Aitomani'stsi'kakimoap'a

Working Together on Working Together

Empathy & Common Language - David Gabert, CMHA

Common language is often less than common place in a world where language is constantly changing and evolving. Not only is it increasingly important to understand what is being said and how to say it, but how do we do so with empathy and understanding when people use what we deem to be the "wrong" words. This presentation explores various case studies and takes a look at the importance of continuing to build a common language to bridge understanding in our society.

Storytelling and Language as a Form of Healing and Wellness - Annette BruisedHead

In this session I will provide Blackfoot Stories and Language as a way of understanding resiliency. It is in the process of relationship and reciprocity that stories and language act as a conduit to provide meaning. In the building of ethical space to create alternative models of healing I will explore the process that provided a sense of belonging and norm development for Blackfoot People for millennia.

Language Matters



Kainai's Reziliency Project - Tisha and Bill Wadsworth

March 2018, The Blood tribe community had declared a state of emergency. In response, and in support for the community; Kainai Board of Education coordinated efforts with the Blackfoot confederacy to facilitate a Reziliency conference. Tisha will present the conference's feedback report and William his experience facilitating a one day music workshop for the youth.

Mental Health Impacts Brain

Development And Learning

Grief and Loss - Tanie Reid-Walker

In this session, you will learn the basics of Dr. Alan Wolfelt's Companioning Children through Grief, what grief can look like by developmental stages, and how to help when you identify behaviours that are a result of unresolved grief.

SOARS Program - Nola Wanuch & Tarene Thomas

In this session, Nola Wanuch and Tarene Thomas will present SOARS program and how mental health and the arts have positively impacted the youth at Enoch Cree Nation. Tarene will share her story about her personal journey from encountering "Highway of Tears" in British Columbia to a healing place and blossoming in the Arts at University of Alberta.

Grief and Loss: An Indigenous Perspective and Practice - Deborah Pace

In this session, Dr. Pace will present the concept of "Losses and Grief" in First Nations and what teachers/parents can do to help the child/youth in their Grief and Loss process.



Strength Based Approaches



Shared Responsibility

Addressing Gaps / Working Together and Across Systems - Kelsey Atkinson / Alison Lux

Importance of Culture in Child Development - Francine Smith

This presentation is based on Francine's own life story, which led her into the field of Social Services, her work experiences and being a strong advocate for the Blackfoot Children & Families that are involved in the Child Protection system.