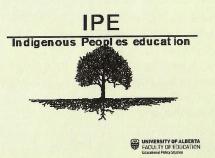


Indigenous Scholars Conference 2015
MOBILIZING INDIGENOUS EPISTEMOLOGIES:
RE-VISIONING RECONCILIATION
March 26th - 27th, 2015
Education North - 4th floor lounge
Conference Moderator: Lewis Cardinal



Indigenous Peoples Education

Grounded in the traditions of the Aboriginal peoples of Alberta, the Indigenous Peoples Education (IPE) specialization attracts Indigenous students from a variety of disciplines and locations. This specialization combines the conventional parameters and standards of university education with the collective efforts of Indigenous students, scholars, and Elders. Indigenous students are supported to pursue studies grounded in the values, integrity, and knowledge systems of their own Indigenous peoples locally and globally. Activities include orientations and retreats, sharing circles, Elders support and ceremonies.

In keeping with Indigenous cultural norms, all applicants to the IPE specialization have the opportunity to explore the program by meeting with Indigenous faculty members, student representatives and an Elder prior to admittance.

Visit our website for more information: https://www.ualberta.ca/educational-policy-studies/programs/graduateprograms/doctoral-programs/indigenous-peoples-education

Welcome Messages



Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education
On behalf of the Government of Alberta, I am pleased to
welcome you to the 5th International Indigenous Scholars
Conference in beautiful Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
Alberta's indigenous communities are an important part
of our province's culture and heritage. The success of
these communities is vital to our province's social and
economic future. Our government recognizes this and is

committed to ensuring our indigenous communities receive the education and training needed to reach their goals and dreams, and participate in our workforce and society.

My thanks to the Department of Educational Policy Studies at the University of Alberta for hosting this conference, and sharing our government's commitment to educating and inspiring our indigenous communities. Best wishes for a successful event.

Don Scott, Q.C.
Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education



On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, Alberta's Capital City, I welcome everyone to the 5th Indigenous Scholars Conference. We are honoured to host this conference here in the heart of Treaty 6 territory. This land has been a pehonan – a gathering place – for thousands of years, so it is fitting that this accomplished group of Indigenous scholars and respected Elders should congregate here.

As we move forward with reconciliation and healing from the tragedy of residential schools, there is no better time to focus on the ways in which Indigenous perspectives and research can influence educational policy.

I thank the University of Alberta's Faculty of Education and the conference organizers and delegates for helping to create a space where Aboriginal people can reclaim and nurture their cultural identities. You are contributing to a more resilient, vibrant and welcoming city for all of us. Yours truly,

Don Iveson Mayor



Welcome to the 2015 Indigenous Scholars Conference!

The fifth Indigenous Scholars Conference brings together Elders, scholars, and Indigenous community members to share knowledge, deepen understanding and foster community around the theme of *Mobilizing Indigenous Epistemologies: Re-visioning Reconciliation*.

The University of Alberta is proud to host an event such as the Indigenous Scholars Conference, which so closely aligns with the promise invoked by our founding president, Henry Marshall Tory more than a century ago, that the university be dedicated to the "uplifting the whole people". Certainly, this conference delivers on this promise, as it engages people from Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities to facilitate reconciliation.

I know that you will find the next few days engaging and inspiring. Please accept my very best for a fruitful and transformative three days filled with educational and empowering experiences!

Sincerely,

Indira V. Samarasekera, O.C. President and Vice-Chancellor



On behalf of the Faculty of Education I am pleased to welcome each of you to the 5th annual Indigenous Scholars' Conference, Mobilizing Indigenous Epistemologies; Re-visioning Reconciliation. We are incredibly proud of the collaborative efforts and hard work of our graduate students within the Indigenous Peoples Education specialization as they have once

again conceptualized and developed an extremely meaningful program and included stellar speakers. The outcomes of the conference will have local impact and also global relevance. They will be catalysts for further research, and for program and curriculum enrichment, and they will affect undergraduate and graduate students, as well as university faculty and leadership.

