



THE RELIGION AND DIVERSITY PROJECT/RELIGION ET DIVERSITÉ



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Biography and Research Statement

Stacie Swain is a Ph.D. student in the Political Science at the University of Victoria, specializing in the Cultural, Social, and Political Thought program. Her M.A. is in Religious Studies from the University of Ottawa, and her B.A. (with distinction) is from the University of Alberta, where she double-majored in Anthropology and Religious Studies. Stacie is an Associate Editor for the *Bulletin for the Study of Religion* and a councilor for the North American Association for the Study of Religion.

Stacie's research interests center upon the discourses and categories through which contemporary relations between Canadian, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples take place. She primarily focuses upon how concepts such as religion, spirituality, culture, and tradition relate to governance, politics, law, nationhood, and sovereignty. In her M.A. thesis, Stacie performs a

critical discourse analysis of the parliamentary mace and the eagle feather to discuss Canadian and Indigenous sovereignties in conflict between 1990 and 2017. In her Ph.D. she will examine ongoing debates around the appearance of Indigenous symbols, protocols, and ceremonies in political, legal, and public contexts in Canada. She is particularly interested in the classification of specific spaces and discursive practices as religious, spiritual, legal, and/or secular, and the resulting implications for intercultural exchange and democratic participation.

[Research Keywords: Religion, Spirituality, and Ceremony in Indigenous-Canadian Relations; Categories of Governance and Sovereignty; Cultural, Social, and Political Theory]