



Culturally Appropriate Support for Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Toolkit

The goal for this Toolkit is to develop a culturally grounded program that will educate non-Indigenous agencies on various topics such as intergenerational trauma, missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, and Indigenous traditional methods of healing. The Toolkit will take a two-eyed seeing approach of including traditional Indigenous knowledge and Western knowledge approaches to trauma informed care and healing. The majority of the topics and information in the toolkit are derived from or inspired by the knowledge of Elder's in Treaty 4 and Treaty 6 areas in Saskatchewan.

Two manuals will be developed: The first manual will contain information on colonial history and its effects on Indigenous peoples, the crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, traditional healing methods such as medicines, smudging, and ceremony, stories and teachings from Elders in Treaty 6 and Treaty 4, and how non-Indigenous agencies can apply two-eyed seeing in their workplaces to better support Indigenous peoples. The second manual will provide information for how non-Indigenous agencies can develop and effectively facilitate sharing circles with the help of Indigenous Knowledge Keepers and Elders.

To complement the manuals, an online course will be developed where participants can navigate through the information presented in the manuals while also watching the video recordings of the Elders who agreed to help us on this project. These video recordings contain personal stories and teachings of the topics listed in the first manual. It is important to note that the development of manuals and online courses are a Western form of distributing knowledge. Although the digital age has allowed us to create this course to be accessible for multiple agencies at once so that many can hear the teachings and wisdom from the Elder's recorded, it is always important to seek out conversations and teachings from Elder's in person or in a sharing circle. Hopefully, this course will aid in the distribution of some traditional Indigenous knowledge concerning trauma informed care, but will also inspire more agencies to connect with the many Elder's and traditional Knowledge Keepers across Canada.