

Project Reports

1. Project Goals and Rationale:

This project sought to create a toolkit of resources to facilitate conversations and build knowledge about the relationships between clothing, colonialism, gender, religion and identity. The goal was to create materials that would be accessible to and relevant for audiences of different ages and from diverse cultural and educational backgrounds.

2. Researchers and Students Involved;

- Rebecca Johnson
- Natalia Sudeyko
- Indigenous Law Research Unit, University of Victoria

The project provided direct funding for one upper year law student, Natalia Sudeyko, who worked full time on this project over the summer and into the fall of 2016. At the same time, the Indigenous Law Research Unit (ILRU) at the University of Victoria was also working on a funded project concerning Indigenous Laws and Gender. We were able to weave the two projects together, so that the students in both projects were able to work with and coordinate with each other, in order to really extend our thinking about the intersection of spiritualities, clothing, gender and law. Indeed, we were able to draw on the expertise and experience of students working for the Indigenous Law Research Unit in order to produce the Video Short for this project (Darcy Lindberg and Jeff Nicholls). Aspects of the “Skirting the Issue” Project were also adapted and incorporated into the Indigenous Law Research Unit’s “Gender and Indigenous Law Casebook and Toolkit”.

3. Methods;

- a. A review of literature regarding (religious/spiritual) conflicts over women’s “traditional” dress in indigenous and non-indigenous communities
- b. A review of ‘toolkits’ as vehicles for sharing and disseminating research questions and outputs

- c. The creation of a toolkit of resources, including a glossary, lesson plans, multi-mediate recourses, group activities, a prezzi, and a video short. The tools are underpinned by an academic paper to provide theoretical grounding for the use of the tools

4. Outputs;

- a. “Clothing the Collective: Gender, Identity, and the Skirt Protocol” (An 84 page Research Paper) <https://reconciliationsyllabus.wordpress.com/2016/09/02/the-skirt-project-connecting-gender-religion-and-colonialism/>
- b. “Why Does Clothing Matter?” (a video short): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pJiceA7HQPg&feature=youtu.be>
- c. “Are We What We Wear? Exploring the Connections Between Clothing and Identity” (a prezi presentation) <https://prezi.com/esyebapo7wtu/why-does-clothing-matter/#>
- d. “The Skirt Project: Connecting Gender, Religion, and Colonialism” (Sept 2, 2016) A Blog post summarizing the project (which contains links to all the outputs) <https://reconciliationsyllabus.wordpress.com/2016/09/02/the-skirt-project-connecting-gender-religion-and-colonialism/>
- e. Teaching Resources for schools or community groups. Links to these resources can be found on the blogpost site post above: <https://reconciliationsyllabus.wordpress.com/2016/09/02/the-skirt-project-connecting-gender-religion-and-colonialism/>
 - i. Glossary of Key Terms: to help teachers and facilitators understand key theoretical concepts and convey them to participants and community members with whom they work [3 pages]
 - ii. “Talking Skirts” : a one-to-two hour lesson plan [and backgrounder] for use with school groups age 12 and over) [10 page document]
 - iii. “Creating Conversations”: a collection of Multi-Media Resources and Activities to use in workshop or school contexts, focused on clothing, identity, religion and indigeneity [20 page document]
 - iv. Teaching Resources: An annotated list of existing resources for teaching about religion, identity and clothing, organized by grade level.
- f. Aspects of the “Skirting the Issue” project were adapted and then incorporated in to the Indigenous Law Research Unit’s “Gender Inside Indigenous Law Toolkit” (Unit 3: Gender and Indigenous Laws). In acknowledgement of the contributions

of ILRU to this collaborative, funding from this project also supported the printing and distribution of copies of the Gender Inside Indigenous Laws Toolkit. An online version of the toolkit can be seen here:

<http://www.uvic.ca/law/assets/docs/ilru/Gender%20Inside%20Indigenous%20Law%20Toolkit%2001.01.16.pdf>

5. Finances (template on page 3)

Breakdown of Expenses				
Student Funding				
	Amount	Name	Dates	Project
Student Stipends	\$9,005 [\$8,373 in Salary, plus \$632 in benefits]	Natalia SUDEYKO	May – Sept, 2016	
Research Funding				
	Amount	Project	Dates	Specifics
Funding for Research Costs				
Gender Toolkit (copies of the toolkit for dissemination)	\$2,995			
Funding for Research Travel				
Funding for Administrative/Supply Costs Related to Research				