

Facilitator Biographies

Kelly Crawford is a citizen of M'Chigeeng First Nation. She holds a Master of Arts-Integrated Studies degree with a concentration in culture and education from Athabasca University, a Bachelor of Education degree from Nipissing University and a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in Native Studies from Laurentian University. She is currently a PhD candidate in the Human Studies program at Laurentian University. She is the former principal of academics at Kenjgewin Teg Educational Institute and faculty liaison with Queen's University. She is the author of the "We Are All Treaty People" teacher's kit. Kindergarten to Grade 8: 'Gdoo-Sastamoo Kii Mi, Understanding our Nation-to-Nation Relationship: a Practical Teachers Resource Guide; and contributes to various curriculum projects in Ontario.



Kelly Crawford



Taunya Paquette

Taunya Paquette (Biidaaban Giizis Kwe- Rising Sun Woman, Turtle Clan from Saugeen First Nation) has over 23 years as an Education Advocate and support to families and children in urban and on-reserve communities, including Toronto, Hamilton, Six Nations and New Credit. Her professional career began in Early Childhood Education, then expanded to include Family Mediation, Leadership and Interdisciplinary Studies. During this time, she contributed to the development of Urban Aboriginal Head Start and Early Learning programs and founded the Native Youth Advancement with Education Hamilton secondary program.

Currently Taunya is the Director of Indigenous Education for the Ontario Ministry of Education, where she leads the policy work and inter-governmental relations to support academic achievement and well-being for all Indigenous students and to ensure the next generation of Ontario students and teachers are educated in the true histories and contemporary contributions of our First People.

Megan Börner, M.Ed, has worked in the field of education for over 25 years in various roles and capacities. Currently, she is Manager of the Research, Monitoring and Evaluation team in the System Planning, Research and Innovation Division at the Ontario Ministry of Education. Focus areas of the team include engaged learning and teaching studies, social innovation tools and improvement planning strategies, policy/program-research connections, collaborative research and evaluation methodologies and models, and performance indicator development to monitor impact.

Megan was born and raised in Montreal, also known as Tio'tia:ké the traditional territory of Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) First Nations.

.....

Bryon O. Brisard is presently an Education Officer for the Indigenous Education Office, Ministry of Education. Bryon works in the Sudbury-North Bay Regional Office, Sudbury. His responsibilities include working on the development of collaborative initiatives between and among education stakeholders, including Aboriginal communities and stakeholders, to support the learning, engagement, and achievement of Aboriginal students across Ontario. Bryon is from the Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nation, located north of Thunder Bay. His career includes 6 years teaching in First Nation and elementary schools, 8 years as Principal for First Nation Schools, 7 years teaching at Nipissing University in the Aboriginal Education programs (Special Education and Education Psychology). Along with his educational experiences, Bryon has served on Council for his First Nation in capacity as Chief for 10 years and Band Councillor for 5 years.

.....

Pauline McNaughton has worked in the education sector for over 25 years, including the past 10 years with the Ontario Ministry of Education. Currently, Pauline manages a range of portfolios in the Student Achievement Division's Program Implementation Branch including the School College Work Initiative/Dual Credit program, Summer Learning program, Tutors in the Classroom, Adult Credit Education as well as responsibility for agency coordination between the Ministry and TVOntario in the delivery of programs and services such as Homework Help, Teach Ontario and the Independent Learning Centre. As acting Director of the Student Success Policy Branch for 18 months during the extended leave of the director, Pauline also was responsible for Ontario School Policy K-12, the Specialist High Skills Major Program, student achievement for Children and Youth In Care, launching the Experience Ontario pilot program and implementation of the Creating Pathways to Success policy.

