

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP I

THE JOURNEY STARTS HERE: FIRST STEPS TOWARDS RECONCILIATION AS AN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PRACTITIONER

PRESENTER(S)

DR. LINDA PARDY
UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY

DATE | TIME

SUNDAY, JUNE 23
09:30 - 12:30

It is essential that the international education sector work alongside Indigenous peoples to develop our paths to reconciliation in the everyday work of schools and institutions. This interactive workshop is designed for individuals looking to deepen their understanding of reconciliation as an international education practitioner.

The workshop will span from personal work to community involvement, as well as explore how Indigenization in a Canadian context applies to our internationalization efforts. Participants will come away with strategies to support meaningful engagement in active reconciliation in professional spaces.

Topics will include but are not limited to: the importance of working with elders, and defining decolonization, Indigenization, internationalization, and how they intertwine and manifest in everyday work.

This presentation aims to create a learning space where conversation can not only be started but where participants can find motivation to continue the dialogue. The learning objectives for the presentation are to:

- Identify personal responses to Indigenization
- Compare decolonization and Indigenization
- Describe the practice of outrospective thinking
- Define Indigenization as an outgoing process
- Outline individual roles and responsibilities in allyship
- Identify strategies for introducing and sustaining decolonizing and Indigenizing work
- Engage in transformative practices

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP II

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGIES: MODELS AND RESOURCES NON-CLINICAL SUPPORT SERVICE UNITS CAN LEVERAGE TO ADDRESS THE WHOLE STUDENT

PRESENTER(S)

KARIN KOSARZOVA
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MARTIN MROZ
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

DATE | TIME

SUNDAY, JUNE 23
09:30 - 12:30

Health and wellbeing directly contribute to student success. Across North America, campuses and students are reporting through the National College Health Assessment the poor mental health of students as a major stress negatively affecting this success. Non-clinical support services experience this stress as well.

Institutions respond to these issues with a focus on clinical services and supports, as poor mental health is often seen as an illness and clinical issue. Connecting the student to these clinical resources is sometimes too late and can feel non-collaborative and like a black-box of confidentiality.

Adding additional clinical supports may very well be necessary; however, this alone is a reactive, tactical response to an issue that requires a proactive, strategic, and whole campus solution. Leveraging resources and initiatives from across the institution can be an effective way to ensure that wellbeing is holistically addressed, with an appropriate international lens.

Our workshop will engage participants in exploring some of the issues facing non-clinical support services and departments; and use contemporary health promotion practices, mental health frameworks, and real-life examples to:

- Understand the difference between illness, resilience and flourishing to identify opportunities through a strengths-based approach
- Identify opportunities for collaboration with others on campus
- Understand what support and collaboration to expect from clinical units
- Navigating confidentiality
- Use a variety of perspectives to create more holistic supports leveraging the whole campus

These topics will be framed interactively using:

- Mental illness and Flourishing models
- The Okanagan Charter: An International Charter for Health Promoting Universities and Colleges
- Post-Secondary Student Mental Health: Guide to a Systemic Approach
- SFU's Healthy Campus Community Initiative and the Areas of Action
- A holistic and non-clinical Mental Wellbeing Framework – A tool to understand opportunities through the three lenses of “Settings/ Environments,” “Services/Supports,” and “Education/Stigma Reduction”

We will also discuss upcoming opportunities to provide feedback to the development of national standards for the psychological health and safety of post-secondary students that the Mental Health Commission of Canada will release in June.