



## Meet our Summer Science Team 2022!



### Olivia Baptiste

SSP/VISE Program Manager

Olivia is Tsilqot'in and Secwépemc from Xat'sull First Nation, near Williams Lake, BC. She grew up and Summer Science Program Manager Olivia is Tsilhqot'in and Secwépemc from Xat'sull First Nation, near Williams Lake, BC. She grew up and attended school in Quesnel, BC on the traditional land of the Tsilhqot'in, Dënédeh, and Dake' Keyoh First Nations. After high school, she moved to Vancouver to pursue an undergraduate degree at UBC with a major in biology. Olivia is the co-president of the UBC's chapter of the Canadian Science and Engineering Society (.caISES) and has helped plan STEM outreach and networking events for Indigenous youth and university students and has traveled to Saskatoon for the AISES in Canada National Gathering. She is looking forward to creating a fun and interactive program for Indigenous youth to help grow their passions for STEM. In her spare time, Olivia is usually seen running, playing volleyball, or hiking.

Preferred pronouns: [she/her/hers](#)



### Josie Duncan

Summer Science Program Coordinator

Josie grew up on Secwépemc traditional territory in Lac La Hache, BC. Family on her mother's side is from Xat'sull First Nation and she has Scottish and Lithuanian background on her father's side. In 2019, Josie graduated with a Bachelor of Science, Major in Biology through UBC. She is now entering her third year of the Bachelor of Midwifery Program. Josie is returning to her CEIH role as Program Coordinator for the UBC Summer Science Program. Her goal is to support Indigenous high school students in their pursuit of post-secondary education and connections to culture, land, and community.

Preferred Pronouns: [she/her/hers](#)



## Adam McKenna

Summer Science Program Assistant



Adam is a member of the Métis nation with Cree and Anishinaabe ancestry on his mother's side and European on his father's side. He was born in Vancouver, British Columbia on unceded x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) territory, and grew up in Delta, British Columbia on the ancestral lands of the sḵəwaθən məsteyəx<sup>w</sup> (Tsawwassen) people in Ladner. Adam is currently a science undergraduate student going into his second year at UBC, hoping to major in Neuroscience. After his undergrad, Adam hopes to pursue a career in physiotherapy. As program assistant, Adam is helping to plan and organize CEIH's summer science event.

Preferred Pronouns: he/him/his

## Zach Bryce

Summer Science Program Assistant



Zach is Metis (Cree) on his mother's side and European ancestry on his father's side. He was born on unceded Niitsítpiis-stahkoi (Blackfoot), Cree and Očhéthi Šakówiŋ territory in Saskatoon Saskatchewan, but grew up in Vancouver on the unceded territory of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) territory. Zach is currently pursuing a Bachelors of Arts with a major in Human Geography and a minor in Geographical information Systems (GIS). He hopes to become an Urban Planner with a focus on transportation. He is returning as a Program Assistant for the Summer Science Program (SSP). He is looking forward to working with indigenous high school students to encourage them to pursue careers in STEM fields as well as creating a comfortable transition from secondary school to post-secondary school.



## Teah Bryce

Summer Science Program Assistant

Teah Bryce, who is of Métis Indigenous ancestry, was born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan but has grown up and lived in Vancouver, British Columbia for most of her life. She is currently studying Genetics and Immunology in the Faculty of Science at UBC, with the hopes to one day pursue a career in human rights law. Teah has been volunteering her time to help work towards indigenizing post secondary curricula, through the Decolonizing Health Systems Program at UBC. She is looking forward to helping make the transition from highschool to university a more inclusive experience for Indigenous students. She believes that the Summer Science Program will allow her to provide a welcoming and culturally safe space for Indigenous highschool students to ask questions, have fun and learn about Indigenous culture, knowledge, and teachings.

