

Re-Visiting

A Gathering of the Indigenous Literary Studies Association



I L S A

As part of the Congress of the Humanities and Social
Sciences

George Brown College, Tkaronto, Ontario

June 1 – 4, 2025

Acknowledging our Hosts

George Brown College is located on the traditional territory of Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and other Indigenous peoples who have lived here over time. We are grateful to share this land as treaty people who learn, work and live in the community with each other. We also recognize the City of Toronto land acknowledgement and other land acknowledgements that may apply to members visiting today and participating in Congress. For more information on the George Brown College land acknowledgement, please visit this website [here](#).

When ILSA gathers, we recognize also the many Nations and homelands that nourish us and whose storied worlds we honour in our work.

Acknowledging Our Sponsors

This gathering is supported in part by funding from:

Federation for Humanities and Social Sciences
 University of Calgary Faculty of Arts
 University of Calgary Office of Indigenous Engagement
 University of Calgary Werklund School of Education
 University of Manitoba
 Individual Donors and Council Members



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Special Thanks

To the Land, for sustaining us, and to this territory for hosting us. To the Elders and Knowledge Holders for helping us to do our work in a good way. To the ILSA Council for exceptional service in leading ILSA and organizing this gathering—you have been an incredible team this year and we have shared a lot of laughter and community alongside our deep commitment to this work. To all the loved ones of the Council members, who helped to keep us standing as we took on this labour of love this year. To our colleagues and leadership also for supporting us to do this work.

To all those beyond Council who helped to organize the conference, took care of details, stepped up for extra tasks, or provided other vital support: Rachel Stubbs, Celiese Lypka, Patrizia Zanella, Jasmine Rice, and Erin Spring. Particular thanks to Rachel Stubbs for being the conference organizing Research Assistant taking care of much of the organizational legwork. To our George Brown College Local Arrangements Coordinator, Mandy Bergman, for inspiring us in personal growth and ensuring we met all our deadlines, especially the one with getting the catering numbers increased that we almost missed because our president was driving three hours north to show up for her niece's middle school musical.

To all our collaborating organizations and special event organizers who enriched this gathering so very much: the team at ACCUTE, the team at CAPS, the leadership at CASIE, our relatives at IVAs, the team at APFUCC and the Indigenous Editors' Circle, the Indigenous Literatures Lab, the Books to Build On team, the University of Regina Press, and Another Story Bookshop. To all the members of our community who worked to make this year's gathering a little more multilingual, particularly Patrizia Zanella for shaping our statement on languages, below. To those who stepped up to provide French translations, often with short notice, in such a loyal way: Marie-Andrée Bergeron and her student Amélie Latour. To everyone who stepped up to help out or simply volunteered for tasks at the gathering: you know who you are!

To our keynote speakers and our featured speakers, all of whom are highlighted in this program, for sharing your brilliance with us. To all our special event hosts for helping to bring charisma and joy to these special few days. To those who volunteered as panel chairs for helping to make this gathering a robust scholarly experience. To all of our presenters: you literally make this gathering worthwhile. And to all of you for attending and bringing the community to the ILSA community! Special thoughts to our colleagues to the south who were not able to attend in person but who nevertheless shared their work with us virtually.

About ILSA

The Indigenous Literary Studies Association, created in 2013, is a non-profit scholarly association that focuses on the teaching and study of Indigenous peoples' literatures. ILSA seeks to honour the history and promote the ongoing production of Indigenous literatures in all its forms. It also seeks to reaffirm the value of Indigenous knowledges and methodologies within literary expression and study. Visit our [website](#) for more information or to become a member.

2024-25 ILSA Council

Aubrey Jean Hanson (President), Daniel Heath Justice (President Elect), Niigaan Sinclair (Past President), Pauline Wakeham (Secretary), Ryan Stearne (Treasurer), Cara Schwartz (Outreach Coordinator), Matthew Tétreault (Early-Career Representative), Krista Collier-Jarvis (Early-Career Representative), Benjamin Connor (Graduate Student Representative).

ILSA Staff Person Contact

For non-urgent inquiries or concerns, please email ILSA at indigenoulsa@gmail.com. For urgent or time-sensitive requests during the gathering, please contact ILSA's Secretary, Pauline Wakeham, at pwakeham@uwo.ca or 226-376-6018.

Registration

Please register for ILSA and update your membership, as your fees support our programming at Congress and throughout the year. Registration desks are available across the George Brown College campuses: you can pick up your Congress name badge at these desks. See [Campus Map](#).



