

August 2020 TRU Office of Indigenous Education



Map courtesy of gov.bc.ca-college regions, 2020

Indigenous Nations in TRU catchment area

Kamloops Campus-Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc and Williams Lake Campus- T'exelc (Williams Lake campus) within Secwépemc'ulucw. Our region also extends into the territories of the Stat'imc, Nlaka'pamux, Nuxalk, Tsilhqot'in, Dakelh and includes many Métis peoples.

TRU Chancellor

Dr. Nathan Matthew TRU Chancellor (three-year term) volunteer role. TRU chancellors preside over convocation ceremonies and are members of the university's board of governors and senate.

Office of the President and Vice Chancellor

Dr Brett Fairbairn, the President and Vice-Chancellor is the chief executive officer, responsible to the Board of Governors and Senate for the supervision of TRU's administrative and academic work.

Paul Michel, Special Advisor to the President on Indigenous Matters, focuses on providing leadership to the development of a collective vision, set of values, and strategic direction for Indigenization at Thompson Rivers University.

Office of the Provost and Vice-President Academic and Research

Dr. Christine Bovis-Crossen, Provost and VP Academic, provides leadership for TRU's academic operations, including teaching and learning, research, and students. The office's mandate is to support the mission of our university. As articulated in our strategic plan, "*Thompson Rivers University is a comprehensive, learner-centred, environmentally responsible institution that serves its regional, national and international learners and their communities through high quality and flexible education, training, research and scholarship.*"

Office of Indigenous Education

Reports directly to the Provost Vice President Academic & Research Christine Bovis-Crossen. We are broad-based and work with all TRU academic faculties specifically on Indigenization. We assist with Indigenizing curriculum, research projects and incorporating Indigenous content and Indigenizing the curriculum. We deliver programs on-campus and work in partnership with Indigenous communities to deliver programs under the Ministry of Advanced Education Skills & Training Aboriginal Skills Partnership (ASP) program. We connect TRU with Indigenous (First Nations/Metis/Inuit) communities and provide guidance on protocols, and referrals for elders & knowledge keepers. We work closely with all Indigenous TRU staff and faculty across campus to provide support campus-wide.

- Faculty of Arts
- Faculty of Adventure, Culinary, Arts, Tourism
- School of Business & Economics
- Faculty of Education & Social Work
- Faculty of Law
- School of Nursing
- Faculty of Science
- Faculty of Student Development
- Trades & Technology
- Open Learning
- TRU World (International partnerships)

Indigenous Contacts at TRU

Office of Indigenous Education

INED Reception	General Inquiries	ined@tru.ca	
Tina Matthew	Executive Director	tmatthew@tru.ca	250-319-7377
Didi Ledohowski	ASP Supervisor	dledohowski@tru.ca	250-318-9196
Cultural Coordinator	Cultural events across campus	culturalcoordinator@tru.ca	
Transitions Coordinator	School District Liaison	transitionscoordinator@tru.ca	

Indigenous Student Development (Current Students)

General Inquiries	Reception	indigenous@tru.ca	250-371-5854
Vernie Clement	Supervisor	vcelement@tru.ca	
Matty Chillihitzia	Mentorship Coordinator	mchillihitzia@tru.ca	
Denise Dunstan	Learning Strategist	ddunstan@tru.ca	
Jason Blair	Learning Strategist	Jblair@tru.ca	
Shawna Walker	Learning Strategist	shwalker@tru.ca	
Ashley Broadfoot	Indigenous Counsellor	abroadfoot@tru.ca	250-318-6351

Recruitment (Future Students)

Lily Peters	Qelmúcw Student Recruiter	futureindigenous@tru.ca	250-852-7639
Ashley MacLellan	Qelmúcw Student Recruiter	futureindigenous@tru.ca	250-828-5008

Indigenous Careers/Co-Ops/Internships (Current Students and Alumni)

Robbi Davey	Indigenous Experiential Learning Coordinator	rdavey@tru.ca	250-819-4899
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Indigenous Peoples in Trades Training

Willi Fortier	Relations Lead Indigenous Peoples in Trades Training	wfortier@tru.ca	
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Finance (Kamloops Campus)

Debbie Blackwell	Accounts Receivable Clerk	dblackwell@tru.ca	250-371-5636
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Williams Lake Campus

