

# Erin Spring

## Curriculum Vitae

Werklund School of Education  
University of Calgary  
2500 University Drive NW  
Calgary, AB  
T2N1N4

[erin.spring@uleth.ca](mailto:erin.spring@uleth.ca)  
[www.erinspring.ca](http://www.erinspring.ca)  
[@erin\\_e\\_spring](https://twitter.com/erin_e_spring)

---

### EDUCATION

Ph.D. Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, 2014.

Dissertation: “Our Torontos are different places”: a qualitative, multiple case study, designed to investigate the interconnections between young adult fiction and young adult readers’ constructions of place, within and beyond the text”. Supervisor: Gabrielle Cliff Hodges. Advisor: Maria Nikolajeva. Examiners: Evelyn Arizpe & David Whitley.

\* Winner of the United Kingdom Literacy Association (UKLA) Student Research Prize (2014) for an outstanding dissertation and original scholarship in literacy education.

M.Phil. Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, 2010.

Dissertation: “A map of Anne: space, place, and identity construction in L. M. Montgomery’s *Anne* series.”

B.Ed. Secondary English and Geography, Queen’s University, Ontario, 2008.

B.A. English (Major), Concurrent Education, Trent University, Ontario, 2007.

### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2017 Assistant Professor, Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary (as of July 1).

2014-17 Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute for Child and Youth Studies, University of Lethbridge, Alberta.

2016 Full time Instructor, Academic Writing Department, University of Lethbridge, Alberta (September-December).

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed Journal Articles

- 2017 “Without Manifest, none of the book would have happened”: place, identity, and the positioning of Canadian adolescent readers as literary critics.” *Children’s Literature in Education*, available online February 27.
- 2016 “The experiences of two migrant readers: freedom, restriction, and the navigation of adolescent space.” *Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures* 8.1: 227-247.
- 2016 “Everyone here knows a Junior”: Blackfoot children and their texts.” *Bookbird: an International Children’s Literature Journal* 54.1: 55-60.
- 2015 “Where are you from? : locating the young adult self within and beyond the text.” *Journal of Children’s Geographies* 14.3: 356-371.
- 2014 “My Place: exploring children’s place-related identities through reading and writing.” Charlton, E., Cliff Hodges, G., Pointon, P., Nikolajeva, N., **Spring, E.**, Taylor, L., Wyse, D. *Education 3-13: International Journal of Primary, Elementary and Early Years Education* 42.2: 154-170.
- \* Reprinted in *Research and Debate in Primary Geography*. Ed. Simon Catling. London, Routledge: 89-114.
- 2011 “Have people in Toronto seen what I’ve seen?” : a comparative analysis of place, identity, and migration in the context of two Canadian picturebooks.” *Interjuli* 2.11: 27-38.

### Book Chapters

- 2017 “Feminizing Thomson’s *The Seasons*: identity, gender, and seasonal aesthetics in L. M. Montgomery’s *Anne of Green Gables*.” Co-paper with Heather Ladd. *L.M. Montgomery and Gender*, ed. Laura Robinson & Holly Pike. McGill-Queen’s University Press. In press. 28pp.
- 2017 “I think I was born with a suitcase”: Blackfoot adolescent readers’ responses to Sherman Alexie’s *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian*.” In *Young People Reading: Empirical Research Across International Contexts*, ed. Evelyn Arizpe & Gabrielle Cliff Hodges. Routledge. In press. 32pp.

- 2017 “Empirical approaches to place, reading, and the construction of adolescent identities.” In *The Edinburgh Companion to Children’s Literature*, ed. Maria Nikolajeva & Clémentine Beauvais. Edinburgh University Press. In press. 31pp.
- 2017 “My story starts right here”: the embodied spaces of Blackfoot readers.” In *Embodied Readings: Child Readers in Children’s Literature*, ed. Roxanne Harde & Lydia Kokkola. Routledge. In press. 27pp.
- 2015 “Place and identity in children’s and young adult fiction.” In *Geographies of Identities and Subjectivities, Volume 4, Geographies of Children and Young People*, ed. Nancy Worth, Claire Dwyer, & Tracy Skelton. Springer. 429-450.
- 2013 “Insider/outsider relationships: considering the textual representation of regional and national identity.” In *Looking Out and Looking In: National Identity in Picturebooks of the New Millennium*, ed. Ase Marie Ommundsen. Novus Press. 45-59.