Accessibility, Comfort, and Being Well as Yourself at ILSA

Conferences can be vibrant, engaging, connective experiences, but also can be demanding and intense: we encourage attendees to take care of themselves so as to have a great experience. We encourage you to do what you need to do to be comfortable: take a break, get up and move around, find a quiet corner to rest, fidget, stim, take a walk, grab a snack, sit where you can see and hear best, work on your beadwork, etc, etc. We trust you to be respectful of the speakers while also taking care of your own needs. Smudging unfortunately is only allowed outdoors.

The majority of our events are taking place in George Brown College's Waterfront (WF) and Limberlost (WFL) buildings at the Waterfront Campus. All the rooms in WFL, where the majority of our sessions take place, were built in accordance with the latest [Accessibility for Ontarioans with Disabilities Act \(AODA\) standards](#).

Universal washrooms designed for all human genders and bodies are available in all buildings. All buildings have elevators. If you are in a wheelchair and attending events in our large room in WLF on June 2 and 3 please note the front-row tables are adjustable.

All rooms booked for ILSA use LED lighting. We recognize the importance of ventilation and temperature, which can be experienced differently by individuals and sensitivities vary from person to person. The WFL building is brand-new and features exemplary design; WF 004–005 is well-ventilated and passed an air quality test in 2023 with flying colours. Between 6am and 10pm temperatures are set to cool to 24 degrees Celsius. We encourage attendees to dress flexibly for spring in Ontario and a climate-controlled environment. To protect those with respiratory sensitivities or allergies, we ask members to go scent-free and particularly to avoid wearing strongly scented/perfumed products.

For more information on accessibility at Congress, please see the [Accessibility Support and Guidance Page](#), which details information on event accessibility, accessible accommodation, accessible transportation, parking, mobility assistance, accessibility of specific buildings, sighted guide volunteers, service animals, etc. This page will also host the shuttle schedule for transportation between venues.

ILSA Code of Conduct 2025

We honour our commitments to fostering ethical relationships and creating a warm and collegial environment free from violence, discrimination, harassment, and bullying. We ask for your support in creating spaces free from harassment or abuse. ILSA is committed to providing an atmosphere that encourages freedom of expression and the respectful exchange of ideas, as well as open, critically engaged, and sometimes challenging discourse and debate. All attendees are expected to treat other participants with dignity, respect, and courtesy.

We recognize that some folks are immuno-compromised. If you have symptoms, please be considerate (e.g. consider testing for covid, wearing a mask, using social distancing, staying home to recover, etc.). Please respect that individuals have varied risk tolerances and may wish to wear masks.

For social events, we ask that members bear the code of conduct in mind. ILSA cannot be responsible for all social events and interactions occurring during the event.

Harassment includes, but is not limited to:

- Verbal comments that reinforce social structures of domination related to gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, political beliefs, disability, neurodiversity, physical appearance, body size, race, age, class, or religion
- Inappropriate or unwanted sexual or derogatory images in public spaces
- Deliberate intimidation, stalking, or following
- Harassing photography or recording
- Harassment on social media or other digital platforms
- Sustained disruption of talks or other events
- Inappropriate physical contact
- Unwelcome sexual attention
- Advocating for or encouraging any of the above behaviour

If you are being harassed, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have any other concerns, please contact one of the gathering organizers, ILSA Council members, who can be identified by **blue stickers on their nametags**. Participants who are asked to cease any harassing behaviour are expected to comply immediately. If a participant engages in harassing behaviour, the gathering organizers may take any action they deem appropriate, including warning the offender or expelling them from the gathering. If needed or requested, event organizers will contact venue security, provide escorts, or otherwise assist those experiencing harassment to feel safe, or, as a last resort, contact local law enforcement.

We thank you for your cooperation in making our gatherings and events safe and welcoming spaces for everyone. ILSA Email: indigenoulsa@gmail.com

GBC Safety App

If you feel unsafe, please contact George Brown College emergency services. The GBC Safety app allows you to call emergency services (both 911 and campus security) at the touch of a button and send your live location to GBC Security if you need assistance on campus.

Download the app the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#)

Security Contacts

St. James Campus security: 200 King St. E., upper main lobby security booth

Waterfront Campus security: 51 Dockside Dr., main lobby near entrance
Waterfront

Emergency line: 416-415-4000 or 0 from an internal GBC Cisco phone

Emergency text number: 416-723-4761

St. James Security: 416-415-5000 ext. 2773

Waterfront Security: 416-415-5000 ext. 2773

Non-emergency email: gbccrimestoppers@georgebrown.ca

For more information regarding security at George Brown, please see the [George Brown Safety and Security Website](#)

Key Congress Info

Please visit the Congress website for information provided by the Federation for Humanities and Social Sciences.

