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Two Spirit and Indigiqueer cultural safety: Considerations for relational practice and policy

Dr. James Makokis and Dr. Karina Walters

Circle Moderator - Dr. Billie Allan



June 8, 2021

11:00 AM - 12:45 PM PST | 2:00PM - 3:45 PM EST

In celebration of National Indigenous Month and Pride Month, the Indigenous Cultural Safety Learning Series invites you to sit in circle with Dr. James Makokis and Dr. Karina Walters to reflect on our understandings of and contributions towards cultural safety for Two Spirit and Indigiqueer peoples. Drawing on examples from research, community organizing, ceremonial resurgence and frontline practice, our guests will share knowledge aimed at informing individual and collective efforts to ensure culturally safe access to healthcare and social services, as well as to community and ceremonial spaces and supports for Two Spirit and Indigiqueer peoples. This webinar is meant to provide a foundation for additional webinars on Two Spirit and Indigiqueer cultural safety over the coming year.

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About the Presenters: Dr. James Makokis, a nehiyô, Two-Spirit Family Physician from Saddle Lake Cree Nation in Alberta, is the medical director for Shkaabe Makwa Centre for First Nations, Inuit and Métis Wellness in Toronto. Dr. Makokis also holds clinics at the Kehewin Cree Nation, a transgender health focused practice in Edmonton. He is the recipient of the Indspire Award, Rising Star Alumni Award at the University of Ottawa, and the Distinguished Alumni Award at Macewan University. In 2019, Dr. Makokis and his husband Anthony Johnson won The Amazing Race Canada.

Dr. Karina Walters, a Two Spirit member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, is the Associate Dean for Research, the Katherine Hall Chambers Scholar, and the Co-Director and Principal Investigator of the Indigenous Wellness Research Institute at the University of Washington. Dr. Walters has more than 25 years of experience in social epidemiological research on the historical, social, and cultural determinants of health among American Indian and Alaskan Native (AIAN) populations as well as chronic disease prevention research. Much of her social epidemiological work has centered urban AIANs and LGBT-Two Spirit populations across the United States. She is recognized internationally for her expertise in designing decolonizing community-based, culturally grounded methodologies.

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