

## List of Presenters (alphabetical)

### **Garnet Angeconeb: "Speaking My Truth" book launch/talk**

Join author Garnet Angeconeb and editors Shelagh Rogers and Mike DeGagné for a book launch/talk and Q&A. Copies of *Speaking My Truth: Reflections on Reconciliation and Residential School* will be available for free onsite and online at [www.speakingmytruth.ca](http://www.speakingmytruth.ca).

**Garnet Angeconeb** is an Anishinaabe originally from the Lac Seul First Nation and now lives in Sioux Lookout, Ontario. Garnet attended Pelican Indian Residential School near Sioux Lookout from 1963 to 1969. In 1975, Garnet graduated from Queen Elizabeth High School in Sioux Lookout. In 1982, he graduated from the University of Western Ontario with a diploma in journalism.

In 1985, Garnet was elected to the council of the municipality of Sioux Lookout. It was there that Garnet spearheaded the founding of the Sioux Lookout Anti-racism Committee. Today the Sioux Lookout Anti-racism continues its work with an added dimension to mandate that being the Sioux Lookout Coalition for Healing and Reconciliation. The SLCHR membership comprises of local former Indian Residential School students, clergy and interested citizens. The main purpose of the SLCHR is to promote awareness and seek renewed relations as a result of the Indian Residential School legacy. Garnet co-chairs the Sioux Lookout Coalition for Healing and Reconciliation. He is a recipient of the Queen's Golden Jubilee award.

### **Henry & Keith Angeconeb: "Runaways Kah Kiimewat" Story & Digital Presentation**

### **Trina Bolam: Legacy of Hope Curriculum & Edu-Kit Workshop**

The bilingual, mobile "100 Years of Loss" exhibition is designed to raise awareness about the history and legacy of residential schools and includes companion educational resources for students in grades 9-12. Consisting of eight thematic pods (4 in each official language), and a wavy wall that presents interweaving timelines, this educational resource lends itself to week-long activities or events, such as Aboriginal Awareness Week.

The Edu-Kit and the mobile exhibition can be used together or as stand-alone resources. Together with online resources, such as [www.wherethechildren.ca](http://www.wherethechildren.ca), these new products provide ample means by which educators can increasingly integrate information on the Residential School System and its impacts into their course offerings.

Both the Edu-Kit, which targets grades 7-10, and the mobile exhibition and workshop which targets grades 9-12, promote an understanding of the history and legacy of Residential Schools, sensitize and educate young Canadian including Aboriginal, non-Aboriginal and new Canadians, challenges stereotypes and contribute to shifting opinions that foster inquiry, dialogue, and action. The workshop process, whether using the activities-based Edu-Kit or the inquiry, research, and discussion-based mobile exhibition workshop, is designed to take youth through the spectrum of awareness, to sensitization, to understanding, and finally to action that has the

potential, and indeed initiates the process of reconciliation. In terms of targeting youth, the LHF considers: the potential for making the greatest impact in shifting opinions and values during a time of intense learning and inquiry before viewpoints may become entrenched; the level of maturity required to cope with learning difficult subject matter in a comprehensive manner.

**Trina Bolam** is the Director of Legacy Projects at the Aboriginal Healing Foundation and the former Executive Director of the Legacy of Hope Foundation.

**Samantha Boyer: Youth Panel: "The Future of Reconciliation"**

**John-Paul Chalykoff: Youth Panel: "The Future of Reconciliation"**

**Mike DeGagné: "Speaking My Truth" book launch/talk**

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**Mike DeGagné** is the Executive Director of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, a national Aboriginal organization dedicated to addressing the legacy of Canada's Indian Residential School System. He has worked in the field of addiction and mental health for the past 25 years, first as a community worker on-reserve in northern Ontario and later with the Addiction Research Foundation (ARF), the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA), and the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program (NNADAP).