Pauline began her career in education on Baffin Island, teaching for 5 years for both the Baffin Divisional Board of Education and Arctic College, where she taught in Iqaluit and Igloolik, in the K-12 and college system. She then worked for 7 years for the Ottawa Carleton DSB in Adult and Continuing Education, teaching adult literacy and English as a second language classes, also serving as program lead, with a particular focus on the development of intake assessment and placement tools and resources. Pauline has also worked in the non-profit sector, where she served as the provincial Field Team

Manager for the AlphaPlus Centre, responsible for the development of curriculum resources for provincially funded adult literacy programs serving English, French, Indigenous and Deaf programs. She subsequently served as the Executive Director for the Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks, developing national assessment policies governing both provincial and federal language training programs, development of national language assessments and leading the development of a national assessor training and certification program.

.....

Taunya Paquette (Biidaaban Giizis Kwe- Rising Sun Woman, Turtle Clan from Saugeen First Nation) has over 23 years as an Education Advocate and support to families and children in urban and on-reserve communities, including Toronto, Hamilton, Six Nations and New Credit. Her professional career began in Early Childhood Education, then expanded to include Family Mediation, Leadership and Interdisciplinary Studies. During this time, she contributed to the development of Urban Aboriginal Head Start and Early Learning programs and founded the Native Youth Advancement With Education Hamilton secondary program.

Currently Taunya is the Director of Indigenous Education for the Ontario Ministry of Education, where she leads the policy work and inter-governmental relations to support academic achievement and well-being for all Indigenous students and to ensure the next generation of Ontario students and teachers are educated in the true histories and contemporary contributions of our First People.

.....

Leah Vanderwey is a lifelong resident of Northwestern Ontario. She has been involved in education for the past 30 years. She has been active in education at the local, regional and provincial level. Her career started in Lac La Croix where she taught Grade 7/8 and Special Education. Leah has held many different roles as an educator in both Public School Boards and a Catholic School Board in Northwestern Ontario. She has been seconded by the Ministry of Education as a School Effectiveness Lead to support amalgamation of 8 schools into 5 regional school boards, as a Student Achievement Officer and presently, as the Regional Manager of Field Services for the Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario Regional Office. She has a passion and commitment to education for all students and is a strong advocate for students and families.

Leah is an active volunteer in her community and for the past 6 years has been instrumental in creating and managing the Lakehead University women's hockey program so that girls attending university in Northwestern Ontario can have the opportunity to play competitive hockey at the post-secondary level. The team achieved the distinction in March 2017 as the First Canadian team to compete in and win the National Championships for the American Collegiate Hockey Association Women's hockey Division 2.

.....



ALAN CORBIERE

Alan Ojiig Corbiere, Bne doodemid (Ruffed Grouse clan), is an Anishinaabe from M'Chigeeng First Nation on Manitoulin Island. He was educated on the reserve and then attended the University of Toronto for a Bachelor of Science, he then entered York University and earned his Masters of Environmental Studies. During his masters studies he focused on Anishinaabe narrative and Anishinaabe language revitalization. For five years he served as the Executive Director at the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation (OCF) in M'Chigeeng, a position which also encompassed the roles of curator and historian. He also served as the Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Program Coordinator at Lakeview School, M'Chigeeng First Nation, where he and his team worked on a culturally based second language program that focused on using Anishinaabe stories to teach language. He is currently in his first year of the Doctorate program in History and York University.

GEORGE COUCHIE

George Couchie was a police officer for over 32 years.

He coached Special Olympics and received a Celebration Award in 1988 for his work with the Special Olympics in North Bay. In 1999, George received a citation from the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police for his dedication to youth initiatives, in particular for the development of the Walking the Path healthy lifestyles program. He has also developed Healthy Relationships Workshops and Niigan Mosewak. Niigan Mosewak helps youth at risk develop responsible behaviours. In 1999 George was also awarded a national citation for anti-racism initiatives.

In 2007 he was awarded an Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award from the Union of Ontario Indians. In 2012 he received the Queens Jubilee Award for his work with youth. In May of 2013 George received the Order of the Police Forces from the Governor General of Canada. In 2015 he was inducted into the North Bay Human Rights Hall of Fame.

