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## IRSI Newsletter - December 2018

As the year draws to a close, the team at IRSI wishes to express our deep gratitude for everything we've experienced in 2018. From the open houses at the start of the year to the research day in April, numerous trips to community, and hosting our *Building Principles of Engagement Gathering*, we're so appreciative of the wonderful work being done at the University of BC and within the communities we collaborate with. Thank you!

IRSI wishes everyone a happy holiday and a wonderful end to the year. Gałgwisgüü!

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We encourage you to share this newsletter with your colleagues! If you didn't receive this email directly from us, please feel free to subscribe to this monthly listserv [here](#).



In the last edition of the newsletter we reported that UBC had just awarded Grand Chief Stewart Phillip an honorary Doctorate of Laws degree (LLD). Last week, IRSI's Associate Director Lerato Chondoma attended a presentation by Dr. Grand Chief Phillip to a group of students from law and FNIS as well as faculty and staff from UBC.

Dr. Grand Chief Phillip spoke openly and generously about some of the formative events in his own history. Raised by a non-Indigenous family, he spoke about meeting his father for the first time and beginning to connect with his own culture. He talked about his marriage and abiding love for wife Joan Phillip, their journey toward sobriety together and lifetime of activism they have shared. He went on to highlight some of the greatest challenges facing Indigenous and non-Indigenous people today. Specifically, he spoke about climate change and the culture of denial that surrounds this pressing issue, pointing to the increasing number of wildfires he has witnessed in his traditional territory. And he emphasized the opioid crisis currently facing Indigenous youth and the shocking number of recent deaths from fentanyl overdose.

The presentation was an inspiration to all in attendance and Dr. Grand Chief Phillip



IRSI is currently in discussions with the Quesnel Dakelh Education and Employment Society (QDEES) and its three member communities about a potential new research collaboration around Jordan's Principle. As part of the project discovery, last month, IRSI team members traveled to Quesnel along with two UBC nursing students. The students were Veena Mudaliar, a master's student from Vancouver and Innocent Ndateba, a PhD student from Rwanda.

The IRSI team and students accompanied Jolene Pagurut, a Northern Health clinician, on a trip to the community of Lhoosk'uz Dené and prepared and hosted a community dinner and community breakfast. The visit included a sharing of food with one of the Dakelh communities in their traditional territory and discussing some of the ways in which UBC resources might benefit the community. On the trip, Innocent, pictured above, experienced snow for the first time ever! Almost eight inches dropped overnight and the team woke up to a wintry landscape.

left the group of future lawmakers with a gentle yet persuasive call-to-action. He urged Indigenous people and their allies to come together, use our collective brain power and “keep doing the hard work” required to address these and other pressing issues.

As a next step to the proposed project, Innocent, Veena and Dr. Sabrina Wong will return to the territory in January 2019 with a larger UBC team to prepare a community lunch for all three communities and introduce a proposed concept for a research project that promotes the health and wellbeing of youth covered by Jordan's Principle.

Together with the Residential School History & Dialogue Centre (IRSHDC) and the BC First Nations Data Governance Initiative, IRSI has received a SSHRC Indigenous Research Capacity and Reconciliation Connections grant. Funds will be used to host a dialogue series focused on engaging academic and community collaborators around issues of data, information and records. The objective of the dialogues is to ensure that policies, practices, systems and protocols are collaboratively developed with Indigenous community partners. At the heart of this dialogue series is a call to change the culture of Indigenous data, information and records management and archival practices. This is a call to act, engage and ensure that Indigenous knowledge and cultural protocols be privileged in this conversation and that Indigenous participation is surfaced in the design and practice of Indigenous data, information and records governance and systems.



There will be four or five dialogues in total, with the initial one taking place at UBC in early 2019. Subsequent sessions will be held at University of Northern BC in Prince George, Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops and in Victoria. A national conversation hosted by SSHRC will also take place in Ottawa next spring as part of the series.

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## Grants and Awards:

### Operating Grant: Transitions in Care – Evaluation Grants

These [two-year grants](#) provide funds to “formally evaluate, validate and/or demonstrate the effectiveness, appropriateness and/or impact of implemented

transitions in care activities to create high-quality, real-world evidence, relevant to transitions in care, overall health and/or health system improvement.” Approximately 16 grants will be awarded with a maximum of \$200,000 per grant. First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples are considered key populations of interest. Please contact [Tessa Cheng](#) in SPARC if you are interested in applying. **The application deadline is February 5, 2019.**

#### **Team Grant: Transitions in Care**

CIHR recently launched this [Team Grant](#) that will provide research funds to “implement, evaluate, spread, and scale pragmatic solutions to problems associated with transitions in care from a clinical, health care or health system perspective”. First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples are considered key populations of interest. Please contact [Tessa Cheng](#) in SPARC if you are interested in applying.

