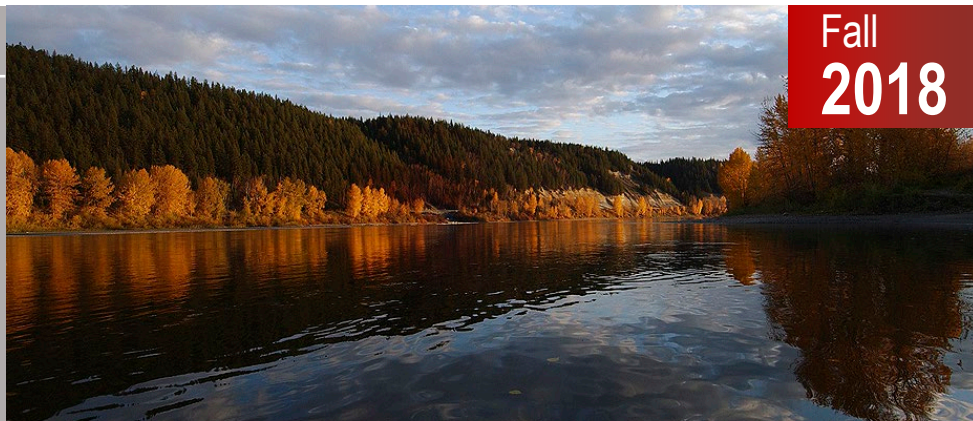


## 'En Cha Hunà

UNBC's motto, from the Dakelh (Carrier) Elders, is used to remind us that all people have a voice and a viewpoint. Directly translated as "he/she also lives," and interpreted as "respecting all forms of life," 'En Cha Hunà encapsulates the spirit of academic freedom, respect for others, and willingness to recognize different perspectives.



Fall  
2018

## Department of First Nations

# FNST Newsletter



### A message from our Acting Chair, Dr. Gary Wilson

The new academic year is well underway and I hope that everyone has had a good start to the semester. As is always the case, September and October have been very busy months, as classes get going and the university as a whole becomes more vibrant and active. This September, a brand new cohort of graduate students started their degree programs in First Nations Studies and I would like to like to extend a warm welcome to all of them as they embark on this new and exciting phase in their academic careers. There have already been a number of events at the First Nations Centre, as well as several presentations on Indigenous topics at the Global Friday colloquium series. We are also on the cusp of some significant changes at the university, as we discuss important matters such as academic restructuring, decolonization and Indigenization. These are exciting times at UNBC and I am confident that we can work together to make the university a better, more inclusive and more welcoming place for all.



Oorey vie ort – Good luck to you  
Dr. Gary Wilson

## UNBC Elder in Residence Lheidli T'enneh Elder Marcel Gagnon

The UNBC First Nations Centre is proud to introduce the 2018 Fall Semester Elder in Residence, Lheidli T'enneh Elder, Marchel Gagnon.

Marcel Gagnon is an Elder of the Lheidli T'enneh First Nations and an established musician, composer, and substance abuse counsellor. Marcel has become a prominent advocate and counsellor for persons affected by the Indian Residential School system and has worked extensively with Aboriginal youth and adults who have been in



conflict with the law, presenting his Recovery Program "Awakening the Medicine Man Within." Marcel uses Traditional Teachings and Ceremonial Practices in his approach to healing. As a musician, Marcel has received numerous accolades including a nomination for the "Best Music of Aboriginal Canada" award at the 2002 Juno Awards.

For more information please contact the First Nations Centre at 250-690-5772.

## Congratulations Edōsdi (Dr. Judy Thompson)

Besides being an Assistant Professor in FNST, Edōsdi is the Director of the Tahltan Nation's language and culture program. Because of her scholarly community work focusing on language revitalization, in April 2018 she received a Distinguished Academic Award – Early in Career Award Category, from the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of BC. This award "recognizes the contributions to the non-academic community made by faculty members who are at an early point in their careers." At the May 2018 CASHS convocation ceremony, Edōsdi was awarded an annual UNBC Award for Excellence in Teaching.



## UNBC South Central Language Programs

The Tsilhqot'in Language Diploma program in Williams Lake has entered its last semester. The students have worked hard for the past year to further develop their communication, reading and literary skills in Tsilhqot'in and have shown great pride working through hard content. Additionally, quite a few of the students have chosen to carrying on and pursuing their Bachelor of First Nations Studies after they finish their diploma. We are looking forward to celebrating these students and their success.



