

THE FIRST GENERATION ABORIGINAL STUDENT EXPERIENCE

FACILITATORS:

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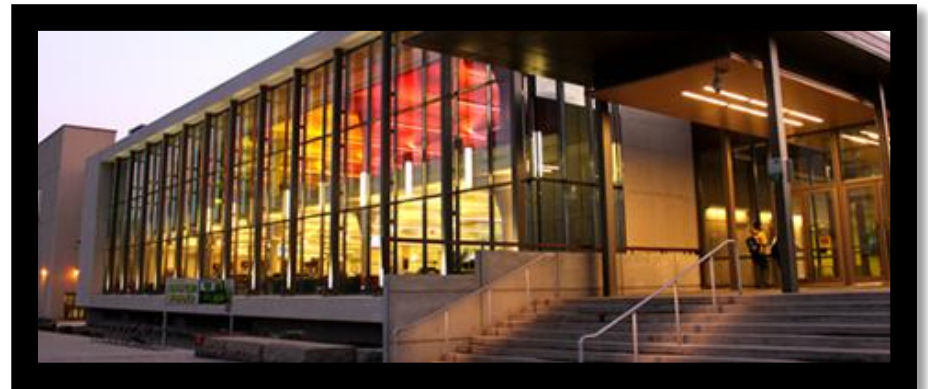


SHERIDAN COLLEGE

Oakville, Ontario

MOHAWK COLLEGE

Hamilton, Ontario



UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Victoria, British Columbia



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Community and family expectations
- Relationship building is key
- Presentations in community
- Develop community-based programs
- STEM, education students, co-op students, community internships, practicum placements
- Strengthening Connections Program

PREPARE FOR TRANSITION

- ATRP- Aboriginal Student Transitions Handbook
- Survival Skills for Transitioning to Post-Secondary workshops

ORIENTATIONS TO CAMPUS

- Mini-University Summer Camp
- Indigenous Adult Orientation
- Indigenous Graduate Student Orientation
- Pathways & Opportunities Program
- Campus Connections Program
- Week of Welcome

MENTORSHIP

- Elders-in-Residence
- LE, NONET Campus Cousins
- TD Indigenous Student Career Transitions Program
- Community of Learning

CULTURAL SUPPORT

- Elders' Voices Program
- Craft & Culture Night
- Community Kitchens
- Man-to-Man Project
- Mix & Mingle Lunches
- Talking Circles
- All Nations Drum Group
- Native Student Union
- Week of Wellness
- Indigenous Recognition Ceremony

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- Base funding to support Aboriginal student success
- Aboriginal communities are beginning to trust post-secondary institutions, we need to ensure we are putting financial resources towards maintaining and expanding services
- Bursaries, scholarships, emergency funding
- Budgeting and financial planning

CAMPUS WIDE CULTURAL AWARENESS

- Indigenous Cultural Acumen Training
- History of oppression and Aboriginal history to faculty and staff
- Increase awareness of Aboriginal issues and Aboriginal student barriers
- Community of Practice

