University of Toronto Press.

Striegler, L., Deleeuw, S. Erickson, M., (2023) 'Udustl'us oosdutat'en-i: Developing the Beyond Colouring book as an anti-colonial cultural humility intervention in healthcare education and for healthcare professionals in Northern British Columbia and beyond. UNBC

Erickson, M., (Orator)(2022, September 21) Sex Segregation in Dakelh Territory. ANDPVA's National Online Signature Event Series: The Writers Room with Marion Erickson. Association for Native Development in the Performing Arts. <https://www.facebook.com/andpva/videos/2339248536224979/>

de Leeuw, S., Anonuev, C., Erickson, M., Krzywania, M., McNab-Coombs, L., Odulaja, O., Sloan Morgan, O. (submitted March 2022). Indigenous. Concise Encyclopedia of Human Geography. Ed. Demeritt, D. and Lees, L. Elgar Encyclopedia in Social Science Series. United Kingdom.

Sloan Morgan, O., Añonuevo, C., Donaldson, R., Erickson, M., Thomas, K., Greenwood, M., and de Leeuw, S. (submitted January 2022). Coloniality and the Geographies of Children and Youth in Rural Northern Turtle Island and Beyond. *Handbook on Theories of Childhood Studies*. Eds. John Wall, Sarada Balagopalan, and Karen Wells. Routledge.

Erickson, M (2020) Birth Hearts Project: Envisioning Careers in Health and Wellness. The Health Arts Research Centre. <http://healtharts.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/SD57BirchHeartsResource.pdf>

Erickson, M (2020) Stories Contributed by Marion Erickson: Hailey Prince at the Nak'azdli Cultural Centre, Teaching Language and Culture in Tl'azt'en Nation, Tania Julian Teacher's Assistant Nak'albun Elementary, Susan Erickson, Nak'albun Elementary School Teacher [Series]. The National Centre for Collaboration in Indigenous Education. <https://www.nccie.ca/author/marionerickson/?lang=iku>

Erickson, M. (2019) Revitalizing Dakelh Midwifery Can Result in Better Healthcare Outcomes for Dakelh Women, and Greater Diversity in Healthcare. [Policy brief]. Vancouver Foundation. <https://levelvf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Revitalizing-Dakelh-Midwifery-Can-Result-in-Better-Healthcare-Outcomes-for-Dakelh-Women-and-Greater-Diversity-in-Healthcare-by-Marion-Erickson.pdf>

First Nations Health Authority (2018) Marion's Story: Health, Wellness and Cervical Cancer Screening. First Nation's Health Authority. [video]. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XD6sW3ATW8I&feature=emb_logo

Erickson, M (2017) Report to the Mayor and Council of the City of Prince George. [Policy brief]. <https://www.princegeorge.ca/City%20Hall/Agendas/2017/2017-06-26/Documents/letter%20from%20marion%20erickson%20re%20student%20mentorship%20fcm.pdf>

PRESENTATIONS

Erickson, M. (2023) Keynote: Dakelh Doula Training Curriculum Development. Caretaking Earthside: A Birthworkers Community Conference. Agassiz British Columbia

Erickson, M., Shwitzer, C., Duncan, L., Roberts, J. (2023) Perinatal Indigenous Learning Circle: Birthing Storytelling. 5th Northern perinatal Conference

Erickson M. (2023) Revitalizing Dakelh Midwifery Utilizing Community-based Participatory Research. 5TH NORTHERN PERINATAL CONFERENCE Championing change together; collaborating for sustainable perinatal care.

Striegler, L., Erickson, M. Auerbach, K.S., Chamberlin, K., (2022) Be/cause You Care Box. Health Arts Research Centre. Research Week. UNBC

Erickson, M., Roulette, K., Deleeuw, S., Striegler, L. (October 2022) *The role of the arts in addressing health and wellbeing in schools and communities*. Eduart Hub. Canadian Network for Arts and Learning.

Maddalozzo, F., Erickson, M. (May 2022) Realizing TRC call to action 63.3: A Dakelh Midwifery researcher and Educator reflect on cultural intersections, including Catholicism, in graduate studies. Canadian Society for the Study of Education National Congress.

Erickson, M., Maddalozzo, F., Jiao, C., Grewal, H., Johnson, S. (May 2022) Collaboratively reflecting on "Indigenous Podcast Series: Privileging Oral Traditions Past, Present, and Future". Canadian Society for the Study of Education National Congress.

MacNab-Coombs, L., Erickson, M., and de Leeuw, S. (February 2022). Wind is Powerful Because it Moves in Many Directions: Thinking and Being with Indigenous Knowledge Holders, the Arts, and Storytelling in Community-informed Health Research. Rural Health Equity Conference. Nelson, BC. (virtually).

McNab-Coombs, L. Erickson, M. (January 2021). Health Arts: Clay Molecules. Girls Resilience & Tenacity Program (GRIT), Terrace Women's Resource Centre. Online/Terrace, BC.

McNabb-Coombs, L., Erickson, M. (September 2021) The Problem Posing Method: Utilizing the Pedagogy of the Oppressed for Dakelh Language Revitalization. Lhulh'uts'ut'en Working Together. School District 57 Indigenous Education.

