



## THUNDERBIRD UPRISING

CHECK US ONLINE AT: [HTTP://UMANITOBA.CA/NATIVE\\_STUDIES/!!!](http://umanitoba.ca/native_studies/)

# Dept. of Native Studies



University  
of Manitoba

FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER

## 4 Indigenous Languages Offered

This school year, for the first time in the University of Manitoba's 142-year history, **four Indigenous languages will be available for students.** For years, multiple levels of Ojibwe and Cree have been taught in the Department of Native Studies but this year two have been added: Michif and Dakota.

"Indigenous languages are the best way for us to understand Indigenous cultures and communities," says Native Studies Department head Cary Miller. "It's an exciting time."

It's our 45<sup>th</sup> year, the second oldest Native Studies program in the country. We've taught Indigenous languages since our beginning, but our department still hasn't done the one thing we dream to do: produce a fluent speaker.

We'll take a step towards that this year.

For Indigenous communities, languages are integral to identity, cultural continuity, and survival as nations. Language, of course, is not the only expression of a people but is often one of the most important.

Canada's legislative assaults on Indigenous languages – the worst being the residential school system – has resulted in the loss of use of many Indigenous languages. While at one time there were over seventy Indigenous languages and hundreds of dialects, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) lists 80% of Indigenous languages in Canada now being "critically endangered."

Efforts to save them are underway but fight an uphill battle against will and time.

A December 2018 Statistics Canada study showed that there are around 264,000 Indigenous language speakers in Canada – with most "first-speakers" (who grew up speaking the language) over fifty years old.

That same study showed an 8% increase between 1996-2016 in second language speakers. This means more and more Indigenous peoples are learning their own languages after English and French.

There is no magic law that will save Indigenous languages. They will be saved by visionary, local, and committed advocates. This makes the work of universities, schools, and community organizations more critical than ever. This is particularly true for Michif, the language spoken traditionally by Métis – which now only has around one thousand speakers left. Dakota is not a language spoken by many in Winnipeg but taught regularly at Brandon University.

Both languages have small but important communities who have helped build Winnipeg. This is their home too.

Creating courses is only one step though. Building their permanence at the University of Manitoba will require patience to develop, students to enrol, and administration to believe saving Indigenous languages is important. This school year, a big and brave step is being taken by the University of Manitoba in revitalizing Indigenous languages.



### NATV co-hosts UM Teach-In

Come see what our department is doing to help educate the UM Community and what our faculty is sharing to help instill reconciliation on campus!

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### New NATV/WOMST Professor

Come meet our newest professor our department shared with the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Métis scholar Mylène Gamache!

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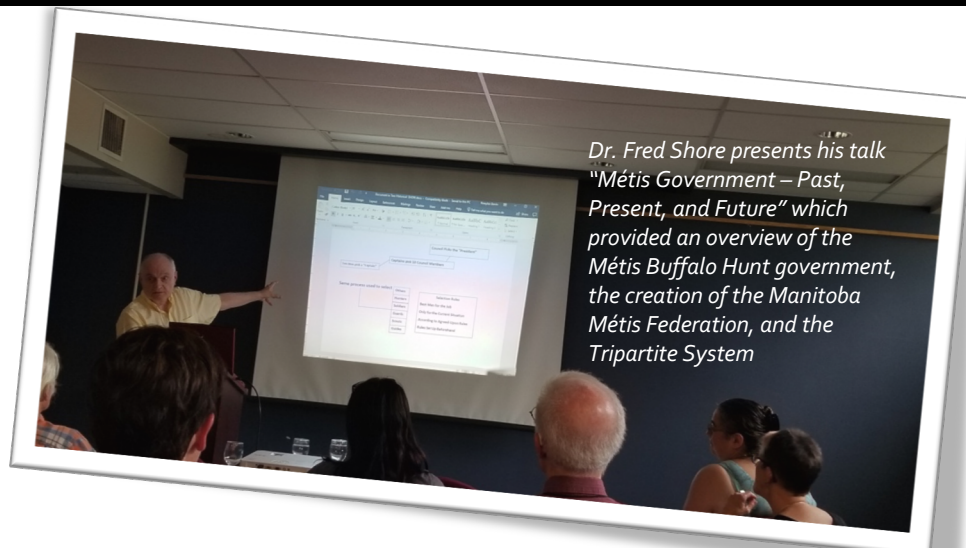
# Native Studies co-hosts UM Teach-In for Reconciliation

