

**British Columbia Political Studies Association  
Annual Conference\* and Articulation Meeting  
May 2 to 3, 2024  
Vancouver Island University, Nanaimo Campus**

*We are thankful to be able to convene on the unceded lands of the Snuneymuxw,  
Quw 'utsun, Tla 'amin, Snawnawas and Qualicum First Nations.*

## Program

### Thursday, May 2

- 8:30-9:30 Registration and Opening of the Conference** **356/111**  
 Welcome and Acknowledgement  
 Dean Elizabeth Brimacombe, Faculty of Social Sciences  
 Dr. Alexander Netherton, BCPSA Executive
- Come and meet colleagues and students while enjoying coffee, tea, and pastries.
- 9:30-10:45 Addressing the Impact of Climate Change on Human and Non-Human Inhabitants** **356/336**  
 Chair/Discussant: Dan Henstra, University of Waterloo
- Sarah Marie Wiebe, University of Victoria, and Kristen Mah, Capital Regional District, A Hot Topic: Facing the Impacts of Extreme Heat Exposure in British Columbia through a Multifaceted Planetary Health Lens
- Rosalind Warner, Okanagan College, and Kriss Kevorkian, Antioch University, We Are All in the Same Pod: How Ecological Law Can Revitalise the Southern Resident Orcas
- 9:30-10:45 BIG (Basic Income Guaranteed) in Canada** **356/315**  
 Chair/Discussant: Justin Leifso, University of Victoria
- Tracy Smith-Carrier, Royal Roads University, Advancement of Basic Income in 2024 and Beyond
- Chris Hergesheimer, Royal Roads University, Beyond Empiricism: Exploring the Promises and Pitfalls of Basic Income Pilots
- Lauren Touchant, Royal Roads University, Implementing Basic Income in Canada

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\* The conference has received funding support from the VIURAC Gather Grant.

- 10:45-11:00 Break: Coffee and Tea are offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences** **356/317**
- 11:00-12:15 Climate Change, Leadership and Public Policy in Canada** **356/336**  
 Chair/Discussant: Miranda Leibel, University of Lethbridge
- Daniel Henstra, University of Waterloo, Leadership in Climate Change Adaptation: Maximizing the Legitimacy of Managed Retreat Programs
- Lauren Touchant, Vancouver Island University, Municipal Climate Leadership in Canada: The Role of Leadership in the Expansion of Municipal Climate Action
- 11:00-12:15 Trust and Political Leadership** **356/315**  
 Chair/Discussant: Kenny Ie, University of British Columbia
- Darin Nesbitt, Douglas College, Teaching and Learning about Public Trust: Antigone and Political Leadership
- Michael MacKenzie with POLI 440 students, Vancouver Island University, Rethinking Democratic Leadership: Case Studies of Bold Leadership in Democratic Systems
- 11:00-12:15 BCPSA Executive Meeting** **356/319**
- 12:30-2:15 Conference Lunch and Keynote Event** **305/507**  
 Keynote Speaker: Morgan Mowatt, University of Victoria, A Package Deal: Indigenous Knowledge, Culture and Political Authority-Making
- Dr. Morgan Mowatt** is a member of the Gitksan Nation and a Banting Postdoctoral Fellow with the Centre for Indigenous Research and Community-Led Engagement and the School of Indigenous Governance at the University of Victoria. Their research is focused on Indigenous authority-making, Indigenous-state relations, more-than-human diplomacy, and reciprocal and resurgent governance against colonial and imperial violence.
- 2:30-4:00 Community Engagement and Local Democracy in BC and Ontario** **356/336**  
 Chair/Discussant: Sylvie Lafrenière, Vancouver Island University
- Aliyah Dato, Simon Fraser University, Délibérons! Les organismes de la communauté franco-colombienne et la délibération démocratique dans l'environnement numérique
- Elliot Goodell Ugalde, McMaster University, Homes and Hands United: Bridging Housing and Labor Struggles at McMaster
- Cara Camcastle, Simon Fraser University, The Vancouver Park Board: A Gem of Democracy or a Redundant Institution?

**2:30-4:00 Roundtable on Water Governance: As We Wait for the Canada Water Agency and Canada's Blue Economy Strategy 356/315**

Moderator: Lauren Touchant, Vancouver Island University

Canada is home to 20% of the world's freshwater and boasts the longest shoreline, yet it struggles with water security. For decades, disjointed policy interventions and various stakeholders have led efforts to address the water crisis, establishing regional collaborative governance bodies in the absence of a national strategy. The establishment of the Canada Water Agency and the formulation of an inaugural Blue Economy strategy, though long overdue, signal a step toward a collaborative approach to addressing this crisis. However, much remains uncertain. As we await for the Canada Water Agency and the Blue Economy strategy, this roundtable will explore the challenges and opportunities for achieving water security in Canada.