In 2017 he was made a honorary Inspector with the Ontario Provincial Police for his continued work with Indigenous Youth. In 2005, George received an Eagle Feather from his community of Nipissing First Nation (FN) in recognition of his work with youth and in 2012 he received his second eagle feather from the community for his dedication to the youth.

George lives on Nipissing First Nation with his wife Carolyn. They have three children – Sandra, Heather and Rob; and three granddaughters. He is a former national police power lifting champion. George's keen sense of humour and his compassion have made him a leader in Nipissing and in the policing community. He is a member of the Red Tail Hawk Clan.



fnesc JAN HAUGEN

Jan Haugen is the Manager of Executive Services for the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) and is N'lakapamux, a member of the Lytton First Nation. She has been working with FNESC for fifteen years.

Jan is the FNESC lead for the FNESC Board, the First Nations Education Jurisdiction Initiative and implementation of the Tripartite Education Framework Agreement. Jan works closely with FNESC's Executive Director and the FNESC Board to implement activities to support improved First Nation student achievement.

Jan has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario.

Negotiator Biographies

Jay Kaufman, Ontario Head Negotiator

Jay Kaufman is President of KTA Inc., a public sector-focused consulting firm. He is a former Ontario Government Deputy Minister of Finance, Secretary to Treasury Board and Assistant Deputy Minister of Health responsible for policy and planning, and hospital and long term care services in the province. Prior to that, Jay had a long career with the Manitoba Government, highlighted by his appointment as a Deputy Minister responsible for Health Reform. Jay's consultancy specializes in public policy, strategy and planning, governance, facilitation and negotiations. Jay has over 30 years of experience working on Indigenous issues as consultant to governments and Indigenous organizations, and as treaty and self-government negotiator.



Jay Kaufman

Tracey O'Donnell, Anishinabek Nation Negotiator



Tracey O'Donnell

Tracey O'Donnell is a member of the Red Rock Indian Band located north and east of Thunder Bay, Ontario. She has practiced law in Ontario for over 23 years. Her practice is focused on providing legal services to First Nations, their members and their organizations – both on- and off-reserve, in Ontario and across Canada. Currently, she is in private practice with an office at Nipissing First Nation. Tracey argued on behalf of the Native Women's Association of Canada and LEAF at the Supreme Court of Canada in the first Indian residential school case that reached the Supreme Court of Canada -*Blackwater v. Plint*. Tracey was an elected Bencher of the Law Society of Ontario from 2003 to 2007 – the first aboriginal woman ever elected since the Law Society was founded in 1797. Tracey has volunteered on a variety of community-based committees and Boards of Directors. Tracey earned her Honours B.A. in Political Science from Laurentian University,

Sudbury, and her L.L.B./J.D. from Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, Toronto. Tracey is the proud mother of three children, aged 17, 14 and 10.

**Murray Pridham, Indigenous and Northern
Affairs Canada**

Murray Pridham is a member of the Temagami First Nation in northeastern Ontario. He has been a negotiator at Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada since 2008. Previously, he was with the Indian Claims Commission in the mediation services area. Murray also served on the board of Temagami Community Foundation.



Murray Pridham

Suzanne Gordon is an experienced senior policy and transformational leader within the Ontario Public Service. Her service and vision is to create and transform existing traditional policy and programs based on new integrated policy frameworks. She is currently Director of Policy, Priorities and Engagement in the Indigenous Education and Well-Being Division of the Ministry of Education, where she leads the Ministry's collaborative approach to integrating Well-Being in our schools and build an approach to knowing the progress achieved. Previously, Suzanne led the Ministry of Education's provincial consultations and launch of the "Adult Education Strategy" to improve access and service coordination of high school education to adults.