Enjoy the collegial opportunities and welcome to the University of Alberta! Yours Truly,

Dr. Fern Snart Dean, Faculty of Education

IPE Innovative Masters Cohort



Masters Graduate Student Pre-conference Presentations

Morning Presentations:

Janine Laboucan-"Drumming: An Indigenous Intergenerational Journey"

Kelsey Reed-"Reconciliation Begins With Self"
Jenna Weber-"Sustaining Our Children's Connection to our
Epistemology as a Vision of Reconciliation"

Karen Delver-"Reconciliation: What's Love Got To Do With It?"

Afternoon Presentations:

Angela Wolfe-"Remembering Reconciliation"

Eileen Marthiensen-"Mobilizing Indigenous Epistemologies:

Revisioning Reconciliation through Literature"

Harley Courtoreille-"Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Classroom Science"

Vivian Wirth-"Reconciliation through Education: Ahkimiymo

Using Our Ways of Knowing"
Pamela Quinn-"Reconciliation through Storytelling"

Toni Warrior-"Buffalo Knowledge and Reconciliation with History"

Wednesday, March 25, 2015 Pre-conference	
8:00 – 8:30 am	Pipe Ceremony – Elder John Crier
8:30 – 9:00 am	Continental breakfast
9:00 - 9:15 am	Invocation – Elder John Crier Conference opening – Dr. Evelyn Steinhauer, IPE Coordinator
9:15 – 10:15 am	Recognition of IPE Doctoral Alumni – Elder John Crier, Dr. Stan Wilson, Dr. Peggy Wilson & Dr. Cora Weber Pillwax
10:15 - 10:30 am	Refreshment Break
10:30 – 12:10 pm	Masters graduate student presentations Janine Laboucan Kelsey Reed Jenna Weber Karen Delver
12:10 – 1:00 pm	Lunch catered by Native Delights Performance - Prince Charles School fiddlers Digital story – Tiffany Prete-"Indigenizing the Nation"
1:00 – 2:40 pm	Masters graduate student presentations Angela Wolfe Eileen Marthiensen Harley Courtoreille Vivian Wirth
2:40 - 3:00 pm	Refreshment Break
3:00 – 3:50 pm	Masters graduate student presentations Pamela Quinn Toni Warrior
3:50 – 4:50 pm	Doctoral graduate student panel Rochelle Starr "Chopping wood, Treaties, and Freedom: What will reconciliation do?" Karen Pheasant-Neganigwane-"Beyond the Dance Arena Ebb and Flow: The Post-Colonial aftermath of the Wild West Shows and seeking M'naamodzawiin" Norma Dunning "Ipatsivva (to understand)-A Look at Inuit History: Who is Reconciliation For?" Anna-Leah King - Anishnabe Drum and Song
4:50 - 5:50 pm	Supper break – catered by Native Delights
6:00 – 9:00 pm	Story Night (see Story Night program for more info) IPE Masters cohort singers, Aaron Paquette, Dawn Marie Marchand, Tanya Lukin-Linklater, Fawn Wood & Dallas Waskahat & Open mic

	Thursday, March 26, 2015
=	Opening Pipe Ceremony – Elder John Crier
7:30 - 8:00 am 8:00 - 8:30 am	Continental breakfast
8:00 - 6:30 am	Conference Moderator - Welcoming Remarks
8:30 – 9:00 am	Dignitary Greetings
9:00- 9:10 am	Indigenous Peoples Education (IPE) greetings – Dr. Evelyn Steinhauer & IPE Innovative Masters cohort song
9:10 –9:45 am	#1 Dr. Cora Weber-Pillwax, Dr. Rebecca Sockbeson, & Dr. Evelyn Steinhauer - Indigenous Peoples Education panel
9:45 –10:30 am	#2 Dr. Eber Hampton - "An Indigenous Perspective on Reconciling the Future"
10:30–10:45 am	Refreshment break
10:45 -11:30 am	#3 Dr. Kathy Absolon King – "Kaandossiwin: Honouring how we, as Indigenous searchers mobilize our world views in the academy"
11:30 – 12 noon	Discussion – IPE doctoral alumni
12 noon-1:00 pm	Lunch catered by Homefire Grill Performance - Inuit throat singer Jenna Broomfield
1:00 – 1:45 pm	#4 Dr. Michael Hart - "The Many R's of Indigenist Research"
1:45 – 2:30 pm	#5 Dr. Jo-Ann Episkenew – "It's Like Braiding Sweetgrass: Nurturing relationships and alliances in Indigenous community-based research"
2:30 - 2:45 pm	Refreshment Break
2:45 – 3:30 pm	#6 Open Spaces for individually selected topics (see presentation synopsis)
3:30 - 4:15 pm	Discussion – IPE doctoral alumni
4:15 – 4:30 pm	Closing Remarks
6:00 – 9:00 pm	Banquet: Faculty Club, 11435 Saskatchewan Drive Keynote Speaker: Dr. Cindy Blackstock Presentation- Honouring Our Elders Entertainment: Saddle Lake Cree singer/songwriter Carl Quinn, and Wabasca local drum group

