



WOMEN DELIVER 2019

NUTSAMAHT

(néca?mat)

WE ARE ONE. OUR VOICES. OUR STORIES.

INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S
PRE-CONFERENCE

EVENT GUIDE

June 02, 2019



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WE ARE ONE. OUR VOICES. OUR STORIES.

INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S
PRE-CONFERENCE

The **Nutsamaht: We are One. Our Voices. Our Stories. Indigenous Women's Pre-Conference** to Women Deliver 2019 will inspire and inform and provide you with the information, confidence and connections to advance the rights and wellness of Indigenous women and girls. This pre-conference celebrates Indigenous women of diverse perspectives, strengths, abilities, sexual orientations (Two spirit and LGBTQ+) and gender identity.

The Program

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Breakout Sessions Colour Key

	NORTH
	WEST
	EAST
	SOUTH

Welcome

We would like to acknowledge that the event is taking place on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples - *skw̓x̣ wú7mesh* (Squamish), *selílwitulh* (Tseil-Waututh) and *x̣ʷməθḳʷəyəm* (Musqueam) nations.

Rooms 1 - 3

8:15 am - **REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST**
9:00 am

9:00 am - **OPENING PRAYER AND WELCOME FROM HOST NATIONS**
9:30 am **Syexwáliya Ann Whonnock** - Knowledge Keeper, Squamish Nation
Chief Leah George Wilson & Gabriel George - Tseil-Waututh
Vanessa Campbell - Musqueam

9:30 am - **BLANKETING CEREMONY**
10:15 am **Syexwáliya Ann Whonnock** - Knowledge Keeper, Squamish Nation
Gabriel George - Tseil-Waututh

10:15 am - **OPENING REMARKS**
10:25 am **The Honourable Maryam Monsef, PC, MP** - Minister of International Development, Minister for Women & Gender, Equality and Member of Parliament for Peterborough - Kawartha
Katja Iversen - President & CEO, Women Deliver

10:25 am - **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**
10:30 am **Deborah Schwartz** - Facilitator

10:30 am - **WELLNESS BREAK**
10:45 am

Option 1: Field Trips (10:45 am - 3:30 pm)

Both the Community Visits and the Field Trip will depart at 10:45 am, please meet our staff at the Registration Desk at 10:40 am and they will guide you to the shuttle. If you would like to join one of our inspiring Community Visits or Field Trip, but didn't select one while registering, please check with the Registration Desk to see if any spots are available. Lunch will be provided at each location.

Community Visit: Musqueam Nation Welcomes You

VISIT DESCRIPTION:

The xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) people have been here as long as there has been land to live upon. We have lived in the area of our present location for thousands of years, and our traditional territory occupies what is now Vancouver and surrounding areas. Join us to learn about our culture, traditions and how we support the health and wellness of our women and girls. Sample some of our delicious local traditional foods and get lost in the beauty of our territory.

Community Visit: Squamish Nation

VISIT DESCRIPTION:

The Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish People, villages and community) have a complex and rich history. Ancient connections are traced within our language through terms for place names and shared ceremony among the Salmon Peoples of the cedar longhouse. We are the descendants of the Coast Salish Aboriginal Peoples who lived in the present-day Greater Vancouver area, Gibson's landing and Squamish River watershed. The Squamish Nation has occupied and governed our territory since beyond recorded history.

Field Trip: Aboriginal Mothers Centre

VISIT DESCRIPTION:

The Aboriginal Mothers Centre Society began in 2002 to address the needs of Aboriginal women. After an extensive renovation, the centre re-opened in December 2011. The 28,000 square foot multi-purpose facility offers 16 transformational housing suites, a 25-space licensed daycare, commercial kitchen, large dining room, programming (outreach, family wellness, Elders Program) and leased commercial spaces. Providing a traditional Indigenous knowledge centered approach to spiritual, physical, mental and emotional health includes counselling, advocacy, personal development, training and social support.