Suzanne has worked at the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. Using an integrative policy framework, Suzanne led a series of strategic initiatives that formed the basis for ground-breaking work to improve the economic integration of skilled newcomers to Ontario. These initiatives included the *Fair Access to Regulated Professions Act, 2006*, and the initiation of new services and programs such as The Office of the Fairness Commissioner, Global Experience Ontario and the Ontario Internship Program for Internationally Trained Individuals, making Ontario a pioneer and leader in this field.

Suzanne is best known for her innovative and collaborative approach to integrated program design. She initiated an outcome focused design of Ontario's highly successful Bridge Training Programs for Internationally Trained Individuals, implementing a performance measurement approach to drive institutional innovation and achieve a results-focused, learner first program model. Through her vision, the program expanded from 35 pilot projects to more than 350 projects focused on achieving successful service innovations and employment outcomes for high skilled immigrants.

Suzanne worked at the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development at the Secretariat to the Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board, where she implemented new legislation governing degree granting and developed Ontario's program standards for degree level postsecondary education.

Prior to her public policy career, Suzanne taught at both the Schulich School of Business and Osgoode Hall Law School. She holds a PhD in Law from Osgoode Hall Law School, and is a graduate of the Université de Montpellier, France, with a Masters in International Public and European Union Law. She holds a Bachelor of International Relations from the University of Toronto.

Suzanne Gordon est une haute dirigeante d'expérience et une leader en gestion du changement et conseillère principale en politiques au sein de la fonction publique de l'Ontario. Son approche et sa vision se fondent sur la création de politiques et de programmes – ou la transformation des politiques et des programmes traditionnels – en fonction de nouveaux cadres stratégiques intégrés et éprouvés. Cette méthode lui a permis d'établir des mesures novatrices pour le renforcement de l'intégration économique de nouveaux arrivants qualifiés en Ontario. Parmi ces initiatives, citons la *Loi de 2006 sur l'accès équitable aux professions réglementées et aux métiers à accréditation obligatoire* et la mise en place de nouveaux services et programmes comme le Bureau du commissaire à l'équité, Expérience Globale Ontario et le Programme de stages de la fonction publique de l'Ontario pour les personnes formées à l'étranger, faisant de la province un pionnier et un chef de file dans ce domaine.



Mme Gordon est reconnue pour l'approche novatrice, fondée sur la collaboration, qu'elle utilise en vue d'élaborer des programmes intégrés. On lui doit notamment la conception axée sur les résultats des programmes de formation relais de l'Ontario pour les personnes formés à l'étranger. L'approche d'évaluation du rendement, stimulant l'innovation des établissements et la création d'un modèle axé sur l'apprenant et les résultats, a fait de ce programme une réussite remarquable. Grâce à la vision d'ensemble de Mme Gordon, le programme est passé de 35 projets pilotes à plus de 350 projets visant l'innovation du service offert aux immigrants hautement qualifiés et l'amélioration de leur employabilité.

Mme Gordon nous arrive du ministère des Affaires civiles, de l'Immigration et du Commerce international, où ses initiatives stratégiques s'inspiraient de ses travaux effectués pour le compte des ministères de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Formation professionnelle. Son équipe y a dirigé les consultations provinciales et la mise en œuvre de la Stratégie pour l'éducation des adultes, dont l'objectif était d'améliorer l'accès aux études secondaires pour les adultes et la coordination des services s'y rattachant. Mme Gordon a également agi à titre de conseillère principale en politiques pour le bureau du sous-ministre au ministère de la Formation et des Collèges et Universités et au Secrétariat de la Commission d'évaluation de la qualité de l'éducation postsecondaire, où elle a mis en place de nouvelles lois régissant l'octroi de diplômes et établi les normes des programmes d'études postsecondaires en Ontario.

Mme Gordon a par ailleurs enseigné à la Schulich School of Business et à la Faculté de droit Osgoode Hall. Elle est titulaire d'un doctorat en droit de la Faculté de droit Osgoode Hall et est diplômée de l'Université de Montpellier, en France, où elle a obtenu une maîtrise en droit public international et européen. Elle détient également un baccalauréat en relations internationales de l'Université de Toronto.