**Participants:**

Nessan Akemakou Njinga, University of Ottawa, Lessons from Africa's Blue Economy

Naysan Saran, Co-Founder of CANN Forecast, The Use of AI-Powered Tools to Support Smart Water Management in Canadian Municipalities

Lauren Touchant, Vancouver Island University, Leadership of Municipalities in Freshwater Management in Canada

Kariann Aarup, AquaAction, Leveraging Technology and Entrepreneurialism to Solve Freshwater Related Issues

Pam Shaw, Vancouver Island University and MABRRI, Watershed Protection in the Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region

**4:30-6:30 Social Mixer at the Students' Union Pub**

**Building 193**

Buy-your-own-beverage event with snacks offered by VIU's Jarislowsky Chair.

## Friday, May 3

### 8:30-9:30 Research Poster Session

356/111

Come and chat with VIU students about their research posters while enjoying coffee, tea, and pastries.

### 9:15-4:45 BCCAT Political Science Articulation Committee Meeting

356/319

### 9:30-10:45 Navigating the Shifting Geopolitical Landscape

356/336

Chair/Discussant: Tyler Chamberlain, Trinity Western University

Saira Bano, Thompson Rivers University, Canada-India Relations: A Complex Equation of Geopolitics and Diaspora Dynamics

Mark Williams, Vancouver Island University, and Anna Toderas, University of British Columbia, Canada and the Erosion of the Rules-Based International Order: Reflections on Power and Legitimacy

Jovian Radheshwar, Douglas College, A Few Useful Idiots: The Unchecked Contradiction of John Mearsheimer and Neo-Realist Theory Applied Through the Imperialist Gaze of the Ukraine Crisis

### 9:30-10:45 Political Trust in Canada

356/315

Chair/Discussant: Michael MacKenzie, Vancouver Island University

Kenny William Ie, University of New Brunswick-Saint John, Karen Bird, McMaster University, Joanna Everitt, University of New Brunswick-Saint John, Angelia Wagner, University of Alberta, and Mireille Lalancette, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, Who Trusts and Who Is Trusted? Results from an Experiment on Assessments of Candidate Trustworthiness

Susan Shacter, University of Saskatchewan, Resurgent Métis Governance and Political Trust Building in Saskatchewan

### 10:45-11:00 Break: Coffee and Tea are offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences

356/317

### 11:00-12:15 When Does Distrust Become a Problem (for Governments)?

356/336

Chair/Discussant: Morgan Mowatt, University of Victoria

Susan Dieleman, University of Lethbridge, (Dis)trust and Civil (Dis)Obedience

Miranda Leibel, University of Lethbridge, Politicized or Pathologized: Whose (Dis)trust Matters (and how) in Settler Liberal Democracies?

Justin Leifso, University of Victoria, Mad at the Market: When Neoliberal Governments Distrust the Decisions of Corporations

**11:00-12:15 Assessing the State of American Democracy****356/315**

Chair/Discussant: Mark Williams, Vancouver Island University

Peter Prontzos, Langara College, Causes of the Contemporary Crisis in US Politics

Douglas Jarvis, University of Northern British Columbia, Reflections on the Trump Revolution Through the Lens of 19<sup>th</sup> Century French Politics: Karl Marx and Maurice Joly as Historical Guides to North American Bonapartism**12:30-2:15 Conference Lunch and Keynote Event****305/507**

Keynote Speakers: Cristine de Clercy, Trent University, and Michael MacKenzie, Vancouver Island University, Contemporary Challenges in Democratic Leadership and Public Trust

**Dr. Cristine de Clercy** is an expert on the study of political leadership. Currently Trent University's inaugural Jarislowsky Research Chair in Trust and Political Leadership and Professor of Political Studies, for many years before this role she taught in the Political Science department at Western University, and was affiliated with its Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies department. She is one of Canada's foremost experts in political leadership and has been teaching and conducting research in this field for over two decades.