Option 2: Breakout Sessions

Session 1:
10:45 am - 12:00 pm

Session 2:
1:00 pm - 2:15 pm

Session 3:
2:25 pm - 3:45 pm

NORTH 1



Rooms 1 - 3

Indigenous Midwifery and Maternity Care Across the Globe Pregnancy and Birth: A Sacred Space & Welcoming Baby Ceremony

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

Too often, Indigenous women are forced to give birth alone, in hospitals far removed from their communities and cultural traditions. Thankfully, more and more Indigenous women are able to deliver their babies in their own communities thanks to doulas and midwives and a holistic approach that recognizes the positive effect and importance of traditional ceremonies and spiritual support during pregnancy and childbirth. Also witness a Welcoming Baby Ceremony for a Squamish Nation newborn.

PRESENTERS:

Evelyn George - Indigenous Lead, Midwives Association of B.C.

Carol Couchie - Co-Chair, National Aboriginal Council of Midwives

WELCOMING BABY CEREMONY:

Gloria Nahanee - Cultural Lead & Knowledge Keeper, Squamish Nation

Alroy Bake (Ketximtnr) - Speaker, Squamish Nation

Stewart Gonzales (Sempulyan) - Singer, Squamish Nation

Naida Baker, Garrett White Bear & Baby Henri White Bear

Thomas White Bear - Sponsor

WEST 1



Rooms 11 & 12

Power and Inter-Connectedness: Sexual Well-Being Across the Life Cycle Social, Political and Environmental Influences on Sexual Well-Being

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session will be an open and inclusive space to hear various perspectives about how different processes and structures of power are inter-connected with the sexual health and well-being of diverse Indigenous girls and women, inclusive of and with attention to the experiences of two-spirit (2S) and trans-identified Indigenous community members. All are welcome to attend. Questions and sharing welcomed.

With a focus on strength and reclaiming power, this session seeks to highlight different ways that sexual well-being can be promoted and supported by addressing social, political and environmental determinants of health and sexual well-being across the life cycle.

MODERATOR:

Dr. Shannon McDonald - Deputy Chief Medical Officer, First Nations Health Authority

PRESENTERS:

Miranda Kelly - ekwi7tl Doula Collective Member; Indigenous Doula Consultant, Doula Canada

Tasha Spillett - Educator, Poet & PhD Candidate, University of Saskatchewan

Emma Antoine-Allan - Member, Native Youth Sexual Health Network

Danielle Cooley - Violence Prevention and Support Coordinator, Peers Victoria Resources Society & Member, Native Youth Sexual Health Network

EAST 1



Room 19

Care Givers: Caring for all our Relations

Indigenous Women Hold Sacred Caregiving Roles and Responsibilities

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

The session is intended to create space to learn from a diverse group of Indigenous women about their experiences as caregivers of self, family, community, and stories. We bring together panels of Indigenous women leaders and artists who will share their wisdom and experience as caregivers.

MODERATORS:

Dr. Danièle Behn Smith - Indigenous Health Physician Advisor, Ministry of Health

Leah Walker - Associate Director, Education, UBC Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Health

PRESENTERS:

Elder Roberta Price - Snuneymuxw & Cowichan First Nations

Mary Teegee - Executive Director of Child & Family Services, Carrier Sekani Family Services

Marcia Dawson - Gitksan & Dzawada'enuxw First Nations

SOUTH 1



Room 18

**Matriarchal Empowerment and Disrupting Colonial Systems
Blanket Exercise**

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

The blanket exercise is an experiential journey into true history of First Nations and Canada since before European arrival and creates a historical picture all the way to present day Canada. It is a deep and meaningful story that creates a great awareness into Canada's relationship with its Indigenous peoples.

Please note: this session could be triggering.

LEAD BY:

Dallas Guss - Squamish & Tsleil-Waututh First Nations

LUNCH: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Honouring Indigenous Women in our Community

Breakout Session 2: 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm

NORTH 2



Rooms 1 - 3

Indigenous Midwifery and Maternity Care Across the Globe Pregnancy and Birth: Access to Culturally Safe Maternity Care

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

Ensuring that Indigenous women can access the care they need requires our health system to operate in a way that recognizes that every woman is unique, with individual opinions, experiences, priorities, fears, customs, traditions and world views that can affect their health care experience and their health. Across B.C., health care practitioners are developing new approaches to addressing the needs of Indigenous women to ensure the services they offer are welcome, appropriate and effective.

