The project, “Reducing risk of violent reoffending: Priority questions in assessment and intervention with high-risk violent offenders” has been actualized over the past year through the preparation of three primary research articles, addressing research questions developed from the original research proposal through subsequent collaboration with Professor Franca Cortoni, School of Criminology and CICC, University of Montreal, Professor Kevin Nunes, Carleton University, and Professor Mark Olver, University of Saskatchewan.

Within the course of this work, specific accomplishments included:

• Identification of variables pertinent to project research questions contained within various SPSS databases and merging data files.

• Attending training relevant to achieving research objectives, i.e., scale scoring instructions for the Violence Risk Scale (VRS; Wong & Gordon, 2000)
  ➢ Violence Risk Scale-Sexual Offense Version (VRS-SO)
    Dr. M. Olver, Dr. S. Kelley, & Dr. S. Beggs Christofferson
    Kansas City, October 2017

• Data cleaning and coding variables as necessary in line with research questions
  ➢ Writing SPSS syntax to calculate VRS scores from raw data and to pro-rate Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R; Hare, 1991) scores
  ➢ Statistical procedures for dealing with missing data
  ➢ Computation of psychometric pre – post treatment change scores
  ➢ Computation of recidivism variables (e.g. categorical outcome variables; time at risk)

• Literature review on the subject of measuring psychometrically assessed change and analytical methodology (e.g. Reliable Change Index; statistically significant versus clinically significant change; residualized change analysis)

• Studying previously unfamiliar statistical methods required for data analysis appropriate to the specified research questions.

• Travelling to Saskatoon as a visiting researcher at The University of Saskatchewan, December 2017
• Presentation of preliminary results

• Manuscripts in preparation
    o First draft in revision, to be submitted for publication in a peer reviewed scientific journal (Timeline: First draft completed January 2018; Revision and submission to be completed March 2018).
    o First draft in revision, to be submitted for publication in a peer reviewed scientific journal (Timeline: First draft completed February 2018; Revision and submission to be completed March 2018).
    o First draft expected to be completed March 2018.

• Dissemination of additional research (completed prior to, but submitted or revised for publication/presented while working concurrently on the postdoctoral research project)
  ➢ **Higgs, T.** (2017, October). Making a sexual murderer: Distinctive factors in diverse types. In J. Proulx (Chair), *Sexual Homicide: Theoretical and Empirical Issues.* Symposium conducted at the meeting...
Tamsin Higgs, D.Foren.Psy.

of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, Kansas City, MO.


- Peer review activity
  - Archives of Sexual Behavior (1)
  - Aggression and Violent Behavior, A Review Journal (1)
  - The Royal Institute of Mental Health Research affiliated with The University of Ottawa, University Medical Research Fund (1)

- Interviewed for a tenure track position at The University of Montreal, Department of Psychology. Decision expected March 2018.

In the immediate period following this fellowship, I will be applying for licensing with the Ordre des Psychologues du Québec, and studying French full-time with a view to securing a permanent position in Québec. I am also a collaborator on the development of an international database of sexual homicide perpetrators, and I am working on an article for a planned special issue on the subject of cognitive-behavioral interventions aiming to reduce recidivism, and two chapters for the next volume in the Wiley 'What works…' series.