On June 21, 2019, National Indigenous Peoples Day, the Department of Native Studies allied with the Campus Alliance for Diversity and Inclusion, the Indigenous Student Centre and Indigenous Achievement to offer an all-day "teach-in" for students, staff, faculty, community members and the general public.

All sessions were held at St. John's College, who provided lunch and hosted the event, and Migizii Agamik, Bald Eagle Lodge. The day was a part of the ongoing work of the Department of Native Studies in facilitating effective training on reconciliation for the UM community.

The teach-in featured sessions on colonialism, resistance, identity, economic development, and relationships – as well as how these relate to and affect reconciliation. The event was an incredible success with packed audiences, provocative comments and questions, and great discussion.

The next UM Teach-in is already in the planning stages and will be held November 15 – keep an eye out for the announcement!



Dr. Fred Shore presents his talk "Métis Government – Past, Present, and Future" which provided an overview of the Métis Buffalo Hunt government, the creation of the Manitoba Métis Federation, and the Tripartite System

## Native Studies faculty members presented the following sessions:

**Cary Miller:** "What Does Reconciliation Have to do with Me?"

**Chris Trott:** "Colonialism & Resistance, Inuit Style"

**Peter Kulchyski:** "Colonialism & Resistance in Northern Manitoba"

**Niigaan Sinclair:** "The Top 10 Things You Need to Know About Reconciliation in MB"

**Fred Shore:** "Métis Government – Past, Present & the Future"



## Introducing Mylène Gamache

Of mixed French and Métis ancestry, Mylène Gamache's work is committed to the decolonizing potential of dream-work and contemporary feminine storytelling. She has an honours B.A. from the U of Manitoba in Philosophy and Women's and Gender Studies, an M.A. from the Institute of Women and Gender Studies at the U of Toronto, and a Ph.D. in English at the U of Kent.

Her doctoral work entitled *Brooding: The Inexperience of Reading and Other Psychic Bits*, proposes a reading approach which deliberately fails to settle on fixed meanings or secure immediate understanding. Her current research adapts methods proposed there and explores how a range of

Indigenous texts write beyond settler-sanctioned forms of recognition to bear witness to agents of ecological devastation and colonial dispossession, while charting alternative courses.

Recently cross-appointed to the position of Associate Professor in Native Studies and Women's and Gender Studies, she has previously taught WOMN 1500 Introduction to Women's Studies in the Humanities at the U of M; in the Fall of 2019, she is teaching WOMN 2640 Issues in Gender and the Body, and in the Winter term of 2020, she will be guiding lectures in both WOMN 2630 Indigenous Feminisms and NATV 2430 Indigenous Women's Stories.







## New mural Unveiled Outside NEW Native Studies Offices

Visitors to the new Native Studies offices, located at 215 Isbister Building will notice a new mural located in front of our doors, entitled "Thunderbird Uprising," created by renowned artists Christi Belcourt and Isaac Murdoch. The wall-sized piece was unveiled in summer 2019 and is already creating quite a buzz around campus.

Christi Belcourt is a Michif (Métis) visual artist with a deep respect for Mother Earth, the traditions and the knowledge of her people. In addition to her paintings she is also known as a community based artist, environmentalist and advocate for the lands, waters and Indigenous peoples. Her work is found within the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Canada, the Art Gallery of Ontario, Gabriel Dumont Institute, the Indian and Inuit Art Collection, Parliament Hill, the Thunder Bay Art Gallery and Canadian Museum of Civilization, First People's Hall.

