

Natasha Overduin ^{BPAPM, MA}

Golden, BC | 250-272-6460 | research@polisproject.org

OVERVIEW

Natasha is Program Manager for a joint initiative between CIER and the POLIS Water Sustainability Project that intends to help catalyze and advance watershed co-governance approaches in BC. The program includes partnering with Indigenous nations in different regions in BC (Fraser, Okanagan, Columbia, Northeast BC) to support their efforts to engage in and lead water governance. The joint program is founded on CIER and POLIS' shared goal and vision that improved decision-making and governance structures are needed to achieve freshwater sustainability (better outcomes for water); and advance Indigenous rights, interests, and community capacity for watershed stewardship.

Natasha has gained a diverse breadth of experience in the past 5 years working with non-profit organizations, communities, and all levels of government on water-related issues in British Columbia. Natasha has received awards and scholarships for her research. She is involved in a number of local initiatives in her community of Golden, BC.

EXPERTISE & SKILLS

- Watershed governance, law, policy
- Collaborative problem-solving and social change
- Communication to diverse audiences
- Applied research
- Project coordination
- Community engagement and outreach
- Co-creating and co-organizing strategic events and workshops
- Facilitating dialogue
- Building partnerships
- Problem-solving
- Fundraising

EDUCATION

- 2015 Master of Geography, University of Victoria Water, Innovation and Global Governance Lab
- 2012 Bachelor Public Affairs & Policy Management (Hons.), Public Administration, Carleton University, Ottawa

TRAINING

- 2017 Effective Group Facilitation with Julian Griggs, Simon Fraser University
- 2017 Indigenous Law and Research Methodologies, Indigenous Law Research Unit, University of Victoria
- 2016 Reconciliation through Indigenous Education, University of British Columbia
- 2014 Restoration of Natural Systems (select intensive courses), University of Victoria
- 2014 Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network training: level I, II, and data entry

NOTABLE CURRENT & RECENT EXPERIENCE

- CIER-POLIS Water Governance Support Program, 2016- Current. Program Manager, partnering with three Indigenous Nations.
- Treaty 8 Water Initiative, project on the Tides Canada Shared Platform, 2016 – Current. Project Director.
- *Sylix* Knowledge Informing Watershed Management, 2016 – Current. Supporting ONA water governance work.
- First Nations Water Governance Roundtable, 2017. Co-organized and co-hosted with First Nations Fisheries Council
- Overduin, N. & Moore, M-L. 2017. Social license to operate: Not a proxy for accountability in water governance. *Geoforum*, 85, 72–81
- *Watersheds 2016: Building Capacity for Collaboration & Watershed Governance in BC*, 2016, co-hosted by POLIS, Canadian Freshwater Alliance, Fraser Basin Council, First Nations Fisheries Council. Lead Organizer.
- Regional Watershed Governance Capacity-Building Workshop Series, 2015-2016. POLIS Water Sustainability Project, Project Coordinator.
- Brandes, O.M., and Morris, T., with Archer, J., Brandes, L. Moore, M-L., O'Riordan, J., Overduin, N. 2016. *Illumination: Insights and Perspectives for Building Effective Watershed Governance in BC*. POLIS Water Sustainability Project.
- *Creating a Blue Dialogue* Webinar Series, 2014-2017. POLIS Water Sustainability Project, Project Coordinator.

OTHER EXPERIENCE & VOLUNTEER WORK

Current

- Columbia Basin Trust Community Funds Local Selection Committee, Golden BC
- Local Food Matters Society, Golden BC, Founding Director
- Columbia Basin Watershed Network, Columbia River Basin BC, Director
- Lake Windermere Ambassadors, Invermere BC, Director

Past

- 2014 – 2017 Columbia Basin Water Quality Monitoring Project, Golden BC, Water data collection volunteer
- 2014 – 2015 Swan Lake-Christmas Hill Sanctuary, Ecological restoration volunteer, Victoria BC
- 2015 Events & Outreach, Communications, & Volunteer Coordinator, Wildsight, Golden BC,
- 2012- 2014 Wrangler, Cook & Assistant Hunting Guide, Midnight Sun Outfitting, Peel River Watershed YK