Mike lectures nationally and internationally on issues of Aboriginal health, Residential Schools, reconciliation, and governance. He serves on a number of Boards including Champlain Local Health Integration Network (LHIN), is currently the Chairman of the Child Welfare League of Canada, and past Chairman of Ottawa's Queensway Carleton Hospital. His PhD focuses on Aboriginal post-secondary education.

**Richard Kistabish: "Where Are the Children? Healing the Legacy of the Residential Schools" exhibit talk**

New interactive audio and visual interpretive elements will be unveiled at the *Shingwauk 2012 gathering & Conference*, Saturday, August 4.

Developed in 2001, the goals of *Where are the Children? Healing the Legacy of the Residential Schools* are to: acknowledge the experiences of, and the impacts and consequences of Canada's Residential School System on Aboriginal peoples; to create a public and historical record of this period in Canadian history that could be easily accessed by Canadians; and to promote public awareness, understanding and education of the history and legacy of residential schools. Through documentation, acknowledgment and education, the goal of the exhibition is also to assist in promoting understanding and reconciliation in Canada about residential schools.

The exhibition consists of 118 framed archival photographs, text panels, maps, original classroom textbooks and historical government papers selected from nine public and church

archives, and depicts the history and legacy of Canada's Residential School System. *Where are the Children?* spans over 125 years and contains photographs and documents from the 1880s to present day.

The exhibition depicts the life of Aboriginal peoples before, during and after residential schools. Photographs, text panels and artifacts move visitors through the experience of residential school, from leaving home and arriving at residential school, to school activities and being part of a classroom. A section on the children who never returned home as well as on contemporary role models provides visitors with the range of experiences of attending residential school.

Visitors come to understand the history of residential schools and the lasting impact that residential schools have had on generations of Aboriginal peoples, and on First Nations, Inuit and Métis cultures, languages and communities. The exhibition also helps to inform visitors of the impact that residential schools have had on shaping relations between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians, and on shaping the history of this country. *Where are the Children?* allows Canadians to come to grips with this part of their history and to challenge their assumptions and understandings about residential schools.

The LHF has witnessed first-hand how the education brought about by the exhibition has assisted in the process of reconciliation. For the first time in their history, communities are engaging in dialogue about how its residents have been affected by residential school. This dialogue touches upon such issues as how to reconcile with the past, how to work to address some of the impacts of residential school and how to build and improve relationships within the community. These discussions, which are taking place between generations of Aboriginal peoples, as well as between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples, have been facilitated by *Where are the Children? Healing the Legacy of the Residential Schools*.

The *Where Are the Children?* exhibition does not attempt to tell the whole story about residential schools; rather, it introduces people to a part of Canadian history by encouraging children to ask, and parents to answer, important questions about their family histories which will contribute to healing for Aboriginal communities.

**Richard Kistabish** is an Algonquin from the Abitibiwinni first nation, Quebec, who speaks English, French and Algonquin fluently. He is the former president of Social Services Minokin and has been involved in the field of health and social services at the regional and provincial levels for many years. He served as administrator and manager of the health committee, Kitcisakik, as Chief of Abitibiwinni First Nation, and as Grand Chief of the Algonquin Council of Quebec for 2 terms. His publications include *Mental Health and Aboriginal People of Quebec*, the Green Book Position Paper of the Algonquin Nation on Environmental Issues, and the National Inquiry into First Nation Child Care.

**Andrea Landry: Youth Panel: "The Future of Reconciliation"**

**Rene Meshake: Language Reclamation workshop**

**Rene Meshake** is an Ojibwe author/illustrator, storyteller, visual artist, spoken-word performer, musician and new media artist living in Guelph, Ontario. He was born in the railway town of

Nakina in Northwestern Ontario and was raised by his Okomissan grandmother. He has been influenced by: Anishinaabe oral tradition, language, arts and culture; a diploma in Graphic Design from Sheridan College; and a certificate in Creative Writing from the Humber School for Writers. By seamlessly fusing Ojibwe and English words into his stories, poetry and spoken word performances, Rene communicates his Ojibwe spiritual heritage to the contemporary world. Rene's body of art work and his personal life experiences create a strong, expressive, and entertaining presentation for an ever-increasing audience.