Congress Info: [Plan Your Trip](#)

Getting Around

Congress Info: [Getting Around](#)

TTC (public transit): download the app, access via map tools, or use the [Trip Planner](#)

Congress will offer a free attendee shuttle service serving the St. James and Waterfront campuses. The stop locations will be 110 Frederick St. (St. James campus) and 51 Dockside Drive (Waterfront campus). The hours of operation are 7:00 to 19:00 from May 30 to June 6, available every thirty minutes. For additional transportation information (e.g., parking, airports, mobility assistance, etc., see the [Congress website](#)).

Food & Beverage Options

The ILSA conference is lightly catered. Food vendor options are available at George Brown College Waterfront campus, including a cafeteria and a Tim Horton's. A few restaurant/café options exist within walking distance.

Multilingualism at ILSA

Recognizing the importance of linguistic sovereignties, ILSA welcomes members to present in Indigenous languages, French, and/or English. We would like to encourage everyone to join our efforts to create a multilingual environment that reflects our membership as well as millennia-old traditions of Indigenous multilingualism. We expressly invite the use of two or more languages for your presentations. By necessity, French speakers often incorporate English translations into their PPT to create bridges across linguistic divides—and, reciprocally, presentations in English could include French translations to help facilitate understanding by all. If you have the capacity to do so, consider participating in this effort. We especially want to create room for Indigenous languages for those of you who are on language reclamation journeys.

La version française de ce programme sera disponible sur le site Internet de l'ADÉLA ainsi qu'à la table d'accueil du colloque.

About Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences

Organized by the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Congress is the largest academic gathering in Canada, and one of the largest in the world. Congress brings together academic associations that represent a rich spectrum of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, including literature, history, theatre, film studies, education, music, sociology, geography, social work and many others.

Congress 2025 theme: Reframing togetherness

As the first college to host Congress, George Brown invites researchers, students, educators, policymakers, and the public to reframe what it means to coexist with other humans, the environment, and technology. With an invitation and a challenge, we aim to open a collaborative space that bridges different ways of learning and producing

knowledge in order to rethink our roles and responsibilities in these times of climate and humanitarian disasters, ever-evolving technologies, social isolation, dislocation, and increasing polarization.

This milestone Congress challenges all attendees to model togetherness by questioning traditional knowledge hierarchies and by collaborating on fundamental- and applied-research solutions for humanity's historically rooted problems. If communities rally around commonalities, togetherness may offer us a way to build on a foundation of diversity and heterogeneity that helps us reframe our perspectives and generate innovative solutions for enduring issues.

What past, present, or fictional models of togetherness can put these issues into new contexts? How can we further decolonize our worldview and rework our relationships to the environment and technology? Conversely, what are the drawbacks of togetherness? In response to contemporary realities, new pitfalls of interconnection, from mental health impacts to reactionary extremism, emerge continually. Ultimately, how can our collaborative sharing of knowledge and learning enable us to care for a world in trouble in personally, societally, culturally, and politically healthy ways?

About the Federation

The Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences promotes research and teaching for the advancement of an inclusive, democratic and prosperous society. With a membership now comprising over 160 universities, colleges and scholarly associations, the Federation represents a diverse community of 91,000 researchers and graduate students across Canada. The Federation organizes Canada's largest academic gathering, the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, bringing together more than 8,000 participants each year.

The Federation office is located on the traditional, unceded Algonquin territory in Ottawa.
www.federationhss.ca





BIG THINKING EVENTS AT CONGRESS 2025

Open to all Congress registered attendees

June 1, 12:15-1:15 PM

Waterfront Campus, Second Floor, Room 237

Technologies of Togetherness: Shaping an Equitable Future with AI

Heather Krause and Debra Lam

June 2, 12:15-1:15 PM

Environments of Togetherness: Collaborating at the Climate Crossroads

Eriel Tchekwie Deranger and Melina Laboucan-Massimo

Waterfront Campus, Second Floor, Room 237

June 3, 5:15-6:15 PM

Care of Togetherness: From Social Isolation to Collective Well-Being

Waterfront Campus, Second Floor, Room 237

Billy-Ray Belcourt, Jael Richardson, and Kisha Supernant

June 4, 12:15-1:15 PM

Pedagogies of Togetherness: Practices for Inclusive Learning

Paul Turcotte and Jessica Riddell

Waterfront Campus, Second Floor, Room 237





Conference Schedule

DAY ZERO: JUNE 1

15:00 - 17:00 Pre-Gathering Visiting and Beadwork Workshop

WFL-236

Light Refreshments, Coffee, Tea

While many of our members may be traveling back from the Honouring the Word Warriors gathering in Kingston or attending ACCUTE, some of us might be looking for a chance to visit, say hello, get to know the conference venue in advance, or just score some free snacks. Come and join us! You might also want to hang out with the marvellous Celiese Lypka and do some beading! For those who are interested Celiese will be hosting a beading workshop; no experience or supplies are needed to participate. Come visit, have some refreshments, and learn to bead! If you have your own beading projects that you want to work on, feel free to bring them. Participants need to be registered for the ILSA gathering to attend.



