



## **VIUFA Decolonization, Reconciliation, Indigenization Standing Committee (DRISC)**

### **2023-24 Report**

Decolonization, Reconciliation, and Indigenization has been around for a few years now but it remains a difficult topic to understand and relate to. There are three parts in the process, decolonization, reconciliation, and Indigenization. Each phase has unique characteristics, and it continues to be a work in progress in post-secondary institutions.

As the chair of the committee, I attended four provincial DRISC FPSE meetings. These meetings happen over 2 days every other month. At these we discussed and made decisions on the Benchmarks project which examines racism and discrimination in post-secondary; the planning and hiring through the RPF process to develop the Anti-Racism workshop for the FPSE AGM in May 2024; and furthering action on shared governance with the FPSE executive.

By April 2024, we were able to engage Marcia Turner to offer a decolonization, reconciliation, and indigenization workshop for VIUFA members at VIU. The date for the workshop is dependent on securing a venue at VIU. The estimated date is around National Indigenous Day in June. Marcia is preparing the workshop outline, and the information will be shared along with the date as soon as possible.

This year the DRI Chair participated on the following activities:

1. Participated at 4 provincial FPSE DRISC meetings, held over 2 days (Friday/Saturday).
2. Co-hosted in partnership with VIUSA the Sisters in Spirit Gathering on October 4, 2023. The event brought awareness and honoured the lives of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Donated \$256.00.
3. Provided the welcome and spoke at the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women at Malaspina Theatre on December 6, 2023.
4. Participated in the No More Stolen Sisters Memorial March on February 14<sup>th</sup> at Maffeo Sutton Park.
5. Provided the welcome and spoke at the International Women's day event on March 8<sup>th</sup> at VIU.

Georgina Martin