

Bryinna Kagawa-Visentin (she/her)

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LINKS

[LinkedIn](#), [Sierra Youth Podcast](#)

PROFILE

Prospective PhD candidate currently completing a Master of Science in Environment, Culture and Society at the University of Edinburgh. Research interests in political ecology, post-development and alternatives to development, intimate relationships and emotions, and socio-ecological and animal justice.

EDUCATION

Sep 2014 — Jun 2018

BSc Kinesiology (Hons), McMaster University

- Graduated with Honours
- Relevant coursework: Statistical Methods: Science, Calculus For Life Sciences I, Intro: Psychology Neuroscience & Behaviour, Natural Disasters, Research Practicum, Biodiversity Evolution & Humanity, Cellular & Molecular Biology, Cultural Anthropology

Sep 2019 — Sep 2021

BSc Environmental Practice with distinction, Royal Roads University

- Graduated with distinction
- Recipient of: Governor General's Silver Medal, Royal Roads Chancellor's Award, President's Scholar Award
- Relevant coursework: Global Perspectives on Indigenous Ways of Knowing, Biodiversity and Conservation, Sustainable Development: Ideas and Applications, Global Climate Change and Regional Impacts, Environmental Impact Assessment, Communication Skills: Writing in the Workplace, Introduction to Environmental Law, Global Processes, Environmental Practicum (Research Thesis)

Sep 2022 — Present

MSc Environment, Culture and Society, The University of Edinburgh

- Relevant coursework: Political Ecology, Values and the Environment, Global Environmental Politics, Understanding Environment and Development, Creativity and the Environment
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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Jun 2022 — Present

Executive Board Member, Sierra Club Canada (Volunteer)

- Represented SCCF at COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt
- Supported the launch of 'Equinor Out of Oil and Gas Alliance' campaign by representing SCCF in press releases and media interviews, including Global News BC, CBC Radio Canada, National Observer, and others

Oct 2021 — Aug 2022

Youth Engagement Coordinator, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - BC Chapter

- Coordinated the development and delivery of a conservation training program for over 25 youth in British Columbia (BC) to support the 30x30 campaign (protect 30% of BC's lands and waters by 2030)
- Collaborated with the CPAWS-BC team and external partners to design and implement a series of in-person and online workshops to build leadership skills for youth and develop the next generation of conservation leaders
- Organized a lobbying day with government officials and other members of parliament to increase youth skills in advocacy and conservation policy
- Enabled youth participants to implement conservation projects in their local communities and provided funding to support and scale their projects
- Developed and implemented post-program evaluation
- Engaged with Indigenous youth and knowledge holders to ensure participation, inclusion, and the cultivation of diverse knowledge

Jan 2021 — Sep 2022

Research Assistant, EcoHealth Consulting

- Developed a "State of Environment Report" for Salt Spring Island, BC, under the supervision of Dr. David Rapport, former Senior Scientist to the Government of Canada and Science Advisor to Statistics Canada, and Dr. Luisa Maffi, co-founder and Director of Terralingua
- Integrated data on over 15 ecosystem health indicators utilizing the DPSIR (drivers, pressures, state, impact, and response) framework and engaged with local community members, including scientists, farmers, and First Nations Chiefs
- Formulated conceptual and statistical frameworks for assessing the health of aquatic, terrestrial and urban ecosystems, and community health and well-being
- Developed recommendations for the Islands Trust to mitigate ecological degradation, including implementing limits to consumption and development, and promoting local production

Jan 2021 — Nov 2021

Textile Talks Coordinator, Threading Change (Volunteer)

- Designed and hosted the Textile Talks webinar series, which fostered community education and partnership development
- Achieved key deliverables, including securing wage funding from Vancity, reaching over 400 youth audience members, and developing partnerships with major ethical fashion activists and organizations, including Aditi Mayer, Dr. Kate O'Neill (UC Berkeley), Roger Williams, OR Foundation, and Fashion Revolution
- Appeared as a keynote speaker for Peel Climate Council's "Closet Crossroads: Conscious Consumerism" event
- Developed the foundational groundwork for new programs and policies that promoted circular, ethical, and just fashion systems

Jan 2021 — Aug 2023

Program Specialist, Youth Climate Lab

- Facilitated multiple policy jams with youth participants from around the globe to discuss justice-centred COVID-19 economic recovery, climate policy, and green skills for youth
- Contributed to the development, curriculum design, implementation, and management of HerStart, Greenpreneurs, and Innovate4Climate (I4C) programs
- Spoke as a panellist for Tamarack's Institute "Youth Voice in Driving Change"
- Presented to over 100 international participants on the impacts of COVID-19 and climate change on youth
- Oversaw collaboration with Indigenous writer Riley YesNo to create a Toronto Star Op-ed discussing Indigenous youth on the frontlines of climate action
- Freelance contract worker for Climate Justice Resilience Fund responsible for webinar content development, creation of annotated agendas, technical support, and blog post writing and editing