DAY ONE: JUNE 2

8:30 - 17:30 Welcome Table Open

WFL-337

8:00 - 18:00 Visiting / Room Available

WFL-236

This space to rest, visit, or work will be available throughout the conference.

8:30 - 9:00 Arrival, Visiting, Breakfast, Coffee

WFL-337

Light Continental Breakfast, Coffee, Tea

9:00 - 9:30 Welcome Words

WFL-337

9:30 - 10:30 Keynote Address by Jeannette Armstrong

*WFL-337 *Limited seating; arrive early to secure your spot*

Revisiting Land and Community through Story

Co-hosted by the Canadian Association for the Study of Indigenous Education (CASIE)

Jeannette Armstrong's keynote will explore Indigenous literatures, relationality with land, and community, offering an Indigenous perspective on how storytelling and literary practices play a vital role in reshaping relationships with land, culture, and identity. Focusing on the role of Indigenous knowledge systems in navigating and resisting colonial structures, Armstrong will illuminate the power of Indigenous storytelling in fostering community resilience, environmental sustainability, and cultural resurgence. Her presentation will tie together the themes of "Reframing Togetherness" by emphasizing the relationality between people, place, and the environment, demonstrating how Indigenous literature fosters inclusive dialogues across divergent knowledge systems. Having given a keynote at our inaugural gathering a decade ago, Armstrong will animate our conference theme of "Revisiting," bringing land-based sensibilities to this urban gathering. Armstrong's work contributes to contemporary discussions on global issues like climate change, land rights, and decolonization, offering valuable insights to engage academic scholars and broader audiences.

Jeannette Armstrong is a Syilx (Okanagan) author, poet, artist, and academic born and raised on the Penticton Indian Reserve. A fluent speaker of Nsyilxcn and knowledge keeper of Syilx traditions and plant medicines, she is a leading voice in Indigenous environmental ethics and literature. Armstrong began writing at fifteen and is known for her novels *Slash* (1986) and *Whispering in Shadows* (2000), as well as her poetry collection *Breath Tracks* (1991). She became Executive Director of the En'owkin Centre in 1986 and co-founded the En'owkin School of International Writing, the first Indigenous-run creative writing program in Canada. She holds a BFA from the University of Victoria and a PhD from the University of Greifswald, and in 2021 was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. As a Canada Research Chair at UBC-Okanagan, she has helped establish a Bachelor's degree in Nsyilxcn Language Fluency to preserve and advance Syilx oral traditions.

This session is made possible with the financial support of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences and is a Congress Open Event

10:30 - 10:45 Break

No catering scheduled



10:45 - 12:00 Panel Session 1

1.1 Space, Place, Territories, Cities

WFL-337

Chair: Jennifer Hardwick

- Élise Couture-Grondin, Reframing connections between autobiographies by Indigenous women in what we know as Quebec
- Tina Munroe, Re-visiting Mama's stories: Cariou's "Terristory" as urban Indigenous resurgent praxis
- Lois Boody, An Analysis of Eden Robinson's Trickster trilogy: Finding Homeplace for Liberatory Futures
- Cara Schwartz, "home is like a dandelion": Indigenous and Diasporic Co-Existence on the Prairies

1.2 Possibilities and Poetics

WFL-238

Chair: TBD

- Rob Jackson, Refusal, Opacity, Mediation
- Mackenzie Ground, Language Experiments: Reading Jordan Abel's *Empty Spaces* with James Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*
- Isabela Agosa and Ryan D. Fong, Singing Our Ancestors' Songs, Together: Revisiting the Lyric and Becoming Kin (*presenting via Zoom)

1.3 Revisiting Place South of the Medicine Line

WFL-638

Chair: TBD

- Bernadette V. Russo, Redefining the West and the Western: Stephen Graham Jones's Indian Lake Trilogy (*presenting via Zoom)
- Corrina Richards, "The Land Was Still the Same:" The Return to Land in Diane Wilson's *The Seed Keeper* and Richard Wagamese's *Indian Horse* (*presenting via Zoom)
- Jenna Hunnef, Re-Visiting Modernism in Tommy Orange's *There There*

12:00 - 13:45 Lunch & Celebration of Books in Our Field

WFL-337

Sandwiches and Salads, Beverages

Please help yourselves to the light lunch provided and then have a seat for the scheduled programming!