### **Book Reviews**

- 2017 Adult-Child Negotiations of Environmental Encounters: Mediating a Future of Hope. Review of series of environmental picturebooks for *Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures*, 9-1.
- 2015 Review of *Space and Place in Children’s Literature, 1789 to the Present*, by Maria Sachiko Cecire, Hannah Field, Kavita Mudan Finn, & Malini Roy, eds. In *The Lion and the Unicorn* 39.3 (2015): 355-357.
- 2015 Review of *Politics and Ideology in Children’s Literature*, by Aine McGillicuddy & Marian Keyes, eds. In *Interjuli* 1.15 (2015): 156-162.
- 2014 Review of *Children’s Literature on the Move: Nations, Translations, Migrations*, by Nora Maguire & Beth Rodgers, eds. In *Interjuli* 2.14 (2014): 34-38.
- 2013 Review of *The Nation in Children’s Literature: Nations of Childhood*, by Christopher (Kit) Kelen & Björn Sundmark, eds. In *Bookbird: a Journal of International Children’s Literature* 51.4 (2013): 93-96.

### **Public Scholarship**

- 2017 Podcast for Institute for Child and Youth Studies, University of Lethbridge: <http://www.uleth.ca/research/centres-institutes/institute-child-and-youth-studies/i-cys-podcast>
- 2016 Co-author of: “Methods & Ethics in the Anthropology of Children and Youth”. For “Neos”, a publication of the Anthropology of Children and Youth Interest Group.

<http://acyig.americananthro.org/neos/>

- 2016 Co-author of: “Raising Spirit: The Blackfoot Digital Storytelling Project.” For McGill University’s Department of Integrated Studies in Education’s Blog, “Belonging, identity, language, diversity research group (BILRG).”  
<https://bildlida.wordpress.com>
- 2015 “Place, identity, and texts: the responses of Canadian adolescent readers.” For University of Glasgow Professor Evelyn Arizpe’s Blog, “Reading changes: adolescents, young adult literature and literacy practices.”  
<http://readingchanges.blogspot.mx>

## **AWARDS & GRANTS**

- 2017 Diversity Research Grant, Children’s Literature Association. \$700.00.
- 2017 Canada 150 Fund, Government of Canada, \$10,000. Co-applicants: Jan Newberry & Kristine Alexander.
- 2016 PolicyWise For Children & Families Research Grant, \$40,000. Primary Investigators: Jan Newberry, Kristine Alexander, and Tanya Pace Crosschild.
- 2016 Visiting Research Fellow, Centre for Research in Young People’s Texts and Cultures, University of Winnipeg, February 8-19.
- 2015 Frances E. Russell Grant, International Board of Books for Young People.
- 2014 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Institute for Child and Youth Studies (I-CYS), University of Lethbridge, \$120,000.
- 2014 United Kingdom Literacy Association (UKLA) Student Research Prize for an outstanding dissertation and original scholarship in literacy education.
- 2013 Jean Ruddick Award for a student of children’s literature, Homerton College, University of Cambridge.
- 2010-13 Cambridge Commonwealth Trusts, University of Cambridge.
- 2013 Homerton College Research Grant, University of Cambridge.
- 2012 Smuts Memorial Fund Research Grant, University of Cambridge.
- 2011 Faculty of Education Doctoral Research Grant, University of Cambridge.

## **STUDENT RESEARCH FUNDING**

- 2016 Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP), Government of Alberta, \$5000.00. Co-applicant. Funds were used to hire two Blackfoot high school students as trainee ethnographers, June-September, for the Opokaa'sin Digital Blackfoot Storytelling Project.
- 2016 Community Future's Treaty 7 Grant, \$7500. Co-applicant. Funds were used to hire a Blackfoot undergraduate student as a research trainee, May-September, for the Opokaa'sin Digital Blackfoot Storytelling Project.

## **INVITED TALKS**

- 2017 "What do the visual responses of Blackfoot readers reveal about their lives, cultures, and identities?" Guest lecture for Clementine Beauvais, Department of Education, University of York (UK). Class: Children and literature, literacy module, May 5.
- 2016 "The Digital Blackfoot storytelling project: methodological approaches to child-centred, community driven research." Centre for Research in Young People's Texts and Cultures, University of Winnipeg, February 11.
- 2016 "A comparison of two migrant experiences: freedom, restriction, and the navigation of adolescent space." Cade Community Lecture Series, 'home is where the heart is divided: exploring connections between identity and place', Lethbridge Public Library, January 18.
- 2014 "Our Torontos are different places": young adult readers respond to textual representations of their city." Women Scholars Lecture Series, Lethbridge, December 3.
- 2014 Award recipient presentation: "A simultaneity-of-stories-so-far": the making of youth places." United Kingdom Literacy Association 50th International Conference, '50 Years of Literacy: Continuity and Change', University of Sussex, July 4-6.