Isaac Murdoch whose Ojibway name is Manzinapkinegego'anaabe / Bombgiizhik is from the fish clan and is from Serpent River First Nation. He is well respected as a storyteller and traditional knowledge holder and for many years he has led various workshops and cultural camps that focuses on the transfer of knowledge to youth. Other areas of expertise include: traditional ojibway paint, imagery/symbolism, harvesting, medicine walks, & ceremonial knowledge, cultural camps, Anishinaabeg oral history, birch bark canoe making, birch bark scrolls, Youth & Elders workshops, etc.

Belcourt and Murdoch are co-founders (alongside Métis/Cree artist Erin Konsmo) of the Onaman Collective, a community based social arts and justice organization, interested in helping Indigenous communities, particularly youth, with reclaiming the richness and vibrancy of their heritage including traditional arts, but with a contemporary spin. The collective combines land-based contemporary art creation with traditional arts, Anishinaabemowin immersion, and Elders and traditional knowledge and land based practices.

Our department is so honoured to have "Thunderbird Uprising" as a part of our new location and campus community!

## Cariou Named "Outstanding Professor" in Faculty of Arts

Métis professor Warren Cariou – who sits on several Native Studies committees and has co-edited books such as *Manitowapow: Aboriginal Writings from the Land of Water* with Native Studies faculty member Niigaan Sinclair, has been named the 2019 Faculty of Arts "Outstanding Professor." The award is given to a professor in the Faculty of Arts "who has best demonstrated excellence in teaching, outstanding research and who has an exemplary record of service."

Cariou was born in Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan into a family of Métis and European heritage. His books, films, photography and scholarly research explore themes of community, environment, orality and belonging in the Canadian west, with particular focus on the relationships between Indigenous stories and the land. His books *The Exalted Company of Roadside Martyrs* and *Lake of the Prairies: A Story of Belonging* have won numerous awards, including the Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Nonfiction and the Drainie-Taylor Prize for biography. He has also co-directed and co-produced two films about Aboriginal people in western Canada's oil sands region: *Overburden* and *Land of Oil and Water*.

Cariou is the Director of the Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture (CCWOC) in the Faculty of Arts and a former Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Narrative, Community and Indigenous Cultures. He is described by his colleagues as an "immensely respected, accomplished, and sought-after literary scholar" and is a respected member on committees for the Department of English, Theatre, Film & Media and the Department of Native Studies, and participates in the Faculty of Arts Equity and Human Rights Committee and the Steering Committee for CCWOC. In addition to these committees, Dr. Cariou has a role on the Executive of the Canadian Consortium for Performance and Politics in the Americas and is the inaugural President of the Indigenous Literary Studies Association.





# UMNATV NEWS & NOTES



**Dr. Cary Miller** attended the 2019 Native American and Indigenous Studies Association annual conference at the University of Waikato in Aotearoa/New Zealand and presented a paper entitled: "That We Might One Day Be as One Body" Metis Nation-building in Canada and the US in the Nineteenth Century." Dr. Miller is also hosting an "Indigenous Book Club" for UM faculty during the 2019-20 school year.



**Dr. Wanda Wuttunee** is co-editing a forthcoming book entitled *Indigenous Economic Tanacity* to be published with the University of Manitoba Press in 2021. She also received a "Service Award" for completing twenty-five years at the University of Manitoba.



**Dr. Emma LaRocque** is completing a forthcoming essay on Indigenous gender and philosophy while continuing to write poetry and lecture nationally. She received a "Trailblazer Award" for her work advocating for Indigenous literature and engaging racism.



**Dr. Peter Kulchyski** received the Hemispheric Institute Senior Fellow Award for his contributions to politics and performance in the Americas. He is completing his study on the Royal Proclamation and publishing it in 2021. He also got married – congrats Peter!