2 0 -	Dine commons. Elden John Crier
8:00 - 8:30 am	Pipe ceremony – Elder John Crier
8:30 – 9:00 am	Continental breakfast
9:00 –9:05 am	Welcoming Remarks – Conference Moderator
9:05 – 9:45 am	#1 Dr. Peter Hanohano – "The Aloha Response: Reconciliation of Spirit"
10:30–10:45 am	Refreshment break
	#2 Dr. Lorna Williams- "Utilizing Indigenous
	Knowledge systems in the academy to serve
	community: challenges and opportunities for transformation"
10:45 –11:30 am	#3 Dr. Cora Weber-Pillwax & Elder John Crier –
10:45 -11:30 am	"Living Reconcilation: Ancient foundations in our
	contemporary Indigenous worlds"
11:30 – 12 noon	Discussion – IPE doctoral alumni
	Lunch catered by Homefire Grill
12:00 -1:00 pm	Performance - First Nation performers
1:00 – 1:45 pm	#4 Open Spaces for individually selected topics (see presentation synopsis)
1:45 – 2:30 pm	#5 Dr. Vanessa de Oliveira Andreotti – "Discerning poisons and medicines of modernity"
2:30 - 2:45 pm	Refreshment Break
	#6 Dr. Cash Ahenakew-"Sacred pain in Indigenous
2:45-3:30	metaphysics dancing towards cosmological reconciliations"
3:30 – 4:00 pm	Discussion – IPE doctoral alumni & discussant
4:00 – 4:30 pm	Closing Comments – IPE Faculty
4:30 – 5:00 pm	Friendship 'circle' dance



Keynote Speaker

Dr. Cindy Blackstock is the Executive Director, First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada. A member of the Gitxsan First Nation, Cindy has 25 years of social work experience in child protection and Indigenous children's rights. As Director of the First Nations Children's Action Research and Education Service (FNCARES) at the

University of Alberta, her research interests are Indigenous theory and the identification and remediation of structural inequalities affecting First Nations children, youth and families. Her promotion of culturally based and evidence informed solutions have been recognized by the Nobel Women's Initiative, the Aboriginal Achievement Foundation, Frontline Defenders and many others. An author of over 50 publications and a widely sought after public speaker, Cindy has collaborated with other Indigenous leaders to assist the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child in the development and adoption of a General Comment on the Rights of Indigenous children.



Dr. Cora Weber-Pillwax is a Metis woman who grew up in a small, isolated community of northern Alberta. She spent her early years within the circle of a large family, living self-sufficiently off the land and in close connections with the rich environment of a northern lake in the boreal forest. She had to leave her home community to continue her schooling through high school and university, obtaining a Bachelor of Education, a Masters in International/Intercultural

Education and a PhD in Indigenous Peoples Education from the University of Alberta.

Previous to her position of Associate Professor in Indigenous Peoples Education at the University of Alberta, she served for almost thirty years as a classroom teacher, and a school/systems administrator serving most of the Aboriginal communities in northern Alberta.

Her present work, embedded within multiple collaborative approaches with Indigenous graduate students and Aboriginal communities, focuses on research interactions that are oriented to Aboriginal peoples remembering/re-creating/sharing their distinct Indigenous knowledges, thus enriching their lives intergenerationally across the limitations of space and time.