## **CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

### **Panels and Roundtables Organized**

- 2017 "The possibilities for creating community through diverse children's texts," co-organized with Barbara McNeil and Heather Phipps (U of Regina). International Research Society for Children's Literature Congress, 'Possible & Impossible Children: Intersections of Children's Literature and Childhood Studies', York University, July 29.

- 2017 “Embracing the neglected child: the importance of including children’s and young adult literature in Canadian literary studies,” co-organized with Elizabeth Galway. Mikinaakominis / TransCanadas Interdisciplinary Conference, University of Toronto, May 25-27.
- 2017 “The benefit of utilizing undergraduate tutors as classroom facilitators in a first-year course,” Spark Teaching Symposium, University of Lethbridge, April 28. Co-presented with four of my undergraduate students.
- 2016 “Rethinking methodological approaches to First Nations child and youth studies” co-organized with Jan Newberry. The Association for Research in Cultures of Young People’s Conference, “Youngsters: on the cultures of children and youth,” Simon Fraser University, October 20-22.
- 2016 “Research in Indigenous young people’s cultures,” co-organized with Kristine Alexander. Association for Research in Cultures of Young People (ARCYP), Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Calgary, May 31.
- 2016 “Para-ethnography: a method for decolonizing Anthropology?”, co-organized with Jan Newberry and Amy Mack. Canadian Anthropology Society (CASCA) Conference, Dalhousie University, May 11-16.
- 2015 “Telling stories and making up children.” Mapping the Landscapes of Childhood Conference, University of Lethbridge, May 10.

### **Papers Presented**

- 2017 “Diversity in children’s books? The im(possibility) and importance of readers finding windows and mirrors.” International Research Society for Children’s Literature Congress, ‘Possible and Impossible Children,’ July 29- August 2.
- 2017 ““This land carries all I’ll ever need to know”: tracing the intersections between reading, place, and identity construction on the Blood Reserve”. Mikinaakominis / TransCanadas Interdisciplinary Conference, University of Toronto, May 25-27.
- 2017 “Beyond the text: reading Blackfoot childhoods.” Seen but not Heard? The Spatial, Emotional and Material Sites of Childhood and Youth from Antiquity to Modernity Conference, University of Sussex, January 18-20.
- 2017 “Child studies and children’s literature in a settler society: collaborating with Indigenous communities across disciplines in Southern Alberta,” co-presentation with Kristine Alexander. Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, January 16.
- 2016 “Participatory action research and child-centered approaches to oral storytelling.” The Association for Research in Cultures of Young People’s

- Conference, Youngsters: on the cultures of children and youth, Simon Fraser University, October 20-22.
- 2016 “Feminizing Thomson’s *The Seasons*: identity, gender, and seasonal aesthetics in L. M. Montgomery’s *Anne of Green Gables*.” Co-paper with Heather Ladd. L.M. Montgomery and Gender Conference, University of Prince Edward Island, June 23-26.
- 2016 “I draw because words are too limited” : Blackfoot readers’ visual responses to Sherman Alexie’s *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian*.” ‘Visualizing Diversity in Children’s Literature’ sponsored panel. Children’s Literature Association Conference, Ohio State University, June 9-11.
- 2016 “Reflections from a reserve: adolescent readers’ responses to culturally relevant, place-based fiction.” First Nations Children’s Literature panel, Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English (ACCUTE) Conference, University of Calgary, May 31. \*\* by invitation
- 2016 “Para-ethnography: a method for decolonizing Anthropology?” Canadian Anthropology Society conference, Dalhousie University, May 11-16.
- 2015 “Moving beyond Green Gables: shifting constructions of childhood in L.M. Montgomery’s *Anne* series.” Child, Youth and Place in Atlantic Canadian Fiction: 9<sup>th</sup> Thomas Raddall Symposium, Acadia University, July 9-12.
- 2015 “Searching for belonging: two immigrant young adult readers reflect on their place-trajectories.” Society for the History of Children and Youth (SHCY) Conference, University of British Columbia, June 24-26.
- 2015 “Road maps and story maps: using visual methods to interpret Blackfoot readers’ interpretations of setting and characterization.” Mapping the Landscapes of Childhood Conference, University of Lethbridge, May 8-10.
- 2015 “Children’s literature and children’s geographies: the possibility of interdisciplinary dialogue.” 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Geographies of Children, Youth and Families, San Diego State University, January 12-15.
- 2013 “War-time childhoods in Kit Pearson’s *Guests of War Trilogy*.” The Child and the Book Conference, University of Cambridge, March 30-April 1.
- 2012 “Reading *Blink and Caution* and *Moon Over Manifest* with ecocritical eyes.” Irish Society for the Study of Children’s Literature: “Is Feidir Linn!” : Politics and Ideology in Children’s Literature Conference, Dublin City University, February 25-26.
- 2011 “Corresponding space, divergent place: exploring the textual representation of childhood identity in two Canadian picturebooks.” History and Theory of the Picturebook Conference, Tubingen University, September 22-24.