**Dr. Michael MacKenzie** is an expert in democracy and public trust who taught in the department of Political Science at the University of Pittsburgh for several years before joining VIU as the inaugural Jarislowsky Research Chair in Trust and Political Leadership and Professor of Political Studies. He is the author of *Future Publics: Democracy, Deliberation, and Future-Regarding Collective Action* (Oxford University Press, 2021) and a co-editor of *Democracy and the Future: Future-Regarding Governance in Democratic Systems* (University of Edinburgh Press, 2023).

**2:30-4:00 Contemporary Debates in Academia: Academic Freedom and Identity Politics** **356/336**

Chair/Discussant: David Livingstone, Vancouver Island University

Mark Crawford, Athabasca University, Academic Freedom: The Law and Politics of a Public Good

Tyler Chamberlain, Trinity Western University, Putting the "I" in Identity Politics: A Cartesian Investigation

**2:30-4:00 Felt Politics: A Workshop for Grounding and Connecting****356/244**

Facilitator: Morgan Mowatt, University of Victoria

\*This workshop is a space reserved for BIPOC impacted by colonial and imperial violence locally and across the globe. Please register beforehand via the QR code on the workshop poster.\*

Foregrounding the deeply political nature of all things felt, we invite participants into a space of affect in order to explore the unsettling and/or disorienting elements of academia and the critical, nourishing work we do to ground and support ourselves and our communities. This workshop will be facilitated in an open and informal structure and will include a hands-on element of medicine bundle creation.

**2:30-4:00 Roundtable on Experiential Learning In and Out of the Classroom****356/315**

Moderator: Jocelyne Praud, Vancouver Island University

Participants will reflect on the diverse experiential learning opportunities that Social Sciences faculty and students have designed and/or participated in and consider the following questions: What are the challenges and rewards of experiential learning for students and faculty? What is the place of experiential learning within an academic program? Should it be expanded? If so, how? How has technology impacted experiential learning within the Social Sciences?

## Participants:

Lauren Touchant, Vancouver Island University, and Eden Hudson, Vancouver Island University, Game Jams and MakerCons

Mark S. Williams, Vancouver Island University, and Anna Toderas, University of British Columbia, The Model UN

Sylvie Lafrenière, Vancouver Island University, The Arizona Field School and Community-Based Applied Interdisciplinary Research

Rose Williams, BC Legislative Assembly, The BC Legislative Internships

Matt Bowes, Vancouver Island University, The Global Studies Internships

**Paper Presenters**

Saira Bano, Thompson Rivers University, Canada-India Relations: A Complex Equation of Geopolitics and Diaspora Dynamics

Cara Camcastle, Simon Fraser University, The Vancouver Park Board: A Gem of Democracy or a Redundant Institution?

Tyler Chamberlain, Trinity Western University, Putting the “I” in Identity Politics: A Cartesian Investigation

Cristine de Clercy, Trent University, and Michael MacKenzie, Vancouver Island University, Contemporary Challenges in Democratic Leadership and Public Trust

Mark Crawford, Athabasca University, Academic Freedom: The Law and Politics of a Public Good

Aliyah Dato, Simon Fraser University, Délibérons! Les organismes de la communauté franco-colombienne et la délibération démocratique dans l’environnement numérique

Susan Dieleman, University of Lethbridge, (Dis)trust and Civil (Dis)Obedience

Daniel Henstra, University of Waterloo, Leadership in Climate Change Adaptation: Maximizing the Legitimacy of Managed Retreat Programs

Chris Hergesheimer, Royal Roads University, Beyond Empiricism: Exploring the Promises and Pitfalls of Basic Income Pilots

Kenny William Ie, University of New Brunswick-Saint John, Who Trusts and Who Is Trusted? Results from an Experiment on Assessments of Candidate Trustworthiness

Douglas Jarvis, University of Northern British Columbia, Reflections on the Trump Revolution Through the Lens of 19<sup>th</sup> Century French Politics: Karl Marx and Maurice Joly as Historical Guides to North American Bonapartism

Miranda Leibel, University of Lethbridge, Politicized or Pathologized: Whose (Dis)trust Matters (and how) in Settler Liberal Democracies?