Dr. Rebecca Sockbeson is of the Penobscot Indian Nation, Indian Island Maine, the Waponahki Confederacy of tribes located in Maine, United States and the Maritime provinces of Canada. She is the 8th child of the Elizabeth Sockbeson clan, the auntie of over 50 Waponahki & Stoney Sioux youth and the mother of three children who are also of the Alexis Nakota Sioux First Nation of Alberta. A political activist and scholar, she graduated from Harvard

University, where she received her master's degree in education. Rebecca worked for the University of Southern Maine for 7 years with racially and ethnically underrepresented populations and went onto engage with her doctoral work here at the University of Alberta. She conferred her PhD in Educational Policy Studies, specializing in Indigenous Peoples Education. Her research focus is Indigenous knowledge, Aboriginal healing through language and culture, anti-racism and decolonization. Her doctoral study engaged with how Indigenous ways of knowing and being can inform policy development.



Dr. Evelyn Steinhauer's passion is Native Education and evidence of this is revealed in her recently published doctoral dissertation, entitled, *Parental School Choice in First Nations Communities: Is There Really A Choice?* This work addresses the topic of parental school choice on First Nations reserves and looks at the reasons that guide First Nations parents in their decisions to send their children to off-reserve or on-reserve schools.



Dr. Jeannette Sinclair is northern Cree originally from Lesser Slave Lake, Alberta. She completed her doctoral program in the Indigenous Peoples Education specialization in Educational Policy Studies at the University of Alberta. Her doctoral research engaged with Indigenous Research Methodology that honoured Indigenous ways of knowing and being, drawing on the lived experiences of Indigenous people

from the Lesser Slave Lake area and giving meaning and voice to the lives of the people.



Dr. Jo-Ann Episkenew is Director of the Indigenous Peoples' Health Research Centre, a partnership between the University of Regina, University of Saskatchewan, and First Nations University. She is also Associate Faculty in Kinesiology and Health Studies at the University of Regina and in the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy and Adjunct Professor in the Department of

Community Health and Epidemiology at the University of Saskatchewan. Her research interests include Indigenous Literature as applied literatures, narrative medicine, narrative policy studies, and trauma studies. She is an active researcher and Co-Principal Investigator on several Operating Grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and Nominated Principal Investigator for a team awarded a Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation Health Research Group Grant for their research project lyiniw-Iskâtisak Pamihisowak: Using Indigenous Knowledge for a Healthier Aboriginal Youth.

Jo-Ann is also a member of the Boards of Directors of the Aboriginal Health Research Network, the Lung Association of Saskatchewan, and the newly-established Lung Health Institute of Canada, the University of Regina Press, and the Indigenous Literary Studies Association. Jo-Ann is also a member of the Regina Riel Métis Council and lives Regina with her husband Clayton and one of their many grandchildren.

Dr. Lorna Wanosts'ay Williams, Order of British Columbia (1993) is a member of the Lil'wat First Nation of Mount Currie, BC. She is Professor Emeritus from the University of Victoria where she was Canada Research Chair in Indigenous knowledge and learning in the faculties of Education and Humanities. She is past chair of the First Peoples Cultural Council. Lorna is a strong advocate committed to working with Indigenous communities to increase the achievement of Indigenous learners and to teach First Nations languages, culture, heritage, traditions, and history.



Dr. Vanessa de Oliveira Andreotti

My research examines historical and systemic patterns of reproduction of inequalities and how these limit or enable possibilities for collective existence and global change. My publications in this field include analyses of political economies of knowledge production, discussions of the ethics of international development, and critical comparisons

of ideals of globalism and internationalization in education and in global activism, with an emphasis on representations of and relationships with marginalized communities. My work in teacher education conceptualizes education as an expansion of frames of reference and of fields of signification with a view to expanding possibilities for ethical solidarities. My academic work is committed to protecting the public role of the university as critic and conscience of society and as a space of independent, multi-voiced, critically informed and socially accountable debates about alternative futures. I am also a research fellow at the University of Oulu, where I was chair of global education from 2010 to 2013. I am also a research fellow at the Centre for Global Citizenship Education at the University of Alberta.



