



Decolonization, Reconciliation, Indigenization Standing Committee (DRISC) 2021-2022

Decolonization, Reconciliation, and Indigenization has been a hot topic for universities, particularly how they will implement and TRC's calls to action as well as understanding UNDRIP.

VIUFA DRISC sent an email early in the 2021-2022 academic year looking for participants on the DRISC committee. One meeting was held to discuss decolonization and what it means for VIUFA members. As the chair of the committee, I attended 5 provincial DRISC FPSE meetings. These meetings happen over 2 days every other month. At these meetings I gained experience and knowledge of what was happening at other universities across British Columbia.

In an attempt to engage VIUFA members in decolonization, reconciliation and indigenization, as the committee chair I engaged with several different organizations to host decolonization workshops for members. Many of these organizations had waitlists for workshop delivery. By March we were able to engage Nahanee Creative to get access to a self-paced on-demand course.

This year the DRI Chair participated on the following activities:

1. Ongoing participation on advisory board as required. Currently sitting on student conduct policy committee. Participate in workshops such as: Cultivating Safe Spaces (Elaine Alec), Introducing Decolonizing Practices (Nahanee Creative), First Nations University of Canada and NIUSLA National Indigenous Identity Forum.
2. Participate at 5 provincial FPSE DRISC meetings, held over 2 days (Friday/Saturday).
3. December 9th 2021 Island Crime: Season 1 podcast interview with Laura Palmer for her podcast "Where is Lisa Marie Young?" In partnership with VIUFA Status of Women and VIU students union, DRISC hosted an online Zoom event. This event was a part of the 16 days of Activism against Gender-based Violence.
4. Donated \$500 to VIUFA Status of Women's event: Trans Day of Visibility on. March 31.

5. Purchased 40 self-paced on-demand Decolonization courses from Nahanee Creative for the VIUFA executive and VIUFA employees. As of April 13th, 37 of those seats were taken. Next steps will be to host talking circles over the next few semesters.