

Elders Package



7th IIVSW 2025 CONFERENCE

*One Child Every Child: Indigenous Ways of Knowing,
Doing, Connecting, and Being for Advancing the Well-Being
of Our Future Generations*

Event Information



Key Areas

- **MacEwan Hall A/B**, ground floor
 - Check-in Desk outside Hall
- **Parallel Sessions**
 - Bianca, Cassio A & B, Escalus Rooms: MacEwan Hall, 2nd Floor
 - Room 100, 110, 118/120, and 140/148: Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning, ground floor
- **Exhibitor & Vendor Area (August 13 only)**
 - Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning Foyer, ground floor

Accessibility

- Gender-inclusive washrooms on second floor and accessible washrooms on each level
- Quiet/Sensory-Friendly Spaces available

Questions? Visit the check-in desk or ask volunteers in red shirts



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August 12

7 – 8 am: Pipe Ceremony,
Taylor Institute 100

8 – 9 am: Breakfast,
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

9 – 10:30 am: Grand Entry,
Opening Prayer & Remarks
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

10:30 – 11 am: Break

11 am – 12 pm:
Nation Acknowledgement,
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

12 – 1 pm: Lunch
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

1 – 2 pm: Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Kathy Absolon,
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

2 – 2:30 pm: Break

2 – 4 pm: Elders Circle, led by
Reg Crowshoe, supported by
the University of the Fraser
Valley, and **open to all Elders**,
*That Empty Space Room,
MacEwan, ground floor*

2:30 – 3:30 pm:
Parallel Sessions,
*2nd floor MacEwan & Taylor
Institute for Teaching and
Learning*

3:30 – 4 pm: Break

4 – 5 pm:
Parallel Sessions,
*2nd floor MacEwan & Taylor
Institute for Teaching and
Learning*

August 13



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Vendors and Organizations Onsite,
Taylor Institute Foyer
10 am – 5 pm

7 – 8 am: Pipe Ceremony,
Taylor Institute 100

8 – 9 am: Breakfast
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

9 – 10 am: Plenary Talk, Dr.
Michael Hart
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

10– 10:30 am: Break

10:30 am – 12 pm:
Parallel Sessions,
*2nd floor MacEwan &
Taylor Institute*

12 – 1 pm: Lunch
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

1 – 2 pm:
Parallel Sessions,
*2nd floor MacEwan &
Taylor Institute*

2 – 2:30 pm: Break

2:30 – 3:30 pm:
Parallel Sessions,
*2nd floor MacEwan &
Taylor Institute*

3:30 – 4 pm: Break

4 – 5 pm: Parallel Sessions,
*2nd floor MacEwan &
Taylor Institute*

August 14



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Excursions Offsite

10:30 am to 4:30 pm

7 – 8 am: Pipe Ceremony,
Taylor Institute 100

8 – 9 am: Breakfast,
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

9 – 10 am: Plenary Talk,
Dr. Halaevalu Vakalahi
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

10– 10:30 am: Break

10:30 am – 12 pm:
Presentations, Workshops
and Excursions,
Multiple Locations

12 – 1 pm: Boxed Lunch
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

1 – 2:30 pm:
Presentations, Workshops
and Excursions,
Multiple Locations

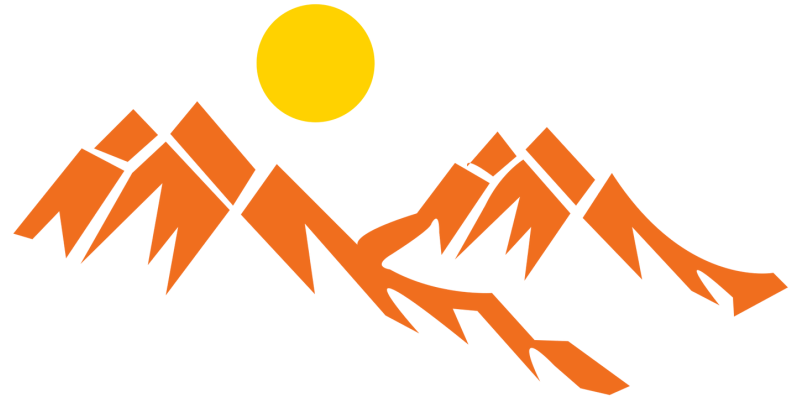
2:30 – 3 pm: Break

3 – 4:30 pm:
Presentations, Workshops
and Excursions,
Multiple Locations

4:30 – 6 pm: Break

6 – 9 pm: Gala,
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

August 15



7 – 8 am: Pipe Ceremony,
Taylor Institute 100

8 – 9 am: Breakfast,
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

9 – 10 am: Plenary Talk,
Dr. Hilary Weaver
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