- 2011 “Insider/outsider relationships with Saskatchewan: a comparative analysis of the representation of geographical space within two Canadian picturebooks.” The Child and the Book Conference, University of Oslo, April 8-10.
- 2010 “From tree-scape to seascape: tracing the development of Montgomery’s Anne through the lens of place.” The Emergent Adult Conference: Adolescent Literature and Culture, University of Cambridge, September 3-5.

### **CAMPUS TALKS**

- 2017 “Reconciliation and Research”, University of Lethbridge, with Jan Newberry and Kaitlynn Weaver. March 22.
- 2016 “Beyond algorithms and metrics: telling the story of my research,” Scholarly Activity Impact Speakers’ Series, University of Lethbridge, November 24.
- 2016 “Blackfoot readers and their texts.” Guest pecha kutchi lecture for Carol Williams’ ‘WGS 2800: women, girls, and gender history,’ University of Lethbridge, Women and Gender Studies Department, March 17.
- 2015 “‘I was a child there, but I am a young adult here’: child/adult, insider/outsider dichotomies.” Guest pecha kutchi presentation for Carol Williams’ ‘WGS 2800: women, girls, and gender history,’ University of Lethbridge, Women and Gender Studies Department, February 3.
- 2014 Presentation for the University of Lethbridge’s Graduate Professional Development Seminar Series’ on ‘life after graduate school’, February 12.
- 2014 Public Talk on my experience as a graduate student at the University of Cambridge, Cambridge/Homerton Teaching and Research Centre for Children’s Literature Open-Day (via Skype), September 18.
- 2013 “The construction of youth identity: four empirical perspectives.” Joint research presentation with three other doctoral students, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, May 3.
- 2012 “Shifting representations of childhood in Pamela Porter’s *The Crazy Man*.” Cambridge/Homerton Research and Teaching Centre for Children’s Literature Symposium, University of Cambridge, June 8.
- 2011 “‘Answering ‘who am I?’ by questioning ‘where am I from?’ : place, texts, and the construction of identity.” Cambridge University Graduate Research Symposium, Cambridge, May 10.

### **Poster Presentations**



- 2017 “Raising Spirit: The Digital Storytelling Project.” Community University Research Exchange (CURE), Research Services annual reception, University of Lethbridge. Co-presented with Ashley Henrickson and Kaitlynn Weaver, March 15.
- 2016 “Institute for Child and Youth Studies.” Community University Research Exchange (CURE), Research Services annual reception, University of Lethbridge. Co-presented with Elaine Toth, March 12.
- 2012 “The Graduate Student Experience.” Homerton/Cambridge Research and Teaching Centre in Children’s Literature’ open day.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCES**

### **University of Calgary**

Indigenous Education, Werklund School of Education, Fall 2017.

Literacy, Language, and Culture, Werklund School of Education, Fall 2017.

### **University of Lethbridge**

#### **Undergraduate**

The First-Year Experience: Mapping Our Communities (1000 level), Liberal Education Department, Spring 2017.

Introduction to Academic Writing (1000 level), *three sections*, Academic Writing Department, Fall 2016.

Survey of Children’s Literature (2000 level), co-taught with Elizabeth Galway. English Faculty/Education Faculty (cross-listed), Winter 2016.

Canadian Literature, 1867-1914 (3000 level), English Faculty, Sole Instructor, Fall 2015.