13:45-14:00 Break

No catering scheduled

14:00-15:15 Panel Session 2

2.1 Theorizing Resistance and Solidarity

WFL-337

Chair: Marie-Ève Bradette

- Aries Farrington, White Alice Language Games: Using Decolonizing Language to Re/Visit White Alice Sites in Joan Naviyuk Kane's *Dark Traffic*
- Ana Kancepolsky Teichmann, Revisiter l'œuvre de Kapeshe à travers la traduction
- Ko Eun Nancy Um, Re-visiter le monde. Le mot « décolonisation » en français et en anglais

2.2 Entanglements

WFL-238

Chair: Sarah Henzi

- Jennifer Hardwick, "as messy and beautiful and real as our bodyminds": Disability Justice and Indigenous Literature
- Peggy Fournier, Le territoire souffrant. Ecoféminisme et écopoétique chez Rita Mestokosho et Joséphine Bacon
- Krista Collier-Jarvis, "The shining deep green chant of her blood": Lichentrophy in *Green Fuse Burning*

2.3 "And I can picture 'it', after all these days": Reading Romance Novels through a Decolonial Feminist Lens

WFL-638

Chair: Tianne Jensen-DesJardins

- Tianne Jensen-DesJardins
- Julianna Wagar
- Rebekah Stuiwe

15:15-15:45 Break & Travel Time to St James Campus*No catering scheduled***15:45-17:15 Keynote Address by Deanna Reder****Offsite: SJC-303, George Brown College, St James Campus****Indigenous Intellectual Traditions: Decolonizing Knowledge and Methods through Collaborative Thought and Action***

Co-hosted with the Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English (ACCUTE)

In this plenary lecture, Dr. Deanna Reder will work through some of the key arguments of her recent award-winning book, *Autobiography as Indigenous Intellectual Tradition: Cree and Métis Âcimisowina*, and expand upon them with examples from practical, collaborative research, organizational, and community-oriented projects. She will map out key concepts and strategic practices of decolonizing literary and cultural modes of study, curriculum, and cultural production. The lecture will critique ways of approaching Indigenous texts that are informed by the Western academic tradition and offer instead a new way of theorizing Indigenous literature based on the Indigenous practice of life writing. Since the 1970s, non-Indigenous scholars have perpetrated the notion that Indigenous people were disinclined to talk about their lives and have underscored the assumption that autobiography is a European invention. Dr. Reder's lecture will first challenge such long-held assumptions by highlighting longstanding autobiographical practices that are ingrained in Cree and Métis—nêhiyawak—culture. She will examine a series of examples of Indigenous life writing based on extensive archival and community-based research. Specific examples will include the censored and suppressed work of nêhiyawak intellectuals such as Maria Campbell, Edward Ahenakew, and James Brady. Her approach in this lecture will be grounded in nêhiyawak ontologies and epistemologies that view life stories as an intergenerational conduit for passing on knowledge about a shared world. This rich area of research will be used to encourage a widespread re-evaluation of past and present engagement with Indigenous storytelling forms across scholarly disciplines. Dr. Reder will also present illustrative examples of decolonizing actions and initiatives from large-scale collaborative projects she has helped lead, including *The People and the Text*, the Indigenous Editors Association, the Indigenous Literary Studies Association, and the Indigenous Voices Awards.

Dr. Deanna Reder is an internationally recognized interdisciplinary scholar and expert in Indigenous Literatures and Cultures. The international reach and impact of her work is evident from the awards it has garnered both within and beyond the Canadian context. She was appointed a Member of the College of New Scholars of the Royal Society of Canada in 2018. Her monograph, *Autobiography as Indigenous Intellectual Tradition: Cree and Métis âcimisowin* (Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2022), has won several major awards: the Gabrielle Roy Prize for Canadian Literary Criticism in 2023, the FHSS Canada Prize in 2024, and the Modern Language Association Prize for Studies in Native American Literatures, Cultures, and Languages in January 2025. She has co-edited numerous collections and special journal issues, including *Honouring the Strength of Indian Women: Plays, Stories, Poems by Vera Manuel* (U Manitoba Press, 2019), *Read, Listen, Tell: Indigenous Stories from Turtle Island* (WLUP, 2017), *Learn, Teach, Challenge: Approaching Indigenous Literatures* (WLUP, 2016), and *Troubling Tricksters: Revisioning Critical Conversations* (WLUP, 2010). Dr. Reder's work crosses national and disciplinary boundaries with the aim of decolonizing conceptions of canons and curriculum, and transforming our understanding of the disciplinary boundaries that shape how knowledge is produced.