Bryan Daly	Associate Dean	bdaly@tru.ca	250-392-8191
Reta Langlands	Interim Campus Coordinator	rlanglands@tru.ca	
Kristen Johnny	Coordinator of Indigenous Student Services	kjohnny@tru.ca	
Nic Suapa	Open Learning Facilitator	nsuapa@tru.ca	250-392-8179
Pat Biblow	Finance Administrative Coordinator	pbiblow@tru.ca	250-392-8021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Aug 2020-Chief of Xeni Gwet'in First Nation west of Williams Lake Jimmy Lulua has been appointed to the Thompson Rivers University Board of Governors for an initial one-year term
<https://www.castanet.net/news/Kamloops/307252/Tsilhqot-in-Chief-appointed-to-TRU-Board-of-Governors>
- April 2020-Nathan Matthew accepted a second term as TRU Chancellor
<https://inside.tru.ca/2020/04/08/matthew-renewed-for-another-term-as-chancellor/>
- Dr. Lisa Borque-Bearskin-April 2020-New \$1.5-million health research chair advances Indigenous wellness in nursing <https://inside.tru.ca/releases/new-1-5-million-indigenous-research-chair-advances-indigenous-wellness-in-nursing/>
- Dr. Shelly Johnson (Mukwa Musayett), Saulteaux is the world's first Canada Research Chair in Indigenizing higher education and an Associate Professor at Thompson Rivers University. <https://www.tru.ca/edsw/research/indigenizing-higher-education.html>
- Dr. Rod McCormick (Kanienkehaka) BC Innovation Chair of Indigenous Health at Thompson Rivers University -All My Relations research network
<https://www.tru.ca/edsw/research/all-my-relations.html>
- Dr. Courtney Mason (Mohawk) Canada Research Chair in Rural Livelihoods and Sustainable Communities at Thompson Rivers University.
<https://courtneymason.sites.tru.ca/about-courtney/>
- Jan 2020 TRU Indigenous Trades receives funding
<https://inside.tru.ca/2020/01/24/indigenous-trades-programs-receive-funding-boost/>

Updates at Thompson Rivers University

Fall 2020 Update

- Fall 2020 Semester (Sept-Dec) all classes at TRU will primarily be offered online except for a few classes that require in-person delivery or labs (trades, science, nursing)
- Staff & services on campus will be limited. Please check TRU website for staff and department availability
- Indigenous Student Development (House 5-Cplul'kw'ten) Fall 2020 hours will be different due to COVID-19. Our offices will be closed, but staff will be available for phone/virtual meetings. <https://www.tru.ca/indigenous/current-students/gathering-place.html>

TRU President Brett Fairbairn Updates at TRU

- President Annual Reports: <https://www.tru.ca/president/reports.html>

TRU COVID-19 Response

- Updates: <https://www.tru.ca/covid-19/updates.html>
- For the most up-to-date information on COVID19 and TRU please visit: <https://www.tru.ca/covid-19.html>

Mental Health Supports:

- TRU Counselling <https://www.tru.ca/current/wellness/counselling/about.html>
- COVID-19 Counsellors-for anyone struggling with the impacts of COVID-19 who would like to talk to a counsellor, volunteer mental-health professionals are available by emailing bccovidtherapists@gmail.com. Include your name, contact information and availability.
- First Nations Health Authority Mental Health Supports: <https://www.fnha.ca/benefits/mental-health>

Financial Assistance

- Emergency Student financial assistance information (TRU/Province/Federal) <https://www.tru.ca/awards/emergency-funding.html>
- For TRU Awards & Bursaries, Federal & Provincial grants and loan programs, money management and applications support Contact (WL & Kamloops): TRU.CA/AWARDS finaid@tru.ca T. 250-828-5024 (general office) and/or directly seagle@tru.ca 250-828-5096 Sherryl Eagle
- TRU Indigenous Student Scholarships/Bursaries: <https://www.tru.ca/indigenous/current-students/funding.html>

General Information

- TRU University Preparation Programs: <https://www.tru.ca/indigenous/current-students/uprep.html>
- 2020 Indigenous Graduation-we are looking at options for a graduation celebration OFF-CAMPUS in the fall (Kamloops campus students)

- TRU 50th celebration at Kamloops and WL campus-request Indigenous community participation <https://www.tru.ca/tru50.html#about>
- Fall 2020-the Office of Indigenous Education will be moving and sharing a space with All My Relations Research Centre on the 2nd floor of the Old Library
- New position in Career Experiential Learning (Robbi Davey, Indigenous Experiential Learning Coordinator) develops employment opportunities that are incorporated & extend Indigenous student academic programs, work with students and communities to develop pathways to careers/employment. Advisory group being created for community members. Specific information for Indigenous students.
- Successful June 2020 online career fair hosted and another one is currently being organized. Join potential employers for employment, career, co-op and internship information and opportunities.

TRU Trades Programs in Indigenous Communities:

Current Programs:

- Lillooet Foundation Carpentry Level 1 - started June 24, 2020
- Neskonlith/Adams Lake/Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band- Foundation Carpentry Level 1 - August 31, 2020

Upcoming Programs:

- NVIT Women in Trades Training - August 2020 (tentative)
- Tk'emlups Trade Sampler - September 21, 2020 (50% women)
- Tk'emlups Skeetchestn Foundation Carpentry Level 1 - October 2020 start
- Neskonlith Construction Craft Worker - February 2021
- Barriere/Simpcw Women in Trades Training - March 2021

TRU Elders (Kamloops Campus)

1. Mike Arnouse (Hustalen)
2. Doreen Kenoras (Hustalen)
3. Sandi Hendri (Metis)
4. Theresa Maclsaac (Metis)
5. Joanne Brown (Cheslatta/Dakelh)
6. Leona (Doe) Thomas (Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc)
7. Diena Jules (Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc)
8. Joanne Gottfriedson (Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc)
9. Gus Gottfriedson (Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc)
10. Charlotte Manuel (Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc)
11. * Rusty Alec (TI'azt'en Dakelh)