Oct 2020 — Dec 2020

Urban Researcher, Pivot2020

- Collaborated with team members to conduct research and collect data on various civic issues, including climate change, cost of living, public health, and diversity and inclusion across 27 Canadian cities
- Created a research report on the correlation between climate change and COVID-19
- Launched a virtual workshop on digital literacy and finding peer-reviewed scientific data
- Engaged in community-based research training
- Presented research findings to over 1,200 youth and staff members

Sep 2019 — Sep 2022

Chairman of the Board - Sierra Youth, Sierra Club Canada (Volunteer)

- Headed and organized staff meetings, created budget proposals, applied for grant funding, managed team members, and contributed to online environmental education workshops and webinars for youth across Canada
- Initiated development of the youth-led environmental justice podcast, "Sierra Youth Podcast," and reached over 1,700 listeners
- Coordinated interviews with Fairy Creek defenders, Indigenous activists, including Janelle LaPointe, Myia Antone, and Selena Boan, academics, including Luisa Maffi, Canadian politicians, including Elizabeth May, Laurel Collins, and Monique Pauzé, and the directors of the film, Coextinction

Jul 2020 — Sep 2021

Writer, The Starfish Canada (Volunteer)

- Wrote and published articles related to ethical fashion systems, microplastic pollution, environmental impacts of cannabis cultivation, and Indigenous fishing practices
- Wrote an article that was listed under "Ten of the Starfish's Must-Read Articles in 2020"
- Collaborated with editors and other staff members to produce scientifically-researched articles promoting environmental education
- Produced exceptional writing, editing and proofreading skills for engaging and error-free content

Sep 2019 — Jul 2020

Volunteer Coordinator, Parvati Foundation - Marine Arctic Peace Sanctuary (Volunteer)

- Engaged with and enrolled over 80 youth to become involved in advocating for the protection of Arctic sea ice and broader climate change policies across the globe
- Recruited and trained over 100 international volunteers to become MAPS ambassadors
- Presented at York University's "Change Your World" event to over 100 students on the impact of extractive development on climate change and Arctic ecosystems
- Provided administrative support to organize and manage volunteer intake data

Sep 2016 — Aug 2018

Dundas Seahawks Swimming Coach, Special Olympics Canada (Volunteer)

- Coached individuals of all ages with intellectual disabilities to develop swimming fundamentals and skills to improve motor coordination and overall well-being

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political ecology, post-development and alternatives to development, intimate relationships and emotions, culture and politics, animal and ecological justice

PRESENTATIONS

Past Speaking Events

- **COP27 Television Segment** - Guest Speaker - Global News BC, November 2022
- **COP27 Radio Interview** - Guest Speaker, CBC Radio Canada, November 2022
- **"Confronting Consumerism in the Face of Fashion"** - Panel Speaker - Closet Crossroads, Community Climate Council, June 2021
- **"Youth Voice in Driving Change"** - Panel Speaker - Communities Building Youth Futures, Tamarack Institute, May 2021
- **"Policy Jam Session"** - Youth Presenter and Program Manager - Innovate4Climate Conference, Youth Climate Lab, May 2021
- **"Exploring Colonialism & State Laws and Policies on Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples in Canada"** - Youtube Presentation - Final Project for INDS 400: Global Perspectives on Indigenous Ways of Knowing, Royal Roads University, May 2021
- **"Are My Clothes Harmful"** - Webinar Host and Producer - Textile Talks Series, Threading Change, April 2021
- **"Conscious Consumerism - Davos Youth Dialogue"** - Design Jam Facilitator - Textile Talks Series, Threading Change, April 2021
- **"Demystifying Fashion Trends & Psychology"** - Webinar Host and Producer - Textile Talks Series, Threading Change, April 2021
- **"Sustainable Spring Cleaning and Fashion Waste"** - Webinar Host and Producer - Textile Talks Series, Threading Change, April 2021
- **National Youth Summit** - Presenter and Youth Climate Lab Representative - Canadian Council for Youth Prosperity, April 2021
- **Digital Literacy & Scientific Methods for Research** - Digital Workshop Creator and Presenter - Pivot 2020, November 2020

SKILLS

Critical Thinking Skills	Policy Advocacy
Leadership Skills	Partnership Development
Communication Skills	Effective Time Management
Project Management	Microsoft Office, Google Suite, Canva
Research and Report Generation	

CERTIFICATIONS

Accreditations

- **2021-10** Canadian Institute of Health Research: Sex and Gender Considerations Certificate
- **2021-10** Canadian Institute of Health Research: Research Involving First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples of Canada Training Module
- **2020-11** Indigenous Canada, University of Alberta - Coursera
- **2020-10** Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans Certification

- **2020-09** Cities and the Challenge of Sustainable Development, SDGacademy
- **2018-09** Certified First Aid CPR-C and HCP - Canadian Red Cross