Dr. Kathy Absolon King is an Anishinaabe kwe from Flying Post First Nation. Currently she is an Associate Professor and Program Coordinator of the Aboriginal Field of Study in the MSW Program at Wilfrid Laurier University. She balances her professional roles with who she is as a partner, mother, sister,

aunty, daughter, friend, community helper, knowledge seeker, educator, researcher and writer. Her passion for wellness among her people has been one of the driving forces in her twenty years of work as an Indigenous holistic social worker with practice background in child welfare, youth justice, adult mental health, community wellness and in education. Becoming an Indigenous scholar has been a consequence of her spirit guiding her to restore and re-story Indigenous peoples history, experiences and knowledge. In 2008 Kathy earned her PhD from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto. Writing, for Kathy, has been a journey. She is the author of a recently published "Kaandossiwin, How we come to know" (2011) and has authored articles and chapters in the area of Native mental health, Indigenous research, Indigenous social work practice, community healing and wellness and Indigenous knowledge.



Dr. Michael Hart is an associate professor in the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Manitoba as well as the Canadian Research Chair in Indigenous Knowledges and Social Work. His areas of specialization include: Indigenous peoples, indigenism, anti-colonialism; Indigenous ways of helping, mental health, suicide; Indigenous families and fathering; communication skills, counseling, and family

practice. Dr. Hart recently has been a speaker at several presentations including Indigenous People and Social Work hosted through the First Nations University of Canada in Regina, SK (2014); Indigenizing social work: A Manitoba experience in Honolulu, Hawaii (2014); and "Truth and Reconciliation: Indigenist Reflections on Mental Health Services in the Aftermath of the Residential School Era," as part of the Faculty of Medicine's 2012 Lecture Series in First Nations, Métis and Inuit Health. Dr. Hart's publications include: Critical Reflection on an Aboriginal Approach to Social Work Practice (in press); Indigenous knowledge and research: The míkiwáhp as a symbol for reclaiming our knowledge and ways of knowing (2007); and Brief reflections on sharing circles and Indigenous worldviews and empowerment (2006); and others.



Dr. Peter Hanohano is Native Hawaiian and grew up on his family kuleana land in Punalu'u on the windward side of Oahu. He is the eldest of 7 children, is married to Maui native, Lynn Puanani Costa Miyahira, and they are the proud parents of 6 children (4 daughters and 2 sons). They also have 12 grandchildren (9 grandsons

and 3 granddaughters). Peter is a graduate of Kamehameha Schools, and went on to pursue his undergraduate degree at Brigham Young University Hawaii, and graduate degrees at BYU in Provo, Utah, in Educational Psychology (MEd) and Law (JD), and his PhD in First Nations/Indigenous Peoples Education from the University of Alberta, in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. He has been involved with Native Hawaiian and Indigenous education for several decades, and currently serves as a Commissioner on the Hawaii State Charter School Commission. He has also been a member of the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC) that promotes Indigenous control of Indigenous education, and has been active in WINHEC accreditation visits to affirm the cultural integrity of Indigenous institutions and programs around the world. He is presently helping to establish the World Indigenous Nations University (WINU) Hawaii Pasifika Region to provide access to Indigenous higher education opportunities to island nations and communities in the Pacific.



Or. Eber Hampton was born into the Chickasaw Tribe of Oklahoma. He grew up in California and obtained his B.A. with Honours in Psychology from Westmont College in Santa Barbara. He went on to graduate school at the University of California, where he studied the Psychology of Human Learning. Later, he enrolled at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and earned a doctorate in administration, planning and social policy. He served as

Director of Harvard's American Indian Program for 4 years. After working at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks and the College of Rural Alaska, from 1986 to 1991, Dr. Hampton became President of First Nations University of Canada (formerly Saskatchewan Indian Federated College), and spearheaded the fundraising campaign to build the university's main campus in Regina. Currently, he is Professor Emeritus of Organizational Theory and Ethics in the Faculty of Business at the University of Regina. Dr. Hampton has participated on many Boards and Commissions including the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, the Advisory Board for the Institute for Aboriginal People's Health, the Saskatchewan Honors Advisory Council, and the Health Quality Council of Saskatchewan.



