

Katya Macdonald

PhD, In Progress

“The Social Life of Made Things in Aboriginal Societies”

I am a PhD candidate with particular interests in alternative sources (especially musical and material), the situational nature of communities and identities, oral histories, and community-engaged research. Currently I am involved in community-engaged scholarship with two Indigenous communities: Ile-a-la-Crosse, SK and Sliammon, BC. I have also previously worked on community-driven historical research with other Aboriginal communities and with City of Saskatoon heritage interests.

My dissertation, entitled “Making Histories and Narrating Things: Exploring Tangible Complexities in Aboriginal Histories,” focuses on histories of handmade items in Ile-a-la-Crosse and Sliammon in the twentieth century. I explore these items’ changing roles as



historical sources, as practical and economic goods, and as opportunities for exploring unexpected historical relationships brought to light by interactions with made items.

In 2014-15 Term 2 I am teaching History 462.3 Orality, Literacy, Memory, Tradition and History. I have also previously taught History 151.3 Canadian History

from the Pre-Contact Period to 1867, and been a Field Instructor for the USask-SFU-Tla’amin Ethnohistory & Archaeology Field School.

Publications:

- “Crossing Paths: Knowing and Navigating Paths of Access to Stó:lō Fishing Sites,” *University of the Fraser Valley Research Review* 2:2 (2009)
<http://journals.ufrv.ca/rr/RR22/article-PDFs/3-macdonald.pdf>
- “Community and Aboriginality in an Aboriginal Community: Relating to Histories in and of Île-à-la-Crosse,” *Saskatchewan History* 61:2 (2009)