Sponsored by Wilfrid Laurier University Press



19:00 - 21:30 **Gathering Space 2025**

An evening of Indigenous joy, books, food and community

Co-hosted by the Indigenous Voices Awards (IVAs)

- [It's Ok* Studios](#) (468 Queen St. W, Toronto)
- Doors at 7 p.m (19:00).
- Readings by Alicia Elliott, Matthew Tétreault, Kyle Edwards, and Kenzie Allen
- Entertainment & gathering until 9:30 p.m (21:30).
- Light snacks provided
- Books for sale by Another Story bookshop

Indigenous Voices Awards, Indigenous Literary Studies Association, and Another Story Bookshop present

GATHERING SPACE 2025

An evening of Indigenous joy, books, food and community.

With special guests and readings by...

Matthew Tétreault, author of *Hold Your Tongue*
 Alicia Elliott, author of *And Then She Fell*
 Kyle Edwards, author of *Small Ceremonies*
 Kenzie Allen, author of *Cloud Missives*

Free registration at gatheringospace2025.eventbrite.ca

It's Ok* Studios, 468 Queen St. W, Toronto
 7pm, Monday, June 2 2025

Indigenous Literatures Lab ANOTHER STORY BOOKSHOP I L S A

DAY TWO: JUNE 3

8:30 - 17:30 Welcome Table Open

WFL-337

8:00 - 18:00 Visiting / Room Available

WFL-236

8:30 - 10:00 CAPS-ILSA Indigenous Roundtable

25 Years of the Indigenous Roundtable

Co-hosted by the Canadian Association for Postcolonial Studies

**Offsite: Toronto Metropolitan University*

ILC building, International Room

Featured Speakers:

- Daniel Heath Justice
- Kristina Bidwell
- Aruna Srivastava
- Warren Cariou

In alignment with the themes of ILSA, CAPS, and Congress 2025—*Reframing Togetherness / Redessinons le vivre-ensemble*—this year's roundtable invites speakers to reflect on the impact of the original roundtable held at Congress 2000. Drawing on decades of dialogue between ILSA and CAPS/CACLALS, and inspired by the influential *Creating Community: A Roundtable on Canadian Aboriginal Literature* collection, participants will explore how that inaugural gathering has shaped their teaching, scholarship, and broader contributions to Indigenous literary studies. This session celebrates the enduring influence of that formative conversation and invites continued reflection on the evolving relationships and commitments within the field.

This session is made possible with the financial support of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

10:00 - 10:45 Travel Time & Break

Light Continental Breakfast, Coffee, Tea at TMU & in WFL-337

We were not able to provide a dedicated shuttle between our venues for this time slot. However, if you would like to attend the roundtable but location makes this event inaccessible, e.g., if mobility and financial issues prevent your participation, please reach out to Council as we would be happy to subsidize an Uber fare, particularly if you bring some colleagues with you who are in the same boat.

10:45 - 12:00 Panel Session 3

3.1 Rethinking the Past, Revisiting the Archive, Reframing the Present

WFL-337

Chair: Malou Brouwer

- Jody Mason, "Books for Development: Fourth-World Challenges to Settler-Canadian Exceptionalism"
- Matthew Tétreault, "soldiers ... poets and dreamers": On the Exigencies of Kinship in Conor Kerr's *Prairie Edge*
- Marie-Ève Bradette, Re-visiting Indigenous Literary History in Québec through Archival Material: The Autobiographical Writings of Francis Noel Annance and Prosper Vincent

3.2 Restorying Transformation

WFL-238

Chair: Aubrey Hanson

- Danielle Marie Bitz & Michelle Porter, Of Women, Wolves, and Words: Revisiting "Rou Garous" (30 mins)
- Kaitlyn Purcell, The Clown Ups (30 mins)

3.3 Zombies, Bodies, and Other Monsters: Re-Visiting Indigenous Horror

WFL-203

Chair: TBD

- Laura Hall, Bloodied Bodies: Indigenous Scholarship on Horror

- Alice Salion, Reframing prospective co-existence by re-visiting the zombie trope in Jeff Barnaby's *Blood Quantum*
- Nathaniel Harrington, Other people's monsters: "Monster Culture" and Nathan Niigan Noodin Adler's *Wrist*

12:00 - 13:30 Renate Eigenbrod Mentorship Lunch

WFL-337 then find a spot to visit with your mentor/mentee

Bagged Lunches & Beverages

The Renate Eigenbrod Mentorship Lunch is held every year at ILSA's annual gathering. This event provides an opportunity for mentorship in varying "literary" capacities, as defined and requested by you. Each year, we ask interested presenters and attendees what kind of mentorship they are seeking, then pair them with enthusiastic mentors.

Mentors and mentees come in all walks of life! If you have knowledge to share, we encourage you to sign up to be a mentor. If you're seeking guidance in something you're new at, we encourage you to sign up as a mentee.

Lunch is on us; we provide optional ice-breakers and activities to fill timid silences, and while we encourage our mentors and mentees to stay in touch, it's a low-stakes way to meet new people, share knowledge, and strengthen the ILSA community.