Añonuevo, C., Chamberlin, K., de Leeuw, S., Erickson, M., Goldin Stahl, D., Greenwood, M., Korol-O'Dwyer, K., Krzywania, M., McNabb-Coombs, L., Sloan Morgan, V., and Striegler, L. (September 2021). Stories of the Critically Humane: A Panel Presentation and Arts-based Workshop about Putting Health Humanities to Work in the Service of Anticolonialism. Sixth Annual Calgary Health Humanities Symposium. Calgary, Canada (virtually).

Mitchel-Foster, S. Erickson, M., Joseph, M., Duncan, L. (June 2022) Indigenous Voices: Pregnancy and Parenting Journeys with Substance-use Northern Health. Northern Perinatal Mental Health and Substance Use Education Series

Poser, B. Erickson, M. (May 2021) Dakelh Language for Health and Medicine Practitioners with Marion Erickson and Dr. Bill Poser. Health Arts Research Centre.

Erickson, M., McNabb-Coombs (September 2020) Science, art, and Indigenous Ecological Knowledge: A holistic approach to training future health practitioners. Lhulh'uts'ut'en – We Come Together. School District 57.

George, E. Thomas, S., Erickson, M. (2020) Birthing in our Communities with Evelyn George, Sage Thomas & Marion Erickson. UBC Learning Circle.

de Leeuw, S. Gottfriedson, G. Erickson, M. (February 2019) Indigenous Voices, Stories, and Healthcare. Ut'loo Noye Khunni – Weaving Words Celebration 2019

Erickson, M., Malhorta, U., (November 2018) Intergenerational Trauma Awareness: First Nations Women and Access to Western Health Services-Marion Erickson and Dr. Unjali Malhorta Inspiring Women Among Us: University of Northern British Columbia

HONORS / AWARDS

Health Systems Impact Fellowship	2024
IMPACT Clinical Trial Fellowship	2024
Indspire Health Canada Award	2023
New Relationship Trust Doctoral Award	2023
UNBC Graduate Entrance Research Scholarship	2023
National Indigenous Graduate Student Conference Best Presentation Award	2022
British Columbia Network Environment for Indigenous Health Research Scholarship	2021
Irving K. Barber Masters Scholarship	2021& 2022
National Indian Brotherhood Scholarship	2021
Indspire Building Brighter Futures Masters Bursary	2021 & 2022
The Tachane Foundation Inc. Masters Bursary	2020
Irving K. Barber Undergraduate Scholarship	2018
Indspire Building Brighter Futures Undergraduate Scholarship	2018
University of Northern BC Student Senator Honor	2018
New Relationship Trust Undergraduate Scholarship	2018

SERVICE

Doulas for Aboriginal Families Grant Program Knowledge Keepers Knowledge Keeper	2023 – present
Indigenous Summer Science Working Group Committee	2023
BC Health Regulators: Indigenous Engagement Group Advisor	2022 – Present

British Columbia College of Oral Health Professionals Public Board Member	2022-Present
Province of British Columbia Anti-Racism Data Committee Public Member	2022-Present
First Nations Health Authority & UBC Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences Building Cultural Safety and Humility for First Nations Clients into Pharmacy Practice – Education for Pharmacy Team Members Curriculum Indigenous Advisory Group	2022- 2023
School District 57 Dakelh Language Curriculum Working Group	2021-2023
British Columbia Health Regulators Indigenous Student Advisory Group	2021-2023
University of Northern British Columbia Senate Committee Undergraduate Student Representative	2019
University of Northern British Columbia Senate Elected Student Senator	2018
City of Prince George Student Needs Committee Member	2019
Nak'azdli Band Office Administration Post-Secondary School Support Program Committee	2019
Nak'azdli Band Office Administration Trust Development Committee	2015

GRANTS

Convene Vancouver Foundation Participatory Action Research Grant	2023
UBC Anti-Racism Initiatives Fund	2022
Telus Storyhive: Indigenous Documentary	2020

NEWS AND CASTINGS

Petersen, H. (2022) Unbc creating Indigenous Research Ambassador Program: The program will see 10 six-month internships and 12 Indigenous Student Awards. Prince George Citizen. Jim Pattison. <https://www.princegeorgecitizen.com/local-news/unbc-creating-indigenous-research-ambassador-program-5779219>

Connors, S. (2021) Pilot projects aim to find appropriate cervical screening process in B.C. Aboriginal Peoples Television Network. <https://www.aptnnews.ca/national-news/pilot-projects-aim-to-find-appropriate-cervical-screening-process-in-b-c/>

Bellrichard (2020) Mom adapts rites of passage due to COVID-19 for son's first hunt: 9-year-old to share story and quills by mail instead of going door-to-door. CBC News.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/porcupine-hunt-pandemic-rite-of-passage-1.5693882>

Clements, M.(Director) (2017) The Road Forward [film]. Snelgrove, T., Vercruysse, S. *Cast member*

CURRENT COMMUNITY SERVICE

Facilitator and teacher of the Weekly Dakelh Language Lessons Lunch through the Dakelh Language Lessons Facebook page

Acting Chair of the Dakelh Tsekoo Women's Society

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

CIHR Institute of Gender and Health Core Competency Module for Sex and Gender in Primary Data Collection with Human Participants 2024

Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Health: Public Health Winter Institute: February of 2023

TCPS 2: CORE (Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans), Panel on Research Ethics, Government of Canada.

Transport Canada Boat Safety Pleasure Craft Operator

LEVEL Youth Policy Program (2019) Vancouver Foundation. Certificate of Completion