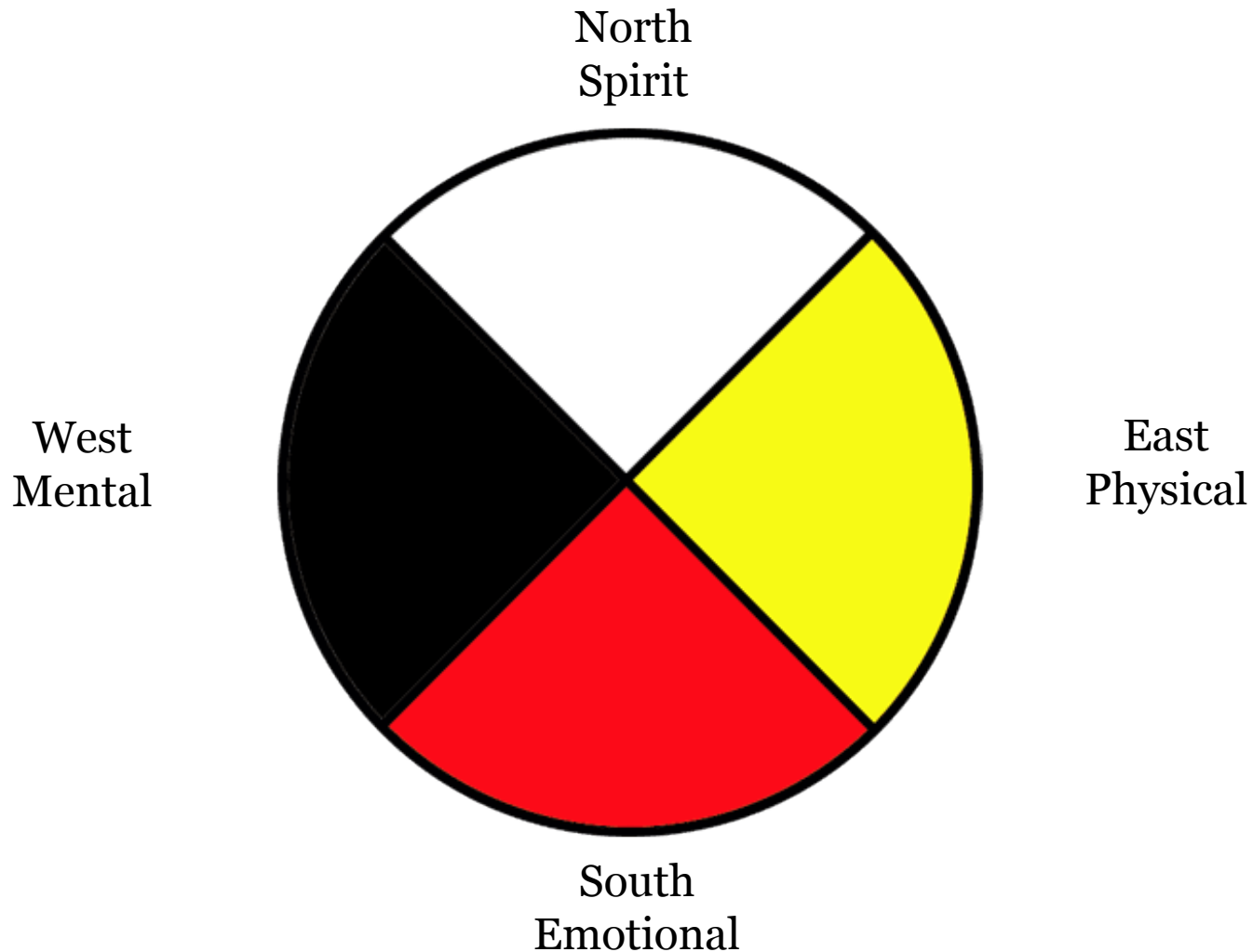
Supporting FG Aboriginal Students

- Wholistic Transition-Involve all student supports
 - Family & Friends Night & lunches
 - Semester Family & Friends Calendar highlighting peak stress periods
 - Sessions for family & friends to help relieve stress
 - After hour events to involve community and student supports
 - Celebrate accomplishments with family & friends
 - Recognize how we create atmosphere of familiar
 - Plan for students with NO supports

What students report they experience:

- Loneliness
- Reluctance to self-advocate
- Financial challenges
- Family responsibilities & resistance
- Difficulty with institutional language and systems
- Housing & Daycare issues

