

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS



### **Iizhichegayaang: Cultural Resurgence by and with Indigenous Youth in Canadian Education**

**Prof. Lisa Korteweg & Tesa Fiddler**  
Lakehead University

Monday, May 9, 2016  
11:30 AM – 2:30 PM  
234 York Lanes

### **Bios**

**Isa Korteweg** is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education and Associate Editor of the Canadian Journal of Environmental Education. She teaches courses at the undergraduate (BEd), masters and doctoral levels in urban Aboriginal education, culturally responsive approaches, digital and socio-technical issues in education, foundations of curriculum, qualitative research methods, and critical theories. She has researched and written on topics such as critical environmental education, research as reconciliation, Indigenizing environmental education, and multimodal qualitative research methodologies such as photo/video-voice. Her overarching goal in all that she does – teaching, research and service- is to work with others to actively improve the Aboriginal-non-Aboriginal relationship in Canada through education-as-reconciliation.

**Tesa Fiddler** is Anishinabek with family roots throughout Northwestern Ontario. She is a mother of two daughters. Tesa completed her Bachelor of Education at the University of Ottawa and a Master of Education at Lakehead University. She is currently the English Literacy Development Teacher with the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board. In her role as an ELD teacher, she provides literacy and transition support to First Nation students. In partnership with Dr. Lisa Korteweg at Lakehead University, Tesa has conducted research in FNMI education and FNMI student success. She has also taught courses at the university which specialize in FNMI education and supporting teacher candidates in their role as culturally responsive and relevant educators.

### **Abstract**

Indigenous youth face many layers of challenges to engage in any political participation because they must first 'get an education' by leaving their communities and/or losing the Indigenous knowledge tools, cultural capacity, language strength, or intergenerational supports that strengthen their cultural identities and resolve to face 'settlerstream' schooling. Izhichegayaang is an Oji-Cree conceptualization of a social movement where a collective decides what they are doing for their self-defined social good and how it is happening as cultural resurgence. We discuss an izhichegayaang approach by and with Indigenous youth to speak up, stand up and stay strong while getting and changing Canadian education.

### **Discussant**

Prof. Mareia Quintero Rivera