**The application deadline is January 24, 2018.**

#### **NEW! SSHRC Connection Grants – Research Data Management Capacity Building Initiative**

To help the Canadian social sciences and humanities research community better understand data management and incorporate data management considerations into research practices, [SSHRC's Research Data Management Capacity Building Initiative](#) offers [Connection Grants](#) to support the research community's development, adoption and dissemination of research data management standards, practices, tools and skills appropriate to their field. Research Data Management grants support the effective and responsible conduct of research, and increases the ability to store, find and reuse research data. For information, contact [Connection Grants](#) at the SSHRC office. **Deadlines for applications are: February 1, May 1, and August 1, 2019.**

#### **Did you know?**

UBC has an online resource for faculty and staff who are interested in finding out about new CIHR Strategic grants. Hosted by the SPARC office, this webpage is updated daily and mirrors the information in ResearchNet, CIHR's official grants website, in a more user-friendly format. This resource lists all the CIHR Strategic grants that are open for applications and tracks pre-announcements for upcoming competitions. Please click [here](#) to visit the page (CWL required). For those who do not have a UBC login (known as a “CWL”), please visit [ResearchNet](#). Contact Tessa Cheng if you are interested in learning more about these competitions or would like to discuss SPARC support for your application ([Tessa.Cheng@ubc.ca](mailto:Tessa.Cheng@ubc.ca)).



## Have you heard?



*Image used is just a small piece of a beautiful blanket we have in our office. Takaya | Wolf by Debora Sparrow.*

*Designed for Tsleil-Waututh Nation.*

The Province is funding homes for Indigenous British Columbians for the first time.

See the full list of 'province-wide projects' [here](#).



You can now see presentations from our *Building Principles of Engagement Gathering* held at UBC in October. Visit [IRSI's Youtube channel](#).

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## Check it out:

Simultaneously research, material, media, testimony and ceremony, *Hexsa'am: To Be Here Always* challenges the western concept that the power of art and culture are limited to the symbolic or metaphoric, and that the practices of First Peoples are simply part of a past heritage.

January 11 - April 7, 2019

**Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery**

1825 Main Mall

Vancouver, British Columbia,

Canada V6T 1Z2

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*Dana Claxton: Fringing the Cube.* The first exhibition to survey the formidable career of Vancouver-based Hunkpapa Lakota (Sioux) artist Dana Claxton. Known for her expansive multidisciplinary approach to art making, Claxton investigates notions of Indigenous identity, beauty, gender and the body.

October 27, 2018 - February 3, 2019

**Vancouver Art Gallery**

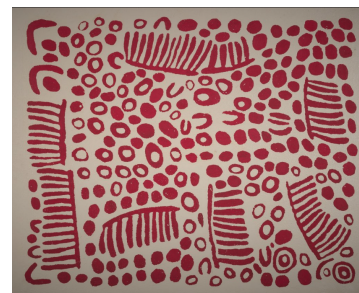
750 Hornby Street

Vancouver, BC V6Z 2H7

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*Marking the Infinite* features the work of nine Aboriginal women—Nonggirnga Marawili, Wintjiya Napaltjarri, Yukultji Napangati, Angelina Pwerle, Carlene West, Regina Pilawuk Wilson, Lena Yarinkura, Gulumbu Yunupingu and Nyapanyapa Yunupingu—each from different remote regions of Australia. They are revered matriarchs and celebrated artists who are represented in the collections of the Australian National Gallery. Most of them make their Canadian debut at MOA with this breathtaking exhibition.

November 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019



**Museum of Anthropology at the  
University of British Columbia**

6393 NW Marine Drive

Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z2

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### On the Blog:

Kristin Smart, Seraphine  
Munroe and Adina  
Williams

[Three Voices: On  
Reconciliation, and  
Indigenous Engagement](#)



## THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

### Indigenous Research Support Initiative

Our office is always open to community members and researchers. We'd love to hear about the work you're doing with Indigenous communities this year! You can reach us at [irsi.info@ubc.ca](mailto:irsi.info@ubc.ca), or our coordinator Alexis Okabe at 604-827-2801.



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