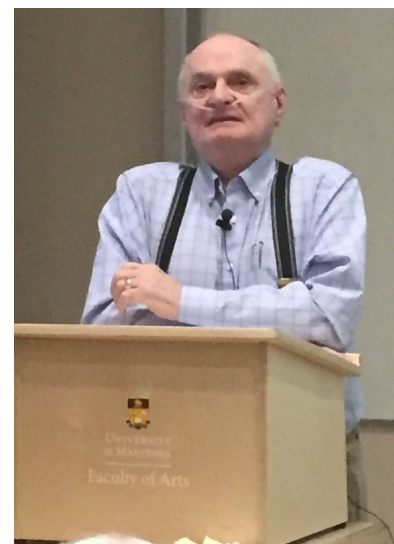


**Dr. Niigaan Sinclair** was named the

2018 Canadian columnist of the Year at the National Newspaper Awards for his bi-weekly columns in *The Winnipeg Free Press*. He also has written an essay defining the term "Indigenous" in a forthcoming anthology called *Keywords for Children's Literature*, published by NYU Press in 2020.



**Dr. Chris Trott** is contributing an essay to a forthcoming anthology called *Inuit Worlds* to be published with Routledge in 2021. He is also heading a fundraising drive to help expand St. John's College, where he continues to be Warden.



**Dr. Fred Shore** recently gave a talk entitled "Why Are the Métis So Hard to Identify" in the UM Indigenous Scholar Series. He also received a "Service Award" for completing twenty-five years of service at the University of Manitoba.

**Look for our NEW NATV faculty members Pat Ningewance, Sean Carleton, David Parent, and Merissa Daborn in 2020!**



# NATV GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

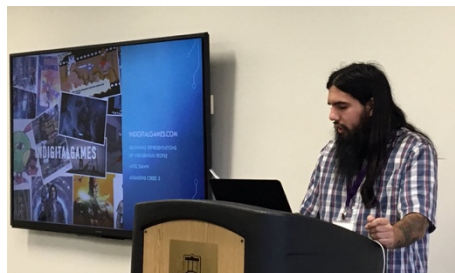


Masters student **Janice Bone** defended her thesis "Water, Dreams & Treaties: Agnes Ross' Mémékwésiwak stories & Treaty 5."

Masters student **Belinda Nicholson** defended her thesis "Unsettling: How Euro-Whiteness was Portrayed to Indigenous School Children in Missionary Texts in the Great Lakes Area, 1830-1845."



Masters student **Emily Henderson** defended her thesis "Non-Indigenous Involvement in Indigenous Performance Arts: A Starting Point for Reconciliation?"



Masters student **Naithan Lagace** defended his thesis "Indigenous Representations and the Impacts of Video Game Media on Relationships, Community, and Culture" and is now an Indigenous Studies instructor at the University of Winnipeg.

Masters student **Leslie Agger** is a Council Member for the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba.



Masters student **Angelina McLeod** has completed a series of short films for the National Film Board on her community of Shoal Lake 40 First Nation and the struggle to build "Freedom Road."

**Dr. Allyson Anderson** successfully defended her dissertation "Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves: The Contrapuntal Rantings of a Halfbreed Girl."



**Dr. Ramona Neckaway** successfully defended her dissertation "'Where the Otters Play,' 'Horseshoe Bay,' 'Footprint' and Beyond: Spatial and Temporal Considerations of Hydroelectric Energy Production in Manitoba" – receiving a Distinguished Dissertation Award. She is an instructor at University College of the North.



PhD candidate **Catherine Mattes** published the essay "The Perception Series: KC Adams, and the Value of Socially Engaged Art" in KC Adams' art book *Perception* (Highwater Press) and is an Associate Professor in Visual & Aboriginal Art at Brandon University.

PhD candidate **Stephanie Sinclair** presented a workshop on "Indigenous Frameworks & Methodology" at the 2019 Canadian Association of Research Ethics Boards Conference.

