

Weaving Ways eCourse: How to Weave Indigenous Knowledge Systems into Your Everyday Practice (Winter 2021)

Presented By: **Donna Ross & Wanda Dechant**
Fee: **\$0.00**

Date(s) & Time(s)

January 04, 2021: 12:00 PM - 12:00 AM

Venue:

Online

About the Session

AUDIENCE: K-12 TEACHERS, PRINCIPALS, ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS, INDIGENOUS COACHES, AND OTHER SCHOOL LEADERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

"Indigenous scholars suggest that a process of decolonization must be enacted in order to activate the process of including Indigenous Knowledge into Western [current] schools' structures so that the balance between knowledge systems can be achieved." Garcia & Shirley, 2012

Join us for this interactive and informative **eCourse** where you will focus on how to weave Indigenous Knowledge systems into your current teaching and learning practices. Each section will build understanding of what Indigenous Knowledge systems were and continue to be, as well as create an awareness of traditional Indigenous pedagogical processes and how they could be *respectfully* incorporated into current teaching practices. As you dive deeper into each section, you will build an appreciation of how weaving together Indigenous ways of knowing with current pedagogical practices can benefit all students.

Section 1: Educational Synthesis: An Introduction to Indigenous Knowledge Systems

You will focus on building an understanding and appreciation for Indigenous Knowledge systems. As a participant, you will learn about the importance of land, language, Elders, and relationships in traditional education and how to use these new understandings in synthesis with your current teaching methods. This section is designed to help educators understand that Indigenous Knowledge systems cannot live in contemporary schools; rather they can inspire us to teach in varied ways that benefit all learners.

Section 2: Creating a Culture of Belonging: Supporting Curriculum and Understanding Indigenous Learning Processes

The second part in the Weaving Ways eCourse will focus on creating educational environments that foster belonging. You will be introduced to three Indigenous themes that research has identified as successfully supporting a sense of belonging in classrooms, or as whole-school approaches. As participants, you will unpack ideas of belonging and brainstorm ways to weave these teachings into what you are currently doing.

Section 3: Instructional Design: Supporting Curriculum and Understanding Indigenous Learning Processes

In the third section of the eCourse, you will explore how Indigenous communities approach understanding in ways that are holistic, collaborative, and relational and consider how these approaches can enhance your current practices to support deep learning for students. You will be introduced to a variety of online resources with tools, examples, and templates to support your planning and thinking.

Section 4: Pedagogy: Supporting Curriculum and Understanding Indigenous Learning Processes

This fourth section in the Weaving Ways eCourse will focus on historical forms of teaching in Indigenous societies. The goal of this section is inspire you to teach in alternate ways that benefit all learners. We will talk about the importance of people, places, and processes and discuss how you might weave these traditional teaching methods into current



teaching practices.

Section 5: Sharing Through Story: Supporting Curriculum and Understanding Indigenous Learning Processes

The fifth and last section of the Weaving Ways of the course reveals how stories connect us to family, friends, the land, and even ourselves. These teachings have the potential to benefit schools and help to support the curriculum implementation process by seeing stories as an extension or a foundation to our curriculum. Learn how song, dance, landscapes and art can be woven into the ways you currently teach or tell stories.

Facilitated by: Wanda Dechant with guest appearances by Donna Ross

About the Presenter(s)

Donna Ross is currently contracted with the Calgary Regional Consortium to provide Education for Reconciliation and Foundational Knowledge of Alberta's First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people. She brings a strong understanding of literacy and storytelling from an Indigenous perspective.

Wanda Dechant is a Designer of Professional Learning with the Calgary Regional Consortium. Her role includes supporting teachers, E.A.'s, school admin, learning coaches and parents in the area of K-12 Math. Wanda began teaching math and science in 2000, her teaching experience extends from grades 7 – 12. For the past 6 years Wanda's work has included a focus on K-6 Mathematics. Three critical aspects of learning that Wanda embeds into her sessions include:

- Increasing student (and teacher) self-confidence in math
- Students engaging in visible learning with their peers
- Students as mathematicians

Wanda is part of the development team for the Elementary Math Professional Learning project.

<http://learning.arpdc.ab.ca/>

Registration Notes:

This self-paced course will be open from January 4th - February 5th, 2021. To receive a certificate of completion participants must complete course work during this time. **Sorry, no extensions will be provided.**

Estimated time of completion of the full eCourse is approximately 15-20 hours. Total completion time will vary for individuals dependent on the level of participation within the course.

Participants will receive an email invitation with login instructions from PowerSchool Learning on the date the course opens.