Many lovely locations can be found around the Waterfront Campus for visiting both outdoors and indoors. Please allow yourselves time to return for the next panel session—thank you!

Please follow [this link](#) to find a digital map of lovely spots to sit and visit!

13:30 - 14:45 Panel Session 4

4.1 Outrageous Kindnesses

WFL-337

Chair: Pauline Wakeham

- Albert McLeod, 30 mins, Outrageous: Two-Spirit Re-emergence in 1978

- Jamie Paris, Jocelyn Thorpe, Hanako Teranishi, 30 mins, Pedagogical Kindness: On Teaching Soft BIPOC Masculinities

4.2 Orality, Community, and Place

WFL-238

Chair: *Élise Couture-Grondin*

- Raphaela Pavlakos, Indigenous Theatre in Toronto: Native Earth Performing Arts and the Burgeoning Indigenous Theatre Scene of the 80s and early 90s
- Doe O'Brien Teengs, (Re)Awakening Oral Storytelling with Omushkego Elders in Northern Ontario
- Alec Mahoney, Retour à la communauté : Exploration du lien communautaire et des relations interpersonnelles à travers l'écriture d'un Bildungsroman

4.3 Reading through our Nations and Knowledges

WFL-203

Chair: *Matthew Tétreault*

- Alexa Manuel, Revisiting Jeannette Armstrong's *Slash* on its 40th Anniversary
- Louis-Karl Picard-Sioui, Yarihwahkwanh : Lire la résurgence wendat dans la poésie d'Andrée Levesque Sioui
- Tara Million, Responding to wetiko crime: Understanding Harold Johnson's *Backtrack* through the Indigenous Literary Analysis Model (ILAM)

14:45 - 15:00 Break

Coffee, Tea in WFL-337

15:00 - 16:15 Panel Session 5

5.1 Re-Visiting Greg Younging's *Elements of Indigenous Style*

WFL-337

Chair: *Sophie McCall*

- Warren Cariou
- Deanna Reder
- Jordan Abel
- Sarah Henzi

5.2 Echoes of Ephemera: Literary Legacies of Periodicals, Newspapers, and Indigenous Theatre

WFL-238

Chair: Jasmine Rice

- Maxime Poirier-Lemelin, La production littéraire autochtone dans les périodiques au Québec
- Isabella Huberman, “Welcome to the *Nation*”: a Cree magazine’s role in building community literature
- Feather Maracle, Brendan Edwards, & Jane Griffith, Newspaper Clippings: Rematriation from the Royal Ontario Museum

5.3 The Resonances of Walking

WFL-203

Chair: TBD

- Christine Campana, Indigenous Women Walking Together Through Time: Reflecting on Forms of Walking in Chrystos’ “I Walk in the History of My People” and Louise Bernice Halfe’s *Blue Marrow*
- Emilie S. Caravecchia, Re-visiting the multidimensional identity of Sindy Rupertouse. Analysis of the conversational poetics in Virginia Pesemapeo Bordeleau, *Poetry Marching for Sindy*
- Keighlagh Donovan, “What to Do When You’re Done and You No Longer See the Value in Migration, Your Peers, the Formation and Being a Goose”: Visiting as Trans/Formation with Leanne Betasamosake Simpson’s *Noopiming: The Cure for White Ladies*

16:15 - 16:30 Break

No catering scheduled

16:30 - 17:30 Dialogue on Community-Engaged Scholarship

WFL-337

Dialogue between ILSA members on engaging responsibly with Indigenous communities as literary studies and Indigenous studies scholars.

Featured Speakers:

Evening Student Social Event

Location & Details TBD, Check Online Program

All ILSA students are invited to join the social event. Check your email for registration information.

Non-Student Members

The evening of June 3 is free for socialization, relaxation, or to attend the Big Thinking or President's Reception events.

DAY THREE: JUNE 4

Please note that today our sessions will take place in both the Waterfront (WF) building and the Limberlost (WFL) building.

8:30 - 17:30 Welcome Table Open

WF-004,005

8:00 - 18:00 Visiting / Room Available

WFL-236

8:30 - 9:00 Arrival, Visiting, Breakfast, Coffee

WF-004,005

Light Continental Breakfast, Coffee, Tea

9:00 - 10:15 Panel Session 6

6.1 Flipping the Script

WF-004,005

Chair: Cara Schwartz

- Emily Franzo, Social Control and Medical Racism: Revisiting Apocalyptic Pregnancies in Indigenous Women's Writing
- Kali Simmons, The Colonial Uncanny in Louise Erdrich's *The Round House*
- Laura M. Furlan, The Docupoetics of Abigail Chabitnoy's *How to Dress a Fish* (*presenting via Zoom)