MODERATOR:

Deborah Schwartz - Facilitator, Public Servant & Life Coach

PRESENTERS:

Evelyn George - Indigenous Lead, Midwives Association of B.C.

Dr. Sheona Mitchell-Foster - Obstetrician Gynecologist & Assistant Professor, Northern Medical Program

Mary Brouwer - Manager, Harmony House

Lee Yeates - Registered Midwife & Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine, UBC

Siyothlewot (Brooke Bobb-Reid) - Maternal Child Health Kwiyó:s & Team Lead, Seabird Island Health

WEST 2



Rooms 11 & 12

Power and Inter-Connectedness: Sexual Well-Being Across the Life Cycle Holistic Approaches to Sexual Well-Being Work Across the Life Cycle

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session will be an open and inclusive space to hear about examples of excellence in community-driven and informed holistic sexual well-being work that serves diverse Indigenous girls and women, inclusive of and with attention to the experiences of two-spirit (2S) and trans-identified Indigenous community members. All are welcome to attend. Questions and sharing welcomed.

A primary intention of this session is to learn more about how sexual well-being work can be approached broadly and in a good way that honours culture, rites of passage, healthy relationships, safe spaces, trauma-informed and person centered care and inter-generational learning and healing.

MODERATOR:

Lucy Barney - Indigenous Lead, Perinatal Services B.C.; Patient Experience & Nursing Services, First Nations Health Authority

PRESENTERS:

Gloria Nahanee - Cultural Lead & Knowledge Keeper, Squamish Nation

Tasha Spillett - Educator, Poet & PhD Candidate, University of Saskatchewan

Dr. Janine Hardial - Medical Coordinator, Sheway

EAST 2



Room 19

Care Givers: Caring for all our Relations

Walking Together: How Indigenous knowledge can help advance equality of Indigenous women

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This interdisciplinary panel will focus on how Indigenous ways of knowing and research can inform approaches to improving outcomes of Indigenous women. Improving outcomes for Indigenous women can only be achieved by respecting relationships with Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous ways of knowing, Indigenous knowledge and research are important grounding for work to advance equality with and for Indigenous women.

This session will profile the work of Indigenous researchers, community members and Elders being done across Canada to advance gender equality, including preventing and addressing gender-based violence; advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights; and examining how the environment impacts outcomes for Indigenous women. Those interested in understanding key issues in gender equality from the perspective of Indigenous Peoples; how to work along side Indigenous communities; how to talk about Indigenous issues; and how to work to positively affect outcomes for Indigenous women are encouraged to attend.

MODERATOR:

Lisa Smylie - Director General, Research, Results & Delivery, Department for Women and Gender Equality, Government of Canada

PRESENTERS:

Dr. Margo Greenwood - Academic Lead, National Collaborating Centre of Aboriginal Health

Nikki Fraser - Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc

SOUTH 2



Room 18

**Matriarchal Empowerment and Disrupting Colonial Systems
Matriarchal Leadership**

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

An in-depth look at three generational views of Matriarchs in healing and wellness of our family and community.

MODERATOR:

Leslie Bonshor - Executive Director, Aboriginal Health, Vancouver Coastal Health

PRESENTERS:

Elder Roberta Price - Snuneymuxw & Cowichan First Nations

Elder Glida Morgan - Tla'amin Nation

Marcia Dawson - Gitxsan & Dzawada'enuxw First Nations

Adina Williams - Squamish Nation

NORTH 3



Rooms 1 - 3

Indigenous Midwifery and Maternity Care Across the Globe Postpartum: "It takes a community to raise a child"

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

The weeks following childbirth can be a time of great change for mother, child and family, with many factors affecting everyone's different senses of wellness (physical, emotional, financial, social, spiritual, professional, intellectual). In this time of change, one's circle of support, such as family, friends, community and elders can provide numerous opportunities for mothers and babies to receive the comfort and strength they need to recover and thrive.