Contemporary Canadian Young Adult Fiction (3000 level) English Faculty/Education Faculty (cross-listed), Sole Instructor, Winter 2015.

#### **Graduate Reading Course Supervision**

“Animals in children’s literature.” Second reader for MA-level directed reading course. Kelly Kraus, English Department. First readers: Elizabeth Galway & Sergio Pellis, 2016-2017.

“Perceptual experience and expertise: observational methodologies in a Montessori classroom setting.” Second reader for MA-level directed reading course. Anne Jones, Psychology Department. First reader: Louise Barrett, 2015-2016.

“Why place matters: a case for renewed interest in ecological psychology.” Second reader for MA- level directed reading course. Sarah Dada, Psychology Department. First reader: Louise Barrett, 2014-2015.

### **Trent University**

Literature and the Environment (2000 level), English Faculty, Sole Instructor, Winter 2014.

### **University of Cambridge**

Children and Literature (2000 level), Education Faculty, Supervisor.

Research Methods (3000 level), Education Faculty, Supervisor.

Language, Communication, and Literacy (1000 level), Education Faculty.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

### **Visiting Fellowships**

2016            Visiting Research Fellow, Centre for Research in Young People’s Texts and Cultures, University of Winnipeg, February 8-19

### **Current Projects**

Present            I am a project team member on the *Six Seasons of the Asiniskow Ithiniwak: Reclamation, Regeneration, Reconciliation* project. Principal Investigator is Mavis Reimer, Professor of English at the University of Winnipeg. Other co-applicants include interdisciplinary scholars from three Canadian universities, an Aboriginal education resource centre, members of the provincial government, and a museum archivist. The aim of the project is to build a historical understanding of the people, places, and cultures of the Rocky Cree Nation by gathering and using oral history accounts from Elders. We are creating a cycle of picturebooks about the community that are grounded in traditional, historical, and archaeological records, under the leadership of a Cree storyteller and with the guidance of traditional knowledge keepers, fluent language speakers, and land-based people. We will then use these stories to develop teachers’ guides to support curricular use in cross-cultural classrooms.

Present            *Blackfoot First Nations Reading Project.* My research is funded by the Frances E. Russell Grant (IBBY Canada), and through my Postdoctoral Fellowship. I am currently working at a middle school on a rural reserve in southern Alberta. My twelve participants are reading and discussing several Indigenous texts, including one set on their reserve. My research will enhance our understanding of the experiences and identities of Blackfoot readers. In

privileging my participants' voices, we will come to understand the ways in which they perceive of their social, cultural, and place-based identities.

Present I am a collaborator on *Raising Spirit: the Opokaa'sin Digital Blackfoot Storytelling Project*. Principal Investigators: Jan Newberry and Tanya Pace Crosschild. Our project is funded by the Alberta Centre for Child, Family, and Community Research, and the Community Foundation of Lethbridge's Canada 150 fund. This is a collaborative, interdisciplinary project between the Institute of Child and Youth Studies (University of Lethbridge) and Opokaa'sin Early Intervention Society, a community-based, non-profit organization that services urban Aboriginal children and youth. We are creating a digital library of Blackfoot stories, told by Elders, children, and youth. Indigenous undergraduate and high school students are being trained as ethnographers and curators of the digital library. Part of my role in this project has included training undergraduate and graduate students in research design, methods, and ethics.

### **Research Assistantships**

- 2011-13 Research Assistant for Morag Styles and the *Caribbean Poetry Project*. This project was a collaboration between Cambridge University Faculty of Education, the Centre for Commonwealth Education, and The University of the West Indies at Mona (Jamaica), St Augustine (Trinidad) and Cave Hill (Barbados). The project encouraged engagement with Caribbean poetry, and improved the teaching of poetry in British and Caribbean schools.
- 2010-13 Research Assistant for Maria Nikolajeva and the interdisciplinary *Writing, Reading, and Place Project*, based at Cambridge University's Faculty of Education. The project aimed to consider children's place-related identities through their engagement with, and creation of, texts. We conducted empirical research in two primary schools in southern England. Project team: Dominic Wyse, Maria Nikolajeva, Gabrielle Cliff Hodges, Liz Taylor, Pam Pointon, & Emma Charlton.