PhD candidate **Melanie Belmore** was awarded a Doctoral Award for Indigenous Scholars at the University of Manitoba and is

an instructor of the University College of the North.



PhD candidate **Darren Courchene** is co-editing an anthology entitled *Nanabush & Buddha Link Arms: Why Treaties Matter to Religious Communities* and he is a tenure-track professor in Indigenous Studies at the University of Winnipeg.



PhD student **Laura Forsythe** co-edited the book *Research Journeys In/To Multiple Ways of Knowing* (Dio Press Inc).

PhD student **Timothy Maton** is an Associate Editor at the *Journal of Multi-Disciplinary Research*, located at Trent University.

PhD student **Richard Stecencko** attended the Asia-Pacific Interdisciplinary Research in Accounting Conference in Auckland, New Zealand and presented in the Emerging Scholars Colloquium.

PhD student **Jennifer Keith** is completing a research project for the Tłıchǫ Research & Training Institute entitled "Whose North? The Intersection of Sovereignty between Indigenous Nations and the State."



PhD student **Brielle Beudin-Reimer** has been awarded a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship to study sustainable development and Indigenous food sovereignty issues.

## BY THE NUMBERS...

223,310

Indigenous population of Manitoba according to the 2016 census, constituting 18% of the province. Of this: 130,505 are First Nations, 89,360 are Métis, and 610 are Inuit. And, of this: 92,810 live in Winnipeg.

48.3%

Of First Nations people live off-reserve in Manitoba, with the majority in Winnipeg.

29.3 years

The average age of the Indigenous population in Manitoba (provincial average: 40.7 years).



### Meet Carmela, NEW Admin!

Carmela Cianflone joined the Department of Native Studies in June 2019. Prior to joining Native Studies, she worked in the Faculty of Arts Student Advising Office as the Student Registration and Records Supervisor. Her experience includes financial and human resource administration; program coordination and admissions; quality assurance and office management; holding positions in Audit Services, University of Manitoba Bookstore, Asper School of Business, Physician Assistant Education Program as well as the Integrated Accreditation Unit. She has over 13 years' experience working at the University of Manitoba. Welcome Carmela!

### Contact us !

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U of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2 Canada  
Phone: 204-474-9266 Fax: 204-474-7657  
Toll Free: 1-800-432-1960 (within Manitoba)  
Email: Native\_Studies@umanitoba.ca

## NATV Summer Institute a Success

This past summer, while students were on vacation, the Department of Native Studies held it's first-ever Summer Institute to provide support to faculty who wish to Indigenize their existing courses or to work on creating an Indigenous content course that would potentially meet a future Indigenous Content Requirement (ICR).

A pilot program in the Faculty of Arts, the weekly course was coordinated by Native Studies Department Head Cary Miller and featured faculty presentations discussing issues and approaches to teaching Indigenous content. Among covering history, other topics included: selecting sources, constructing a syllabus and discussing race in the classroom. Classes were held on Wednesday mornings from April to June and elders were also made available.

The aim of the Institute was to build capacity and expertise in Arts for delivering Indigenous content. A group of over twenty UM faculty explored the cultural and historical context and literatures of Indigenous peoples in Manitoba and Canada. They also learned about Indigenous epistemologies and pedagogies and the way these align with and differ from standard Western understandings of knowledge, its acquisition and dissemination.

In addition, participants in all eight weeks were asked to complete a Pre-Test and a Post-Test to assess prior knowledge and learning outcomes and required to keep a journal recording their reflections on the readings and topics for the weeks they attend. Many participants chose some "extra assignments" which included devising lectures from Olive Dickason and William Newbigging's book *Indigenous Peoples Within Canada: A Concise History*, 4<sup>th</sup> or designing lessons to incorporate Indigenous literature or research into their classroom. Many participants emerged with the ability to design a full syllabus for a course that could meet a future Indigenous Content Requirement in the Faculty of Arts.