Also, the Southern Carrier Language Certificate in Anahim Lake is currently underway. It started with an orientation dinner to welcome students to the program and UNBC. The Southern Carrier Certificate program will be a year long program that will consist of 33 credit hours. We are looking forward to this program and pleased that majority of the language and culture classes are being taught by a community member from Anahim Lake.



## UNBC Prince George Campus Winter 2019 Course Offerings

FNST 100-3	Aboriginal Peoples of Canada	Tannis Reynolds	Fridays: 8:30-11:20am
FNST 131-3	Cree Language Level 1	Leona Nielson	Mondays: 2:30-5:20pm
FNST 200-3	Perspectives in First Nations Studies	Toni Carlton	Tuesdays: 6:30-9:20pm
FNST 203-3	Intro. Traditional Ecological Knowledge	Dr. Pawlowska-Mainville	Thursdays: 8:30-11:20am
FNST 249-3	Aboriginal Resource Planning	Dr. Theresa Healy	Wednesdays: 2:30-5:20pm
FNST 302-3	First Nations Health and Healing	Tannis Reynolds	Mondays: 8:30-11:20am
FNST 498-3	Advanced Metis Studies	Earl Henderson	Tuesdays: 11:30am-2:20pm

For more information and course descriptions and graduate level course offerings please visit our webpage at [www.unbc.ca/firstnations](http://www.unbc.ca/firstnations).

### The Cross-Cultural Indigenous Knowledge Exchange Program (C-CIKE) program

is a project that partners UNBC with the Maori education institution Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiāraangi in New Zealand. This international collaboration focuses on different Indigenous issues, ranging from community economic development, social and cultural well-being, language revitalization, knowledge protection, law, health and healing, or environmental issues.

To date, we have sent eleven undergrad students and two graduate students from UNBC. We have hosted one Maori student in 2016 and will host another student in 2019. Dr. Ross Hoffman also travelled to New Zealand in 2017 to teach a few classes, and Dr. Agnes Pawlowska-Mainville will travel there in 2019.

Please visit [www.unbc.ca/ccike](http://www.unbc.ca/ccike) for more information.

### Contact Us:

Dr. Gary Wilson, Acting Chair	250-960-5514	<a href="mailto:gary.wilson@unbc.ca">gary.wilson@unbc.ca</a>
Dr. Ross Hoffman	250-960-5242	<a href="mailto:ross.hoffman@unbc.ca">ross.hoffman@unbc.ca</a>
Dr. Pawlowska-Mainville	250-960-5434	<a href="mailto:agnes.pawlowska-mainville@unbc.ca">agnes.pawlowska-mainville@unbc.ca</a>
Edösdí (Dr. JudyThompson)	250-960-5766	<a href="mailto:judy.thompson@unbc.ca">judy.thompson@unbc.ca</a>
Tannis Reynolds	250-960-5557	<a href="mailto:tannis.reynolds@unbc.ca">tannis.reynolds@unbc.ca</a>
Dr. Margo Greenwood	250-960-5239	<a href="mailto:margo.greenwood@unbc.ca">margo.greenwood@unbc.ca</a>

### Subscribe to the First Nations Studies List Serve

This list serve is designed to provide a venue for those interested in Indigenous issues. This is a one-way broadcast from the UNBC First Nations Studies Department to registered members highlighting "Events, News, and Job Opportunities" locally at UNBC and in the Community/ies.

To subscribe please e-mail Gina MacDonald at [gina.macdonald@unbc.ca](mailto:gina.macdonald@unbc.ca) with your subscription request.

## 2018 Pounamu Taonga Award Recipient *Spencer Greening*

Spencer Greening is Tsimshian from the Gitga'at First Nation. He completed a BA in FNST and a MA in Interdisciplinary Studies at UNBC. His thesis research is rooted in Tsimshian knowledge and practices blending traditional Tsimshian ways of knowing with western academic practices. During his MA research, he returned home to Gitga'at to learn from the Elders of his nation and to immerse himself within the language.

Spencer has been one of several co-authors for a recently published article in the leading journal, *American Anthropologist*. This article demonstrates his successful academic relationship with respected academics including the internationally renowned ethnobotanist Dr. Nancy Turner.

In 2015, at the request of the Elders, Spencer ran and was elected as a Band Councillor for the Gitga'at First Nation. He actively served the community in that role for two years. Prior to that, Spencer served the community of Gitga'at as the Cultural Research Coordinator and the Environmental Assessment Coordinator. Spencer is presently a PhD student in Anthropology at SFU. His research with the Elders of his community focuses on documenting the knowledge surrounding one of his nation's ancient village sites.

