**Join us for our Annual Indigenous Education Series with Diane Montreuil, Lydia Sunchild & Laryssa Gorecki, and Red Bear!**

This year’s virtual series will be recorded live via Zoom. The following site includes the 2021 and Orange Day video events at [Niagara University Indigenous Education Series | Niagara University in Ontario](https://niagarau.ca/nu-engaged/face-to-face-indigenous-education-series/). The video of **Robert Cutting**’s session last week will be uploaded shortly. A closing event will occur in April.

**An Evening with Diane Montreuil on Wednesday, March 2 at 6:30 pm**

Please join us for a workshop with Diane Montreuil as part of the Niagara University Indigenous Education Series in Ontario. Diane is an Algonquin Métis knowledge keeper and a visual artist. Diane was born and raised in Montréal, Québec and speaks regularly at cultural events about Métis culture. Diane will be sharing engaging stories, understandings about sacred herbs and smudging, and what motivates her to bring out the teaching of her grandmothers into her art.

This session will be recorded. The zoom link is as follows: <https://niagara-edu.zoom.us/j/83476802694>

**In Conversation with Lydia Sunchild & Laryssa Gorecki on Tuesday, March 8 at 6:30 pm**

Lydia Sunchild is a nêhiyaw iskwew (Cree Woman) educator and proud member of the Thunderchild First Nation, located in the Treaty 6 Territory. Lydia is currently the Sr. Researcher and Analyst for the Federation of Saskatchewan Indigenous Nations for the Innovations and Research program. Lydia’s career has always been dedicated to First Nations education, where she has taken part in creating numerous initiatives that have all had the message to inspire the youth and educators.

Laryssa Gorecki is a secondary English teacher at TCDSB where she develops and teaches the Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Studies Voices (NBE) courses. Lately, Laryssa has been working on arts-based initiatives connected to the TRC Calls to Action.

In the spring of 2019, Lydia and Laryssa embarked on a cross-cultural exchange that profoundly changed their lives, as well as those of their students. This presentation will outline their deep and personal learning, detailing unique journeys of relationship-building, reflecting on the question: “How did our cultural exchange experience broaden our understanding of what decolonizing pedagogy and relationship-building look like?” Informed by relational research paradigms (Wilson, 2008), Lydia and Laryssa, who co-facilitate NU’s first *Introduction to Indigenous Education* course, focus on making meaning through experience by following the teachings within the Cree Medicine Wheel framework. The presentation will invite audience members to learn more deeply about themselves as educators on a personal and professional level, and has the potential to inform both practicing and pre-service educators about the value of the interweaving of experiences, and possible ways to engage in authentic relationship-building in their own research and practice.

This session will be recorded. The zoom link is as follows: <https://niagara-edu.zoom.us/j/83570024891>

**In Conversation with Red Bear on Thursday, March 31 at 7:00 pm**

Red Bear/Misko Make is a member of Three Fires Society, Midewewin (Ojibway Medicine Society), which is recognized as a carrier of Aboriginal Teachings, and has been presented with and carries a Sacred Pipe and a Warrior Eagle Feather. As well as being well educated in the Aboriginal world, Red Bear has a Masters of Social Work and is currently completing his PhD at OISE/University of Toronto. The topic for his dissertation is on the Storytelling Method. Red Bear’s workshop is on Ojibway language and culture where he will be sharing stories and language lessons. Resources will be provided with this interactive session.

This session will be recorded. The zoom link is as follows: <https://niagara-edu.zoom.us/j/88683594460>