Preferred Pronouns: she/her/hers



## Cole Daley

Counsellor

Hi everyone! My name is Cole and I'm from the Chawathil First Nation. I've been at UBC for years, currently studying medicine but in my spare time I enjoy video games, dungeons and dragons, and soccer. I'm so excited to meet all of you!



## Alexa Tymkiw

Counselor

Alexa is of European ancestry on both her mother's and father's side. She was raised on the unceded territories of the Syilx People of the Okanagan Nation in Vernon, British Columbia, where she found her love of skiing, backpacking, hiking, and all things outdoors. She now lives in Victoria on the unceded and traditional territory of the Lekwungen peoples, now cared for by the Songhees, Esquimalt, and WSÁNEĆ peoples. Alexa is a medical student in the Island Medical Program of UBC's Faculty of Medicine, and has passions in working with children and youth, as well as in mental health advocacy and support. She is so looking forward to bringing these passions to the Summer Science Program this year!



## Chloe Thomas

Dorm Coordinator

Chloe Thomas was born in Guangdong, China and adopted into family; her mother's side is Anishinaabe from the Lake Superior Band of Ojibwe and her father is from the Sioux Dakota community. She grew up primarily in Vancouver, British Columbia on unceded xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) territory. Chloe is currently an undergraduate student in science going into second year at UBC and hopes to major in Microbiology and Immunology. She is honoured to work alongside the SSP team and help create a space for Indigenous youth to explore and cultivate interest in the STEM field within a culturally safe space for young students.  
Preferred Pronouns: she/her/hers



## Shawnelle Blackbird-Riley

Recreation Coordinator

Shawn is an Anishinaabe graduate student in the M.A. in Kinesiology program at UBC. They grew up with their mother, grandmother, and three siblings in Munsee-Delaware Nation, located in Southwest Ontario. Their current research thesis aims to work with the self-identifying First Nations women and girls in their home community to collect their stories about their sports and movement experiences. Shawn believes this will be an opportunity to connect cultural practices and open dialogue surrounding movement, leadership, intergenerational learning, and healing in our community. They hope that working with UBC Summer Science will be another opportunity for our diverse and unique Indigenous Nations to build community and strengthen our access to cultural programming. Shawn wants to bring their experience with movement and community into their role as a recreation coordinator.



## Simrat Mahil

Land and Food Coordinator

Simrat is a first-generation settler of South Asian descent. She is honoured to have been born and raised on the ancestral and unceded lands of Semiahmoo, Katzie, kʷikʷəłəm (Kwikwetlem), Kwantlen, Qayqayt, Tsawwassen, and Coast Salish First Nations. Simrat is passionate about Indigenous health programming and strength-based approaches to healing. She hopes to use her privilege in a good way, to learn, unlearn and work towards reconciliation. She has recently completed her undergraduate degree in Biology at UBC and will be pursuing a Master of Public Health this fall.



**Victoria McMahon**  
Recreation Coordinator

Victoria is Dene from Deninu K'ue First Nation in Northwest Territories on her mother's side and of mixed European ancestry on her father's side. She grew up and attended school in Barrie, Ontario on the traditional lands of the Odawa, Ojibwe, and Potawatomi Nations collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy. She is entering her fourth year at UBC pursuing a Bachelors of Kinesiology with a specialization in Neuromechanical & Physiological Sciences. Victoria will be participating in the Go Global exchange program at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. She looks forward to creating fun programming for the students to enjoy this summer!



**Iktome Cardinal**  
Land and Food Coordinator

Iktome is from both the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation and the Penobscot Nation. He is currently studying Kinesiology at UBC and will be Land and Food Coordinator at the Indigenous Youth Summer Science camp! Iktome leads his own nations youth council and is an acting member of the treaty six youth council for his Nation. Iktome has worked in the communication department for his nation over his gap year before attending UBC where he worked with multiple elders and knowledge keepers to try to establish a constitution for the nation. He has also worked with his other nation, the Penobscot nation, to do water testing through an internship offered on reserve. He is extremely passionate about medicine and intends to pursue a career in the field.