### *Want to Try the Pre-Test in the Summer Institute? Try these questions!*

1. What province has the most Indigenous peoples in Canada?
2. What is the most widely spoken Indigenous language in Manitoba?
3. What is the average age of the Indigenous population of MB?
4. How can you define Colonialism?
5. What is the Indian Act?
6. Do Indigenous peoples pay taxes?
7. What might be a connection between unemployment and Indigenous health & social issues?
8. How long did Canada's Residential Schools operate?
9. Do all Indigenous people practice traditional spirituality?
10. Were all treaties with Indigenous people signed after Confederation?
11. How did the Indian Act disenfranchise Indigenous women?
12. How did Louis Riel's Red River Resistance create Manitoba?
13. Which First Nations reserves are accessible only via winter ice roads or air travel at \$800 per ticket?
14. What is the percentage of children in CFS care in Manitoba?
15. Name one Indigenous leader (past or present) and a way he or she contributed to Canada's history.
16. What is a traditional land acknowledgment?
17. Identify 3 reasons an Indigenous person might not live in an Indigenous community.
18. Identify 3 circumstances in which you should give an Indigenous person tobacco and/or a gift.
19. Identify three reasons students may feel nervous in classrooms addressing Indigenous topics.
20. Why is it important to Indigenize the University of Manitoba?



## Métis Inclusion Office Open

"Over 60 per cent of the Indigenous community at the University of Manitoba identify as Métis," says University of Manitoba Métis Inclusion Coordinator Laura Forsythe. In response, a special Métis Inclusion Office is funded by the U of M Indigenous Initiatives Fund and based in Migizii Agamik (the Indigenous Student Centre). It offers Métis students programming while also increases understanding of the importance of Métis cultures in the University of Manitoba community. Forsythe also assists the Native Studies Department in selecting Colloquium speakers.



Métis inclusion in her PhD work here too. Check out the work Laura does and the vital role the Métis community plays at the University of Manitoba!

"As a Métis woman, I am committed to inspiring transformative change in education by creating learning environments that utilize Métis perspectives and providing safe spaces for all learners to explore their identity." Forsythe's family is from the Red River Settlement. She holds a BA in First Nations Studies, a B.Ed. specializing in Indigenous Perspectives in Education and a Masters degree from the Native Studies Department. She is currently studying



## FIRESIDE CHATS:

TALKS ON INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGES

Hosted by the Indigenous Student Centre

**TUESDAYS | 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM**

Migizii Agamik – Bald Eagle Lodge | Everyone is welcome

### FALL 2019 SCHEDULE:

September 17	Elder Norman Meade - Elder's Speak
September 24	Elder Harry Bone - Treaty Commission
October 01	Carl Stone - Tobacco and Smudging
October 08	Christine Cyr - Full Moon Ceremonies
October 15	Sharon Parenteau - Meaning of the Metis Sash Colours
October 22	Grandfather Wanbli Wakita - Elder's Speak
October 29	Lorne Olson - Short Films and Indigenous Film Industry
November 05	Bill Shead - Peguig: History and Economic Contributions
November 12	Fall Break
November 19	Percy Lezard - The Lived Realities of 2SLGBTQIA
November 26	Dr. Niigaanwewidam Sinclair - Indigenous Media 101
December 03	Norbert Mercredi - Indigenous Games

For more information:  
Indigenous Student Centre  
204.474.8850  
isc@umanitoba.ca  
umanitoba.ca/indigenous



## Indigenous Student Resources at U of M

### Metis University Students' Association

The Metis University Students' Association (MUSA) is an official UMSU student group that represents and supports Metis students at the University of Manitoba. MUSA encourages Metis and non-Metis students attending the University of Manitoba to come together by promoting, preserving and exploring Metis culture and provides an open forum for discussion on Metis-related issues on a municipal, provincial or national level. MUSA provides information on Metis issues through planning and organizing political, recreational, and cultural events throughout the year. MUSA also works closely with the Indigenous Student Centre, the University of Manitoba Indigenous Students' Association (UMISA) and the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) to ensure that Metis students are equally represented, have a positive campus experience and achieve their highest potential at the University of Manitoba. All University of Manitoba students are welcome to join MUSA so you do not need to be a Metis citizen to be a part. Just email: [musainformation1@gmail.com](mailto:musainformation1@gmail.com) for membership forms and receive up-to-date information.