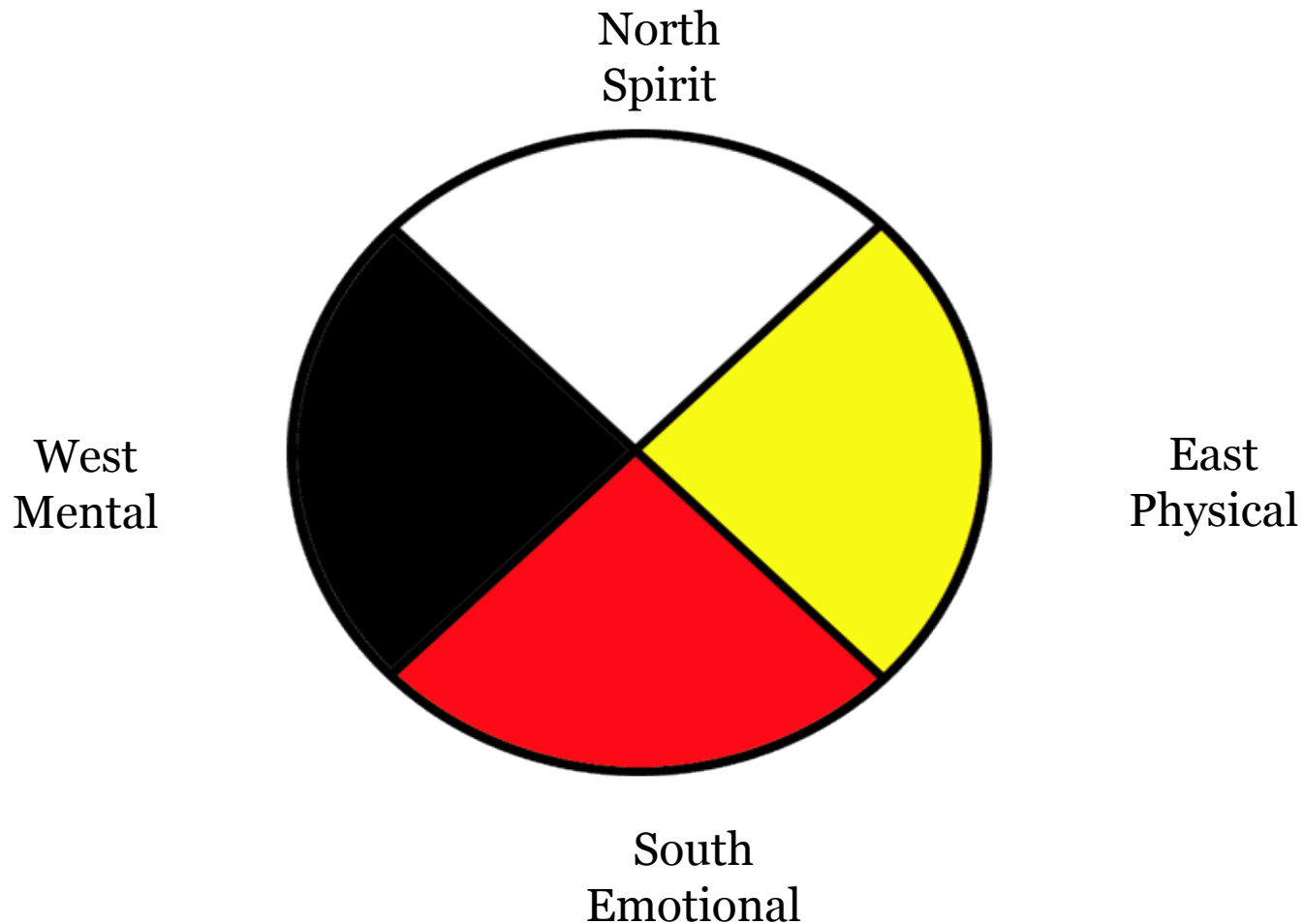
Medicine Wheel Teaching



Medicine Wheel Teaching

- Recognize many of our students have a world view distinctly different from the College and the employees, which colours the student life cycle
- Wholistic lens for planning and evaluation
- Make sure enrolment language and addresses needs/concerns in culturally appropriate ways covers all aspects of the individual
- Use all four aspects to assess, plan and evaluate

Utilize these teachings: for self, for role, for institution





Now here's your chance