### **SERVICE**

#### **To Profession**

- 2016— Member of core-directorate, Institute for Child and Youth Studies, University of Lethbridge. Elected position. Fellow members: Kristine Alexander (History), Jan Newberry (Anthropology), Jeffrey MacCormack (Education), Sergio Pellis (Neuroscience), Louise Barrett (Psychology), Elizabeth Galway (English), Amy von Heyking (Education).
- 2016 — Member-at-large, Association for Research in the Cultures of Young People (ARCYP). Elected position.

- 2017 Peer reviewer for *Children's Geographies*.
- 2016 — Peer reviewer for *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*.
- 2015 — Peer reviewer for *Canadian Literature*.
- 2015 — Peer reviewer for *Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures*.
- 2013 — Peer reviewer for *Interjuli*.
- 2011 Student representative for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award Nominating Committee, Homerton/University of Cambridge Research Centre in Children's Literature.

### To University

- Present Mentor to undergraduate and graduate students from multiple disciplines, Institute for Child and Youth Studies, University of Lethbridge. I offer assistance with grant and graduate school applications, and training in writing conference abstracts, papers, and presentations.
- Present Organizer of monthly Friendly Feedback Series for graduate students, Institute for Child and Youth Studies, University of Lethbridge. These conversations successfully build academic community, foster networks between disciplines, and provide direct research training for students.
- Present Project manager for "Raising Spirit: the Opokaa'sin Digital Storytelling Project", Institute for Child and Youth Studies, University of Lethbridge.
- 2017 On the organizing committee of: "At the Intersections of Childhood: Indigenous, Digital, Youth" symposium, University of Lethbridge, March 31-April 1.
- 2016 Co-creator of website for the Institute for Child and Youth Studies, University of Lethbridge alongside MA student Elaine Toth.
- 2015 Co-organizer (with Kristine Alexander) of a workshop for graduate students and faculty on "Ethical issues encountered when working with the young". Institute for Child and Youth Studies, University of Lethbridge.
- 2015 Led daytrip to Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park, Siksika, Alberta, for interdisciplinary MA students, University of Lethbridge.
- 2015 On the organizing committee of 'Controlling Sexuality and Reproduction Conference, Past and Present'. Chaired by Professors Claudia Malacrida and Suzanne Lenon, University of Lethbridge, Department of Sociology, August 12-14.

- 2015 On the organizing committee of ‘Mapping the Landscapes of Childhood Conference,’ University of Lethbridge, May 9-11.
- 2015 Poster and paper presentation judge, 9<sup>th</sup> Annual ‘Meeting of the Minds Conference,’ University of Lethbridge, March 20-21.
- 2012 On the organizing committee of ‘The Power of Caribbean Poetry: Word and Sound,’ Homerton College, University of Cambridge, September 20-22
- 2012 On the organizing panel of the Child and the Book Conference: ‘Philosophical Approaches to Children’s Literature,’ Homerton College, University of Cambridge, March 30-April 1.

**Teaching-Related Service and Professional Development**

- 2017 Participant: “Aboriginal Canada: Looking Forwards/Looking Back.” Twelve-week online MOOC course led by Paul Gareau, Faculty of Native Studies, University of Alberta.
- 2015 Participant: “Reconciliation Through Indigenous Education”. Six-week online edX course led by Jan Hare, Indigenous Education, Faculty of Education, University of British Columbia.
- 2015 Participant: “How to meaningfully work with and engage Aboriginal youth”. Workshop organized by University of Calgary’s Native Ambassador Post Secondary Initiative (NAPI), April 12.
- 2013 Attendee: United Kingdom Literacy Association/British Educational Research Association (BERA)/British Library’s ‘Ways of Reading: International Research Symposium.’ British Library, London.
- 2009 ‘Reading Education’, Additional Qualification course for teachers, University of Toronto, Ontario Institute of Studies in Education (Online).
- 2009 ‘Special Education’, Additional Qualification course for teachers, University of Toronto, Ontario Institute of Studies in Education (Online).
- 2008 ‘Junior Additional Basic Qualification’ course for teachers, University of Toronto, Ontario Institute of Studies in Education (Online). Qualification to teach Junior division in Ontario primary schools.
- 2008 ‘Primary Additional Basic Qualification’ course for teachers, University of Toronto, Ontario Institute of Studies in Education (Online). Qualification to teach Primary division in Ontario primary schools.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