Workshop: Moving Toward Reconciliation

ANDY GARROW

A reconciliation focused career, Andy is committed to work that will bridge the relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada. Andy is the Director, Youth Development for Katimavik responsible for life-changing initiatives for youth that include Canada-based experiences to develop competencies related to civic engagement, personal asset building, employability skills and Truth and Reconciliation.

Andy was a federal public servant for 13 years where he managed partnerships and stakeholder relations for Indigenous and Northern Affairs in areas such as reconciliation, implementing the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, implementing land-claim and self-government agreements, Inuit relations and northern devolution.

ROSLYN BOWNESS & AMANDA MATHIAS-MIZZI

Roslyn Bowness is a Superintendent with the Near North District School Board with responsibilities including, Indigenous Education, Special Education, Mental Health and Equity and Inclusive Education. Roslyn is grateful for the ongoing opportunities to learn from and collaborate with our local Indigenous communities around our shared vision for student achievement and well-being.

Amanda Mathias-Mizzi works with the Near North District School Board as the Indigenous Education Lead Teacher/Program Coordinator. Amanda works in collaboration with First Nation communities, partners in Indigenous Education, and with school teams supporting shared priorities and vision.

Workshop: Special Education – Best Practices

ELIZABETH BIGWIN

Elizabeth's professional journey includes extensive experience teaching in the federal, First Nations, and provincial systems in the classroom, Special Education, and administration. Along the way, she acquired many additional qualifications including Specialist Certification in Special Education, Principal's and Supervisory Officer's Qualifications and a Master's Degree in Education. Following her work in schools, Elizabeth has served as Education Advisor for the Ogemawahj Tribal Council (OTC), as Education Officer with the Ontario Ministry of Education's Aboriginal Education Office, and most recently as Executive Director for OTC. One of the unique aspects of Elizabeth's local work with the OTC and with AEO was the link to Alderville First Nation, the community into which she was born and Beausoleil First Nation, the community where she is a member. She is currently Executive Lead, Special Projects with the Indigenous Education Office of the Ministry of Education.

Workshop: Student Well-Being

NANCY YOUNG

BScPT, MSc, PhD

Nancy Young is a Professor at Laurentian University and holds a Research Chair in Rural and Northern Children's Health. She began her career as a Scientist at the Hospital for Sick Children, where she remains an Adjunct Scientist. Her 25-year research career has been devoted to health measurement for and with school-aged children. The assessment of Aboriginal children's health has been Dr. Young's primary focus for the last 9 years, in collaboration with Mrs. Mary Jo Wabano. She has strong academic track record and many years of rewarding collaborative international research, including collaborations with many First Nations.

SUZANNE GORDON

See bio attached.

Workshop: Parent and Community Engagement

COLLEEN SHERIFF

Colleen Sheriff is the Indigenous Education Lead for Superior North Catholic District School Board (SNCDSB) located east of Thunder Bay. Colleen has been working with SNCDSB since January 2016 and before that, she has worked as a teacher and at Dilico Anishinabek Family Care in Mental Health. In her current and past positions, Colleen has worked with First Nation & Métis families and communities. Her passion is helping students be successful through *engagement, education and empowerment!*

Favourite Quote: ***“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” - Nelson Mandela***

SANDY YEP

Sandy Yep is an Education Officer with the Ministry of Education, Parent and Community Engagement Office.

His responsibilities include the implementation of Ontario's Parent Engagement Policy and the Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy. Sandy has been with the Ministry of Education since 2009. He has a keen interest to enhance the engagement of diverse parents, and more recently, how best to build relationships between schools/boards with Indigenous parents, families and communities. Originally from Montreal, he acknowledges his personal and professional journey toward Truth and Reconciliation.