10– 10:30 am: Break

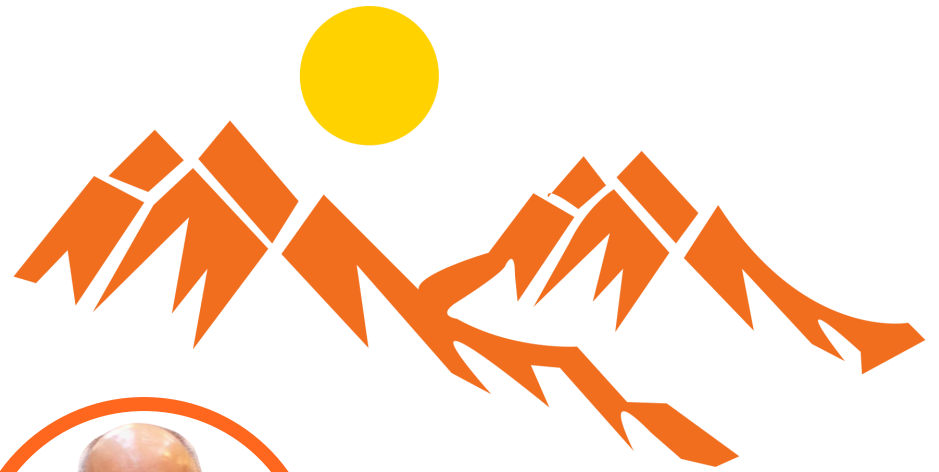
10:30 am – 12 pm:
Report Back and
Closing Remarks,
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*

12 – 1 pm: Lunch,
*MacEwan Hall,
ground floor*



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Speakers



Dr. Kathy Absolon
August 12



Dr. Michael Hart
August 13



Dr. Halaevalu Vakalahi
August 14



Elder Dr. Reg Crowshoe
August 14, *Gala*



Dr. Hilary Weaver
August 15

Scan the QR code or visit
iivsw.com for talk titles.



Excursions



Scan the QR code
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1. Miskanawah (80 spots)

Miskanawah welcomes attendees to askiy-pimatsiwin, Earth Gives Life, for a day of land-based learning with Elders and Knowledge Keepers from Treaty 6 and 7. Participants will engage in cultural teachings, traditional games and discussions on the impacts of colonization, all held in teepees surrounded by nature. Please dress for the weather and wear closed-toe shoes .

2. Wood's Homes (30 spots)

This excursion offers participants the opportunity to take part in a Cree Sweat Lodge Ceremony, led by Elder John Crier from Samson Cree Nation at a Therapeutic Campus-Based Care site. The experience includes four rounds of ceremony focused on healing, connection and support for youth in care, with opportunities to participate fully or observe.

3. Tsuut'ina (40 spots)

This one of a kind excursion will highlight the work of Tsuut'ina Child & Family Services and related programs dedicated to protecting children and strengthening families in the community. Participants will learn how we support youth who often face challenges after leaving care, including services that address addiction and help ensure no one falls through the cracks. Please dress for the weather.

Excursions



4. Tipi Raising Workshop (30 spots)

You are warmly invited to join Kiipitakyoyis, Grandmother's Lodge, for a meaningful gathering that highlights the Lodge's vital role within the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Calgary. This session will offer an opportunity to learn more about the Lodge and the supports that the Lodge provides to students, staff and faculty, in deepening their understanding of Indigenous Ways of Knowing, Being, Doing and Connecting.

5. Eya Hey Nakoda (30 spots)

This Importance of Song workshop is lead by well-known drummer, singer, knowledge keeper, and lead of Eya Hey Nakoda. The workshop will provide an overview of the significance of drumming, some historical background around drumming from his nation's perspective, and its current role in Indigenous communities and ceremonies. A key aspect of the workshop will be the teaching participants how to sing the honour song that Rod Hunter had gifted the University of Calgary.

6. Piikani Child & Family & University of Calgary's Faculty of Social Work (30 spots)

Piikani Child and Family Services (PCFS) is using modern technology to preserve and share Piikani culture, language, Elder teachings, family history and land connection with children and families both on and off the Nation. Participants will learn how PCFS creates Blackfoot genograms and family books for children in care, using original Blackfoot symbols, family stories, historical research and artwork to support strong cultural identity and meaningful planning for First Nations/Indigenous children from a Piikani perspective.

Excursions

7. Aboriginal Friendship Center, AFC (40 spots)

This on-campus session, hosted by Blackfoot Knowledge Keepers and the Aboriginal Friendship Centre of Calgary's CRCD team, invites participants to engage in Blackfoot Traditional Teachings through ceremony, story and hands-on experiences such as dream catcher making and traditional games. Attendees will deepen their connection to land and culture through teachings on medicinal plants, smudging and storytelling, while learning about AFCC's community programming and participating in a closing round dance.

8. Stoney Health (40 spots)

This excursion explores Indigenous social work from the perspective of the Iyârhe Nakoda people, highlighting how traditional, cultural and contemporary practices come together to support community well-being. Topics include ceremony, language, historical impacts and strength-based approaches that empower youth, families and future generations.



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Wifi

I have a UCalgary Account:

Wifi Network: airuc-secure

Username/password:

Your existing UCalgary
login info

I'm a UCalgary Guest:

Wifi Network: airuc-guest

Username/password: fill in
email, name and phone
number to receive
password

Questions?

- Ask volunteers in red shirts or visit the registration tables



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