

## Sharon Steinhauer



Sharon lives in Saddle Lake Cree Nation and is Team Lead for Social Work Programs (diploma and degree) at *University nuhelot'jne thaiyots'j nistameyimâkanaks Blue Quills* (formerly Blue Quills First Nations College). Blue Quills is committed to reclaiming Indigenous knowledge and practice and has established programs that students of all cultures describe as transformative by bringing both western science and Indigenous wisdom into the curriculum.

Circle process has become a key feature of social work education and many other programs. Circles offer the best pathway for collaborative decision-making and create a safe space for difficult conversations for conflicted families and diverse groups. Circles are inherent in every culture and when Europeans ceased to use circles to create social order, Indigenous people did not forget. We are relearning about circle process and their restorative impact in that they return people to the respectful relationships that Creator intended

This session will provide an overview of Circle practice and a take-away of helpful materials for both new and advanced practitioners.