Dr. Cash Ahenakew (PhD) is a First Nations scholar and an assistant professor in the Department of Education at the University of British Columbia whose research experience and interest focus on the areas of international Indigenous studies in education, curriculum, pedagogy, methodologies and health and wellbeing. He has been a research associate in

International research projects on global citizenship education, international indigenous networks, and critical intercultural education at the universities of Oulu (Finland) and Canterbury (Aotearoa/New Zealand). Cash is Plains Cree and his family comes from Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation.



Elder John Crier has a BA in Native Studies from Augustana University College in Camrose, Alberta. A member of the Samson Cree Nation, John lives and works in his home community of Maskwacis. He and his wife, Marcia, have six children and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

John has been actively involved as a Traditional Knowledge teacher with the Indigenous Peoples Education specialization at the University of Alberta for over 10 years.

21

Story Night-March 25, 2015 -6:00-9:00



Tanya Lukin Linklater is an artist and arts educator based in northern Ontario. Her practice spans experimental choreography, performance, video, photography and installation. She integrates text into her practice through

publication (poetry and essays), performance, and as art object. Tanya studied at University of Alberta (M.Ed.) and Stanford University (A.B. Honours). She will begin her doctoral studies at Queen's University in the Cultural Studies program in 2015. She is Alutiiq from the Native Villages of Afognak and Port Lions in Alaska. www.tanyalukinlinklater.com



Dawn Marie Marchand is Cree from Cold Lake First Nation and Métis. A student of the Boreal Forest Institute for the Indigenous Arts in Fort McMurray, Alberta, she has a unique perspective on mastery based teaching. Some of her mentor/teachers are: Alex Janvier, Garry Bertieg, Joane Cardinal-Schubert, Jane Ash Poitras, Eddie Poitras, Brian

Clark and Rebecca Belmore. Her unique style honours the teachings and stories of her mentors and community while expressing her own vision.



Aaron Paquette is a First Nations artist, novelist and speaker. Along with his extensive career in visual arts, he is a Cathedral Stained Glass artist and trained Goldsmith. Since facing a life changing moment on a very tall bridge on a very long night he has been dedicated to the healing journey for himself and any who would benefit from his efforts. Aaron has created

numerous large scale murals around the province of Alberta, one example being the Grandin Station LRT piece, "Stations of Reconciliation" installed during the TRC visit in Spring 2014. He has worked with youth, teachers and all levels of education for the past 15 years.



22

Fawn and Dallas

For generations, singing has been an integral part of life within Indigenous communities, providing comfort in times of trouble, expressing joy during happy moments and as a means of facilitating reverence and contemplation. Born from this tradition, acclaimed

singers Fawn (Cree/Salish) and Dallas (Cree) present a collection of songs that are meant to soothe the lonely, honour the earth and celebrate the joy of being alive. Reflecting the gratitude they feel for life itself they hope to share the blessings they have received with all. Also, Fawn & Dallas' drumming group *Cree Confederation* will be performing at the Post Conference Youth Workshops on March 28th.

Conference Contributors



- Educational Policy Studies
- Faculty of Education
- Office of the Provost
- Faculty of Education Conference Fund
- Aboriginal Teacher Education Program
- Faculty of Native Studies















Youth/Young Adult Bridging Workshops Contributors







APYWCL: Alliance Pipeline Young Women's Circle of Leadership and CILLDI Canadian Indigenous Languages and Literacy Development Institute

Thank you to all the donors, contributors, staff, IPE faculty and volunteers who made this conference possible. A special thank you to the IPE Innovative Masters cohort Elder John Crier, Coordinator Rochelle Starr, and especially to Dr. Cora Weber Pillwax for her vision, guidance and unfaltering leadership. We are deeply grateful. We couldn't have done it without you!

Sincerely, J. Sinclair Conference Lead

www.aboriginaleducation.ualberta.ca

23