

Alumni Profile

Summer Thorp

BA Hons '11 Social Justice & Peace Studies

Current Career

Organization: Nokee Kwe

Title: Career Counsellor and Positive Voice Program Coordinator

Career Overview

My current project is the Positive Voice program, a bridging program for urban Indigenous women, that I developed after consulting with community. It has a dual purpose: one, to provide training to our participants; and two, to educate the community and other practitioners.

The program assists women, 18 years of age and older, who are transitioning to further education or employment. We assist them with learning about writing, digital media, graphic design, photography, public speaking, and networking. We also bring in guests to mentor and teach including artists, photographers, social service practitioners, advocates, and government representatives. Nokee Kwe is a non-profit organization in London, Ontario.

As a career counsellor my work involves assisting clients with opportunities and community resources that increase their employability and access to education or training.

How has King's helped prepare you for your current work?

My experience in Social Justice & Peace Studies (SJPS) cemented my commitment to promoting social justice in my own backyard, in the London, Ontario area. The inherent interdisciplinary nature of the SJPS program assisted me with developing an eclectic toolbox of knowledge and skills that I draw on every day. In addition to my core courses, my coursework in ethics, political science, philosophy, religious studies, and First Nations studies informs my interactions with clients from a diverse range of backgrounds, while being accountable to multiple funders and government policies and practices. Every client is unique and unpredictable, so I need to be prepared to meet them where they are at and create a plan that meets their individual needs and assists them with accomplishing their goals.

Have you volunteered with any organization or cause that seeks to promote social justice and peace?

I edit and source content for Aspiring Mormon Women, a non-profit organization that serves as a resource and source of mentorship for women. I prepare profiles of women who have overcome the odds to complete undergraduate and graduate degrees to inspire other aspiring women.

Further Degrees / Certifications

MEd Educational Studies

Western University

Certificate in Knowledge Mobilization

University of Guelph



“ The inherent interdisciplinary nature of the SJPS program assisted me with developing an eclectic toolbox of knowledge and skills that I draw on every day.

”