MODERATOR:

Deborah Schwartz - Facilitator, Public Servant & Life Coach

PRESENTERS:

Ellen Blais - Director, Indigenous Midwifery, Association of Ontario Midwives

Jan Ference - Project Director, Pathways to Healing Partnership

Kate Koyote - Registered Midwife, Cowichan Valley

WEST 3



Rooms 11 & 12

Power and Inter-Connectedness: Sexual Well-Being Across the Life Cycle The Intersectionality of Race, Gender, Sexuality and Sexual Well-Being

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session will be an open and inclusive space to hear different perspectives about how Indigeneity, gender and sexuality are inter-woven, complex and connected to sexual well-being. This session seeks to create the space to hear about and learn from different ways of knowing, expressing and being well as diverse Indigenous women, inclusive and with attention to the experiences of two-spirit (2S) and trans-identified Indigenous community members. This session will also explore how we can all be good allies to support each other in wellness and sexual well-being. All are welcome to attend. Questions and sharing welcomed.

MODERATOR:

Lucy Barney - Indigenous Lead, Perinatal Services B.C.; Patient Experience & Nursing Services, First Nations Health Authority

PRESENTERS:

Saylesh Wesley - Queer Indigenous Theory Educator & Aboriginal Enhancement Teacher

Tasha Spillett - Educator, Poet & PhD Candidate, University of Saskatchewan

Emma Antoine-Allan - Member, Native Youth Sexual Health Network

EAST 3



Room 19

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The session is intended to create space to learn from a diverse group of Indigenous women about their experiences as caregivers of self, family, community, and stories. We bring together panels of Indigenous women leaders and artists who will share their wisdom and experience as caregivers.

MODERATORS:

Dr. Danièle Behn Smith - Indigenous Health Physician Advisor, Ministry of Health

Leah Walker - Associate Director, Education, UBC Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Health

PRESENTERS:

Elder Roberta Price - Snuneymuxw & Cowichan First Nations

Adina Williams - Squamish Nation

Marie Clements - Performer, Playwright & Director

There will not be a third South Stream session. Please join us in one of our other 3 stream sessions

3:30 pm - Field Trips Return

Closing

 Rooms 1 - 3

3:40 pm - WELLNESS BREAK

3:55 pm

3:55 pm - INDIGENOUS WOMEN AS LIFE GIVERS THROUGHOUT THEIR LIFE CYCLE

4:30 pm

This final session will be an opportunity to hear stories from Indigenous Elders and a youth representative that illustrates the importance of culture in health and healing work for girls and women, at every step of life's journey. This session aims to highlight examples and opportunities to support connections and wellness across generations and how Indigenous girls and young women today and in the future can take the lead and be supported to achieve holistic and long term wellness.

MODERATOR:

Angela Sterritt - Reporter & Guest Host, CBC Vancouver, Gitxsan Nation

PRESENTERS:

Elder Roberta Price - Snuneymuxw & Cowichan First Nations

Elder Glida Morgan - Tla'amin Nation

Maisyn Sock - Youth Representative, Mi'kmaq First Nation

Marcia Dawson - Gitxsan & Dzawada'enuxw First Nations

4:30 pm - DECLARATION

4:40 pm

Taking inspiration from the TRC Calls to Action, UNDRIP, and many local women's declarations and similar documents, the Declaration's purpose is to act as a guide for all levels of government and private sector organizations in their decision making for programs, services, policy and legislation locally and globally. Our hope is to bring Indigenous women, girls and gender diverse people together to create an interactive space to engage with each other and build the Declaration through respectful dialogue.

Leslie Bonshor - Executive Director, Aboriginal Health, Vancouver Coastal Health

Emily Green - Medical Student, Faculty of Medicine

4:40 pm - CLOSING REMARKS

4:45 pm

Syexwáliya Ann Whonnock - Squamish Nation

Deborah Schwartz - Facilitator

5:00 pm CULTURAL SHARING AND FEAST

PERFORMANCES BY:

Powwow Dancers & Drummers

Kwakwakwa'wakw Urban Dance Group

Kwhlii Gibaygum Nisga'a Dance Group



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INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S
PRE-CONFERENCE



BRITISH
COLUMBIA



First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness



Provincial Health
Services Authority
Province-wide solutions.
Better health.



BC WOMEN'S
HOSPITAL+
HEALTH CENTRE
FOUNDATION



BC WOMEN'S
HOSPITAL+
HEALTH CENTRE
Provincial Health Services Authority