### U of M Indigenous Students' Association

The University of Manitoba Indigenous Students Association (UMISA) is a non-profit, service delivery group which works along side the University of Manitoba Student's Union. Our goal is to help make University life a pleasant one while providing personal, cultural and moral support to all our members, Indigenous and non-Indigenous. UMISA provides support and information on Indigenous issues by planning and organizing recreational, political, social and cultural events throughout the year. All registered U of M students who support these initiatives are encouraged to join. UMISA also provides our members with two centres to gather, meet, and relax. The UMISA Lounges are located in Room 195 Helen Glass Centre and in Migizii Agamik. The lounge at 45 Curry Place is open daily from 8:30 am – 10:00 pm and for 24 hour, 7 days a week access to the lounge and computer area in Migizii Agamik, please visit our office to register. For more info, email: [umisa@umsu.ca](mailto:umisa@umsu.ca) or phone: 204-474-8396.





UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA

Faculty of Arts

# BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY: NATIVE STUDIES & THE LOCAL

Department of Native Studies Fall 2019 Colloquium

WEDNESDAYS 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM  
307 TIER BUILDING UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

<b>Sept. 26, 2019 (Thurs. 1 pm)</b>	<b>Shame &amp; Prejudice: Indigenous Art and The Future</b> KENT MONKMAN, ARTIST NOTE! IN NATIVE STUDIES BOARDROOM (207) ISBISTER)
<b>Oct. 2, 2019</b>	<b>Peace and Good Order: The Case for Indigenous Justice</b> HAROLD JOHNSON, AUTHOR & LAWYER
<b>Oct. 9, 2019</b>	<b>Remembering Indigenous Kinship Ties, Layered Bodies, and Visitation (W)Rites</b> MYLÈNE GAMACHE, ASST. PROFESSOR (NATV/WOMST)
<b>Oct. 16, 2019</b>	<b>Climate Change and Bush People</b> PETER KULCHYSKI, PROFESSOR (NATIVE STUDIES)
<b>Oct. 23, 2019</b>	<b>Indigenous Futurisms</b> CHELSEA VOWEL, AUTHOR & GRAD STUDENT (U OF ALB)
<b>Oct. 30, 2019</b>	<b>NATV Indigenous Languages Roundtable</b> WESTIN SUTHERLAND, OJIBWE CARTOON DUBBINGS JAMES CHALMERS, PHD STUDENT (NATIVE STUDIES) AANDEG MULDREW, OJIBWE LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR KEN PAUPANEKIS, CREE LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR
<b>Nov. 6, 2019</b>	<b>Water, Shoal Lake &amp; the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike</b> ADELE PERRY, PROFESSOR (HISTORY) NOTE! IN NATIVE STUDIES BOARDROOM (207 ISBISTER)
<b>Nov. 20, 2019</b>	<b>Kishchee Tey Mo'yawn Aen Michif Wi'yawn (Proud to be Métis)</b> VICKI BOUVIER, ASST. PROFESSOR, MOUNT ROYAL UNIV.
<b>Nov. 27, 2019</b>	<b>How Anishinaabeg Knowledge Will Save the World</b> NIIGAAN SINCLAIR, ASSOC. PROFESSOR (NATIVE STUDIES)
<b>Dec. 4, 2019</b>	<b>Indigenous Entrepreneurship 101</b> J. ARNO SHARPE, PHD STUDENT (NATIVE STUDIES)

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OR FACEBOOK AT:

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/UOFMNATIVESTUDIESDEPT](https://www.facebook.com/UOFMNATIVESTUDIESDEPT)