



SHAY PAUL

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY ARTIST

Shay Paul is a Secwepemc multi-media artist, graphic designer, community organizer, public speaker, researcher, and has experience in various field backgrounds.

GET IN CONTACT

shay@ambushart.ca
ambushart.ca

WORK EXPERIENCE

PROJECT DIRECTOR & STINESTEN GALLERY CURATOR Indigenous Resurgence Project

Kamloops, BC 2018 – Present

The Indigenous Resurgence Project was officially founded in 2019, and Shay continues to independently run the grassroots art collective and the Indigenous community art space, Stinesten Gallery, which opened in 2025, located in Kamloops, BC.

Skills

- Executive-level leadership for an Indigenous-led arts collective (pre-incorporation)
- Strategic planning, administration, and organizational development
- Financial management, bookkeeping, grant writing
- Curatorial leadership and exhibition development
- Gallery operations, programming, and artist coordination
- Community outreach and network development

SELF EMPLOYED – FREELANCE SERVICES

Ambush Art

Kamloops, BC 2016 – Present

Alongside visual arts commissions and digital design, she offers community engagement consulting, arts-based workshop facilitation, presentations, and event consultation.

Skills

- Cultural Festival special event organization and management (medium to small scale)
- Community engagement facilitation
- Project management and arts-based consultation and services
- Research-based artistic illustration and design
- Public relations and media interviewing

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Faculty of Education and Social Work Thompson Rivers University

Kamloops, BC 2025 – Present

Working at the All My Relations Indigenous Research Department at TRU as a part-time research assistant after working as a casual contractor and workshop facilitator.

Skills

- Research ethics compliance (Tri-Council Policy Statement 2 – CORE-2022 certified)
- Informed consent and ethical data stewardship
- Culturally grounded research practices
- Arts-based and creative research focus
- Group facilitation and participatory engagement
- One-on-one interviewing and oral story collection

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & INTEREST

● FOOD SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Shay has worked with one of Canada's Research Chairs in three rural Indigenous communities in the background of food sovereignty and food security, also applying previous experience organizing and facilitating workshops to build on community engagement and interaction.

Wapekeka & Kasabonika Lake FN **Undergraduate Research Assistant**

Treaty 9 Territory, Ontario, 2019

- Assistant to Dr. Michael Robidoux, Indigenous Health Research Group, University of Ottawa

Deh Gáh Got'ıę FN **Undergraduate Research Assistant**

Treaty 11 Territory, Northwest Territories, 2021

- Assistant to Masters Research Student, Emalee Vandermale, Thompson Rivers University

● INDIGENOUS ARTS REPRESENTATION AND DECOLONIAL ART PRACTICE

Undergraduate Primary Researcher **Thompson Rivers University**

Kamloops, British Columbia, 2025

REB Approved, Paper Under Review: *Underrepresented, Underappreciated, and Underestimated: The Fight for Recognition for Indigenous Artists in Tkemlúps (Kamloops)*

Paper Under Review: *Trout Children: Art as a Pathway to Reconnection and Cultural Continuity in Tkemlúps for Indigenous Students and Alumni of Thompson Rivers University*

Application Pending: *"To Exist Beyond the Physical and See Beyond Time": Storywork, Science Fiction, and the Reassertion of Indigenous Narrative Sovereignty through Film*

PUBLICATIONS

Paul, S. (2024). Analyzing Food Sovereignty in Secwepemc'ulucw: Finding a Pathway to Indigenous Dietary Health Through Cultural Reconnection. *Knowledge Makers Indigenous Research Journal* (9), pp. 9-17. Thompson Rivers University Press.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Sociology **Undergraduate**

Thompson Rivers University
Kamloops, BC Current

Horticulture Certificate

Thompson Rivers University
Kamloops, BC 2019

Highschool Diploma

Kamloops School of the Arts
Kamloops, BC 2018

AWARDS

2nd Place Established 2D Artist

Art Exposed
Kamloops Arts Council
2025

Knowledge Makers **Undergraduate Research Award**

Thompson Rivers University
2023

GRANTS

Arts Vitality Research Grant

\$10,000.00
First Peoples Cultural Council
2025

Short-Term Project

\$15,000.00
Indigenous Youth Roots
2025

Short-Term Project

\$15,000.00
Canadian Roots Exchange
2022

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Music for the People

Board of Directors

Chair

2024 – Present

Stseptékwles re Sk'elép Indigenous Film Festival

Working Committee

Programmer & Advisor

2024 – Present

Arts BC

Board of Directors

Thompson-Okanagan Regional Director

2023 – Present

City of Kamloops

Arts & Culture Engagement Committee

Committee Member

2022 – Present

Farm to Cafeteria Canada

Indigenous Foodways

Project Advisor

2024 – Present

Indigenous Climate Adaptation Working Group (ICAWG)

Youth Advisor

2022 – 2023

EXHIBITIONS

Art Exposed

Kamloops Arts Council, 2025 – Juried

Fantastic Fungi

Salmon Arm, 2024 – Group Exhibition

2nd Annual Redefining the Perspective: the many forms of Indigenous art

Kamloops, 2024 – Group Exhibition

sel-couth: smoke and shadow Exhibiton

Kamloops, 2023 – Solo Exhibition

Redefining the Perspective: the many forms of Indigenous art

Kamloops, 2023 – Group Exhibition

illumiNATIVE: Indigenous Youth Exhibition

Kamloops, 2020 – Solo Exhibition

Indigenous Resurgence Exhibition

Kamloops, 2019 – Group Exhibition

Artists for Reconciliation Interactive Exhibition

Kamloops, 2018 – Group Exhibition

PRESENTATIONS

The Fight for Recognition for Indigenous Artists in Tkémilúps

Travel and Tourism Research Association of Canada
2025

Indigenous Visual Sovereignty in Film

Thompson Rivers University
2025

Healthy Land, Healing from the Land

Livable Cities, Collaborative Communities
2025

REFERENCES

Tanya Nielsen

Executive Director
Kamloops Arts Council

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Jeneen HERN–Jensen

Associate Director, All My Relations
Indigenous Research Center
Thompson Rivers University

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Margit Bandura

Executive Director
Music for the People Society

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Dr. Courtney Mason

Canada Research Chair, Rural Livelihoods
and Sustainable Communities
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