Justin Leifso, University of Victoria, Mad at the Market: When Neoliberal Governments Distrust the Decisions of Corporations

Michael MacKenzie with POLI 440 students, Vancouver Island University, Rethinking Democratic Leadership: Case Studies of Bold Leadership in Democratic Systems

Morgan Mowatt, University of Victoria, A Package Deal: Indigenous Knowledge, Culture and Political Authority-Making

Darin Nesbitt, Douglas College, Teaching and Learning about Public Trust: Antigone and Political Leadership

Peter Prontzos, Langara College, Causes of the Contemporary Crisis in US Politics

Jovian Radheshwar, Douglas College, A Few Useful Idiots: The Unchecked Contradiction of John Mearsheimer and Neo-Realist Theory Applied Through the Imperialist Gaze of the Ukraine Crisis

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Tracy Smith-Carrier, Royal Roads University, Advancement of Basic Income in 2024 and Beyond

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Lauren Touchant, Vancouver Island University, Municipal Climate Leadership in Canada: The Role of Leadership in the Expansion of Municipal Climate Action

Elliot Goodell Ugalde, McMaster University, Homes and Hands United: Bridging Housing and Labor Struggles at McMaster

Rosalind Warner, Okanagan College, We Are All in the Same Pod: How Ecological Law Can Revitalise the Southern Resident Orcas

Sarah Marie Wiebe, University of Victoria, and Kristen Mah, Capital Regional District, A Hot Topic: Facing the Impacts of Extreme Heat Exposure in British Columbia through a Multifaceted Planetary Health Lens

Mark S. Williams, Vancouver Island University, and Anna Toderas, University of British Columbia, Canada and the Erosion of the Rules-Based International Order: Reflections on Power and Legitimacy

### **Roundtable Participants**

Kariann Aarup, AquaAction, Leveraging Technology and Entrepreneurialism to Solve Freshwater Related Issues

Matt Bowes, Vancouver Island University, The Global Studies Internships

Sylvie Lafrenière, Vancouver Island University, The Arizona Field School and Community-Based Applied Interdisciplinary Research

Nessan Akemakou Njinga, University of Ottawa, Lessons from Africa's Blue Economy

Naysan Saran, Co-Founder of CANN Forecast, The Use of AI-Powered Tools to Support Smart Water Management in Canadian Municipalities



Pam Shaw, Vancouver Island University and MABRRI, Watershed Protection in the Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region

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Mark S. Williams, Vancouver Island University, and Anna Toderas, University of British Columbia, The Model UN

Rose Williams, BC Legislative Assembly, The BC Legislative Internships

### **Research Poster Presenters**

Kiyara Armogam, Vancouver Island University, Indigenous Courts and Provincial Thoughts

Charlotte Balderson, Madison Hovey, and Maya McDonald, Vancouver Island University, Turning the Tide: Reversal of Roe v. Wade

Brandon L. Charnley, Vancouver Island University, Indigenous Leadership in Manitoba: How the Past Sculpts the Future & Something in the Air: Looking at Landfill and Reserve Placement in BC

Justine Clarke, Vancouver Island University, Shifting Perspectives – Modernizing Forestry Policy in BC

Hailey Fletcher, Vancouver Island University, Understanding Wild Pacific Salmon Policies

Sydney Gallant, Cait Kellendonk, and Katie Near, Truth Before Reconciliation: Is Canada Committing Genocide?

Kaito Haraguchi, Vancouver Island University, Territories to Quasi-Provinces: Evolution of the Yukon and Northwest Territories & Beyond Disaster: Japan's Environmental Response to Natural Hazards

Connor Hein, Vancouver Island University, Alberta and the Notion of Western Alienation from Ottawa & Canada's Climate Change Commitments: A Path to a Sustainable Future?

Claudia Huf, Vancouver Island University, How Covid-19 Affected Trust and Alienation in Western Canada

Sara Kishawi and Jasleen Kaur Chhabra, Vancouver Island University, Funding is Not as Easy as 1, 2, 3...

Colleen MacFadgen and MacKenna Jardine, Vancouver Island University, The ICC & Africa: Justice or Injustice?

Kate Mooney and Will Norman, Vancouver Island University, Analyzing the Factors Behind Premiers with Longer than Average Tenures & East Hastings Homeless Crisis as a Crime Against Humanity

Kate Mooney with POLI 370 students, Vancouver Island University, Indigenous Representation in Provincial and Territorial Cabinets as of April 2024

Kali Moreno, Joseline Villar Cesar, and Sara Kishawi, Vancouver Island University, Palestine: From Settler Colonialism to Genocide

Henry Sipos, Vancouver Island University, Vapour Vanguard: British Columbia's Flexible Vaping Regulations Forge a Path in Public Health Protection

Mike Watson, Vancouver Island University, Alienation or Imagination? The Cases of Quebec and Alberta & The Governance of Public Transit Redefined as a Common Pool Resource