**Events Organized**

- 2017 Co-organizer (with Kristine Alexnder, Kaitlynn Weaver & Ashley Henrickson) of ‘Elders of the Future’ art exhibit at CASA Community Arts Centre, Lethbridge. The exhibit showcased the creative work of southern Alberta Blackfoot children and youth. A series of art workshops in the lead up to the event resulted in capacity building exercises through which Indigenous young people can explore questions of history and resilience through the Blackfoot circle of courage.
- 2016 Co-Organizer of Raising Spirit photo exhibit’s official opening ceremony and community consultation event. Opokaa’sin Early Intervention Society, Lethbridge, March 21; Lethbridge Park Place Mall, March 5-19.
- 2016 “Raising Spirit: methods, ethics, process”. Overview of the Raising Spirit project for the Board Members of Opokaa’sin Early Intervention Society, Lethbridge. Co-presentation with Jan Newberry and Hudson Eagle Bear, November 1.

### **Public Talks**

- 2016 “Raising Spirit: methods, ethics, process” with Jan Newberry and Hudson Eagle Bear. Opokaa’sin Early Intervention Society Board of Governors, November 1.
- 2016 “Questioning the importance of reading through the lens of home.” Community presentation of my ongoing research with Blackfoot readers to teachers and administrators of the Kainai School Board, Blood Reserve, Standoff, Alberta, February 25.
- 2015 “Responding beyond the page: Blackfoot readers’ perceptions of two contemporary First Nations young adult texts.” Galt Museum and Archives Public Lecture Series, Lethbridge, September 2.

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Elected Member at Large, Association for Research in Cultures of Young People (ARCYP)  
 Children’s Literature Association (ChLA)  
 International Research Society for Children’s Literature (IRSCL)  
 Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English (ACCUTE)  
 Ontario College of Teachers (OCT)  
 Canadian Anthropological Society (CASCA)  
 Society for the History of Children and Youth (SHCY)

### **SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE**

- 2017 “Raising Spirit receives Canada 150 Grant.” University of Lethbridge U News, February 22.

- [https://www.uleth.ca/unews/article/raising-spirit-project-receives-canada-150-grant#.WMij\\_xgZPdc](https://www.uleth.ca/unews/article/raising-spirit-project-receives-canada-150-grant#.WMij_xgZPdc)
- 2016 “Building rapport key to the success of Raising Spirit Project.” University of Lethbridge U News, August 19.  
<http://www.uleth.ca/unews/article/building-rapport-key-success-raising-spirit-project-.WEb6ozKZNR0>
- 2016 “Photo-exhibit at Park Place focuses on Blackfoot culture and identity”. *The Lethbridge Herald*, March 11. (<http://lethbridgeherald.com/news/local-news/2016/03/11/photo-exhibit-at-park-place-focuses-on-blackfoot-culture-identity/>).
- 2016 “Blackfoot digital photo exhibit on display at Lethbridge mall”. CJOC News.  
<http://www.cjocfm.com/news-and-info/lethbridge-news/blackfoot-digital-photo-exhibit-on-display-at-lethbridge-mall/>
- 2016 “Blackfoot culture and identity explored in joint project between Opokaa’sin and U of L institute”. *U of L News*, March 11.  
<http://www.uleth.ca/unews/article/blackfoot-culture-and-identity-explored-joint-project-between-opokaasin-and-u-l-institute#.VuNcudlvGJ>
- 2016 “University of Winnipeg, Cultural Studies Events, Dr. Erin Spring: the Digital Blackfoot Storytelling Project”.  
<http://uwinnipeg.ca/cultural-studies/events/2016/02/dr-erin-spring-the-digital-blackfoot-storytelling-project.html>
- 2016 “Cade Community Lecture Series starts today at downtown library”  
<http://lethbridgeherald.com/news/local-news/2016/01/11/cade-community-lecture-series-starts-today-at-downtown-library/>
- 2015 “Erin Spring receives IBBY Canada’s Russell Grant”  
<http://www.uleth.ca/artsci/news/2015/03/erin-spring-receives-ibby-canadas-russell-grant>  
  
<http://www.ibby-canada.org/erin-spring-receives-ibby-canadas-russell-grant/>  
  
<http://lethbridgeherald.com/news/local-news/2015/05/20/grant-allows-researcher-to-embark-on-project-with-first-nations-young-adults/>
- 2015 UKLA Student Research Awards  
[http://www.ukla.org/research/student\\_research\\_awards/](http://www.ukla.org/research/student_research_awards/)