

INNOVATIVE WAYS TO PROMOTE INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES & CULTURAL RESPONSIVE CURRICULA

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Abstract

This session will share innovative ways of working with learners of all ages and levels. It's important to give learners and teachers alike, First Nations language pedagogical, methodological, and cultural skills. This can be done through immersion based, all season, monthly, First Nation Approach to educating Indigenous language learners and teachers. Originally, there were only linguistic based courses that were available, but now, through collaborative research, additional language strategies have been developed to make learning fun and more interactive. Technology has also allowed for more speakers to become literate and very involved in language literacy development. Smart phones are a perfect example of this new wave of Indigenous Language revitalization.



Biography

Kevin wâsakâyâsiw Lewis is a nêhiyaw (Plains Cree) Doctoral Candidate at Blue Quills University, a Curriculum Developer and Lecturer. Mr. Lewis has worked with higher learning institutions within the Prairie Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta in the areas of Cree Language Development and Instructional methodologies. His research interests include language and policy development, second language teaching methodologies, teacher education programming, and environmental education. For the past 11 years, Mr. Lewis has been working with community schools in promoting land and language-based education and is founder of kâniyâsihk Culture Camps (www.kaniasihkculturecamps.com/), a non-profit land-based educational program focused on holistic community well-being. Mr. Lewis is from Ministikwan Lake Cree Nation in Treaty 6 Territory, is a registered teacher, has been a school administrator, and holds a Certificate in Ecological Education (CERTEE) and Masters Degrees in Indigenous Languages and Education. He will be completing his doctoral studies in May 2017