### **Aideen Nabigon: Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement Update**

**Aideen Nabigon** is Director General, Settlement Agreement Policy and Partnerships, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. She is a graduate of Algoma University.

### **Pat Ningewance: "How Can I Reclaim My Language for Myself or My Descendants?"**

### **Ted Quewezance: Family Model**

### **Peter Rinaldi: Independent Assessment Process Update**

**Peter Rinaldi** is Director, Client Services, Indian Residential School Adjudication Secretariat.

### **Shelagh Rogers: "Speaking My Truth" book launch/talk**

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**Shelagh Rogers** is a veteran broadcast-journalist. She has hosted flagship programs with CBC Radio including This Morning and Sounds Like Canada. In 2000, she won the John Drainie Award, Canada's highest broadcasting honour.

Shelagh loves being host of The Next Chapter on CBC Radio. The program is devoted to two of her favourite kind of people: Canadian writers and songwriters. She works with her long-time collaborator Jacqueline Kirk and Erin Noel, who comes to The Next Chapter from Go!. Tom Howell, the poetry guy, helps out whenever he can while he writes a book.

Shelagh is the first ever Ambassador-at-Large for the Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough because she believes we are all in the same boat. Shelagh is also a proud member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 45, Bonne Bay, NL where she hosts the annual Writers at Woody Point Festival. She is also an honorary member of the League of Canadian Poets. And she is a previous "Jack" Award winner for her decades-long promotion of Canadian literature.

Two years ago, she was named a Champion of Mental Health for a series she did about mental illness and the impact on families and friends. That same year, she received a Transforming Lives Award from CAM-H for speaking publicly about depression. In 2010, the Mood Disorders Association of Ontario gave her their Hero Award and the CMHA of British Columbia gave her their Mental Health Voices Award. She has also been honoured for her work in reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in Canada.

## **Edmund Sackeny: Healing Blanket**

## **Sylvia Smith: "Project of Heart" Workshop**

"Project of Heart" (P.O.H.) is a hands-on, collaborative, inter-generational, inter-institutional artistic endeavour. Its purpose is to commemorate the lives of the thousands of Indigenous children who died as a result of the residential school experience.

It commemorates the families and communities to whom those children belonged. It is designed to bring awareness both to the settler community of predominantly European Canadians and communities of new Canadians from other parts of the world.

A key objective is to encourage "ownership" of this historic injustice by the non-Indigenous community. By doing so, non-Aboriginal Canadians can then be moved to take responsibility for the continued oppression of Indigenous people in Canada, and be inspired to take action.

P.O.H. also seeks to expand the opportunities available for the wisdom of Aboriginal Elders to be heard within Euro-educational/religious institutions. By joining with other groups who are making a space for Indigenous knowledge, institutions can help to change attitudes and behaviours – hearts and minds – as Elders give voice to the traditions that were suppressed by residential schooling.

*Sylvia Smith* founded Project of Heart in 2007 in collaboration with her students at Elizabeth Wyn Wood Alternate High School Program in Ottawa and is the winner of the 2011 Governor General's History Awards for Excellence in Teaching.

## **Dan & Mary Lou Smoke: TBA**

## **Cliff Standing Ready: "Children of the Creator" book talk**

## **Cathy Syrette: Jingle Dress Talk & Presentation**

## **Theodore Syrette: Youth Panel: "The Future of Reconciliation"**

## **Rosalee Tizya: Oral History presentation**

*Rosalee Tizya* is Vuntat Gwich'in and was born and raised in the Yukon Territory till the age of 17. She took two (2) years at the University of British Columbia after graduation in Whitehorse, Yukon. She attended Chooutla Residential School till the age of 13. She left the University of British Columbia where she was training as a teacher to help her people in the Mackenzie Delta stop the building of the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline through the Porcupine Caribou herd's migration route. Through those years of hard work, her elders taught her many disciplines and showed her how to take in the beauty of the Gwich'in People's territory. Her parents are Peter and Clara Tizya of Old Crow, Yukon. She lives in Vancouver where she has made her home and raised her son Christian who is now happily married.

