Shannon Fraser is an Interdisciplinary PhD student interweaving anthropology, political economy and critical mental health towards a political economy of therapeutic relationships. Her academic background includes a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies (Narrative and Culture, Carleton University, 1997), a B.A. in English Language (University of British Columbia, 2001), a B.Ed. in Secondary English and ESL (University of British Columbia, 2002), and an M.A. in English Literature (Indigenous and Settler Literatures, Memorial University, 2009), as well as extensive coursework to support professional development. Her supervisors are Robin Whitaker (Anthropology), Sarah Martin (Political Science) and Brenda Lefrançois (Social Work).

Shannon is a certified teacher in good standing with the British Columbia Teachers Certification Branch, and has maintained her professional teaching licence since 2002. She is also certified in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention, Non-Violent Crisis Intervention, Mental Health First Aid, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training and Trauma for Mental Health Professionals (Level 1). She has taught at the secondary school level, at the adult secondary school level and in newcomer community language training centres. She was a practitioner-presenter at the Low-Educated Second Language and Literacy Acquisition conference in Cologne, Germany (2010) and at the Atlantic Region Association of Immigrant Serving Agencies conference in St. John’s, NL (2010). She has completed contracts as a research assistant, teaching assistant and academic editor. She indexes academic books, such as:

* Addison, L. (2019). *Chiefs of the Plantation: Authority and Contestation on the South Africa-Zimbabwe Border.* Montreal; Kingston: McGill-Queen’s University Press.
* Lepawsky, J. (2018). *Reassembling Rubbish: Worlding Electronic Waste.* Cambridge: MIT Press.
* Liboiron, M. (2020). *Pollution is Colonialism.* Durham:Duke University Press.
* Schnurr, M.A. (2019). *Africa’s Gene Revolution: Genetically Modified Crops and the Future of African Agriculture.* Montreal; Kingston: McGill-Queen’s University Press.
* Thomas, M. & Bittner, A. (Eds.). (2017). *Mothers and Others: The Role of Parenthood in Politics*. Vancouver: UBC Press.

Other achievements include the planning, execution and management of an independent business, as well as its subsequent closure, in St. John’s, NL between 2011 and 2015.

Shannon has a 25-year history as a dedicated community volunteer. In Ottawa, she was a volunteer, writer and editorial board member for four years at the Carleton student community newspaper, *The Charlatan*. In Vancouver, she served on the board of the UBC Pottery Club; she was a co-founder and co-facilitator for the Robson Park Area Working Group; and, she was a long-term youth work volunteer with Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs of Greater Vancouver, Outreach and the Pacific Legal Education Association. In Saskatoon, she was a classroom volunteer with refugees and Indigenous students, a psychiatric hospital volunteer with youth patients and a volunteer youth self-advocacy trainer with the Saskatoon Open Door Society, as well as a contributing member of the Saskatoon Pottery Guild. In St. John’s, she was an active volunteer member of the Craft Council Clay Studio committee for two years; she was a contributing member of the Victoria Park Lantern Festival steering committee for four years; and, she was a volunteer instructor (three years) and board member/training director (two years) with the Newfoundland Athletic Dog Association.

In March 2019, Shannon developed a plan for a peer-support group for professional individuals in St. John’s, NL who live with long-term un/deremployment in a post-career world and she hopes to locate a host venue for this project post-COVID. In November 2019, she researched and submitted a proposal for a Graduate Peer Support Program (individual and group) to the Graduate Students’ Union (GSU) at Memorial University, and the GSU has committed funding to convening the project once courses resume on campus post-COVID. Shannon is currently an active member of the St. John’s Farmers’ Market Co-operative (SJFMC); she created and implemented the volunteer program for Saturday markets in 2019-2020 and will be running for the SJFMC Board of Directors in 2020-2021.

Shannon is a community advocate for reconciliation and decolonization, for equity, diversity and inclusion, for institutional accountability and for grassroots mental health supports. She lives in St. John’s, NL with her spouse of 25 years and with her two dogs, Ruby Qimmiq and Skookum Rennie. She loves driving with the car windows open, much to the vexation of her godchildren.