During her career, Rosalee worked for two major Indian organizations in the Northwest Territories – COPE, the Committee for Original People’s Entitlement, and, the Dene Nation. She worked briefly at the National Indian Brotherhood in Ottawa as the Education Director in the early 1970’s but returned to Vancouver British Columbia to work for the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs and subsequently for the United Native Nations. She has been a passionate advocate of Indigenous rights for 40 years and has earned the respect of Indian, Metis and Inuvialuit communities where she has worked tirelessly during her 40 year career. Rosalee apprenticed with a professional therapist from the age of 18 years old and applied these techniques and teachings to help Indigenous people meet their needs.

Rosalee continues her grueling pace working in small Indian communities throughout Canada assisting community people to address the internalized/externalized pain that leads to suicides and homicides. She recently completed projects in Ontario with First Nations from James Bay to the U.S./Canada border, in addition to First Nations in Manitoba and British Columbia.

In her public life, she is well-known for her “Oral History of Indian North America” which continues to be in demand throughout Canada, the United States, Australia and New Zealand. Single parenthood did not prevent her from continuing to work at her blistering pace and in 1992 relocated to Ottawa for three (3) years where she was invited to work for the Royal Commission on Aboriginal People’s as the Urban Research Coordinator. Following her work at the Royal Commission, Rosalee returned to Vancouver and began her business “Little Scout Research & Consulting” in July 1995. Rosalee committed her life to help community people alleviate the suffering and abusive conditions existing on reserves that is associated with violence and poverty throughout Canada. She works tirelessly to link the off-reserve and on-reserve with their original stories and cultural belief systems.

Rosalee served diligently up to 2002 for three (3) years on the Board of the Legal Services Society for B.C., the Institute of Indigenous Government, and for the past 20 years on the Centre for World Indigenous Studies based in Olympia, Washington holding the Chief George Manuel Chair. Many people are responsible for the work and commitment of Ms Tizya in their support of her work sharing with her their knowledge, skill and abilities. They have contributed to her understanding of the roots of racism as she bridges cultural gaps and strengthens the self-worth of every human being she meets.

Rosalee believes she has many more years of work which she carries out with humor, respect and love for people. She looks forward to the future with optimism based on the incredible changes she has witnessed in the lives of people.

### **Marie Wilson: Commemoration Ceremony Keynote Address**

**Marie Wilson** is a fluently bilingual, university educated professional who has lived and worked in cross-cultural environments for almost forty years, both internationally, and in several parts

of Canada, including the North. Throughout that time, Ms Wilson has dealt effectively with Aboriginal, church and political organizations at the operational, executive and political levels.

For 25 years she worked for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in radio and television as regional and national reporter, television program host, and Regional Director for northern Quebec and the northern Territories. As an independent contractor, Ms Wilson has developed and led complex, national profile, community development initiatives. Before becoming a Commissioner, she served as a senior manager (Vice President of Operations) in a public crown corporation, the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Ms Wilson holds a Bachelor's degree with Honours in French Language and Literature and a Master's degree in Journalism from the University of Western Ontario.

She is a recipient of the 1999 "Northerner of the Year" award from the prominent northern/national newsmagazine "Up Here", and a "Lifetime Achievement" CBC North award from a jury of CBC staff and colleagues in 1999, in addition to various awards for documentary and writing excellence.

With a broad and deep understanding of the issues that will face The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, Ms Wilson brings a wealth of specific skills and relevant experience that will serve the Commission in its important work.

She is married to Stephen Kakfwi, and is the proud mother of three children: Kyla, Daylyn and Keenan.