6.2 Refractions and Returns

WFL-238

Chair: Marie-Ève Bradette

- Jean Sébastien, *Kuessipan*, livre et film: blessures migratoires et solidarités féminines réparatrices
- Rachel Stubbs, Why Are These Books So Beautiful? The Aesthetics of Indigenous Storytelling in Children's Picturebooks
- Sarah Agou, La réversibilité des structures coloniales : trajectoires de restitutions à la communauté dans le film *Bootlegger* de Caroline Monnet (2021)

6.3 Listening, Creating, Relating

WFL-203

Chair: TBD

- Bren McKay, Resurgence Through Indigitization: Indigenization Of and Through Digital Worlds
- Jason Purcell, Settler Listening and Friendship Lessons with Cree & D
- Tavleen Purewal, Revisiting Settler Self-Location with Deanna Reder's Critical âcimisowina

10:15 - 10:30 Break

No catering scheduled

10:30 - 11:45 ILSA Annual General Meeting

WF-004,005

Light Snacks, Beverages

All members are invited to attend the AGM.

11:45 - 13:00 Lunch Break

12:00-12:45 University of Regina Press Presents *Dark Chapters*

WF-004,005

Light Lunch Provided by University of Regina Press

University of Regina Press panel on the forthcoming title, *Dark Chapters: Reading the Still Lives of David Garneau*, a hybrid artbook-literary text from the Governor General's Award winning painter and art critic. The book features literary contributions from some of Canada's brightest lights: among them Fred Wah, Paul Seesequasis, Jesse Wente, Billy-Ray Belcourt, Peter Morin and Rita Bouvier.



University of Regina Press

13:00 - 14:15 Panel Session 7

7.1 Teaching Pre-21st-Century Texts (Workshop)

WF-004,005

Chair: Deanna Reder

- Deanna Reder

- Susan Glover

7.2 Resistance and Resurgence

WFL-238

Chair: TBD

- Justine Pinault : Writing as Resistance in Leanne Betasamosake Simpson's *This Accident of Being Lost* and Billy-Ray Belcourt's *This Wound is a World*
- Gage Karahkwi:io Diabo, Revisiting Skywoman with Alicia Elliott's *And Then She Fell*
- Jasmine Rice, Indigenous Literatures as Sites of Language Reclamation: An Analysis of *And Then She Fell*

7.3 Why Indigenous Literatures are Important: A Conversation Between Two Indigenous Librarians

WFL-203

Chair: Deborah Lee

- Deborah Lee
- Trish Beamsley

14:15 - 14:30 Break

Coffee, Tea provided in WF 004,005

14:30 - 15:45 Panel Session 8

8.1 Living the Dream: Grief, Rescue, Recovery and Alicia Elliott's *And Then She Fell*

WF-004,005

Chair: Rick Monture

- Rick Monture
- Alexis Andrade
- Emily Rafuse
- Alicia Elliott
- Stacy DeBerner
- Tiffany Saddler

8.2 How We Do What We Do: Re-Visiting Research, Teaching, and Conferences

WFL-238

Chair: Jocelyn Thorpe

- Stephanie Erickson, Collaboration, Creation, and Reconsideration: A Story of Teaching Indigenous Literatures in Post-Secondary with Richard Van Camp
- Malou Brouwer, Re-visiting my Dissertation: On Author Interviews as Community-Engaged Research in Indigenous Literary Studies
- Kristina Bidwell, A Call for Re-visiting the Academic Conference

8.3 Global Connections

WFL-203

Chair: TBD

- Benjamin Connor, Trans-Pacific Indigenous Connections: Anishinaabe and Ainu Encounters in Gerald Vizenor's *Hiroshima Bugi: Atomu 57* (*presenting via Zoom)
- Kirsty Dunn, "Whāia te Taniwha (Follow the Taniwha): Revisiting Ancestral Narratives to Navigate the Now"
- Vanessa Evans, Corrina Richards, & Vin Gattuso: Resurgence Revisited (*Corrina presenting via Zoom)

15:45 - 16:00 Break

No catering scheduled

16:00 - 17:00 **Keynote Address by Alice Te Punga Somerville**

WF-004,005

Revisiting the Critical Tradition through Story

Co-hosted by the Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English (ACCUTE)

The session featuring Dr. Alice Te Punga Somerville will explore the intersections of Indigenous literary studies, Pacific studies, and decolonization. As a literary scholar, poet, and activist, Te Punga Somerville's work centers on expanding Indigenous literary practices, considering the diversity of Indigenous literary archives, and resisting colonial frameworks through storytelling. As a Māori literature scholar from Aotearoa now working at UBC on unceded Musqueam territory, questions of *location* are particularly relevant to her thinking about literary production, especially the shared oceanic contexts that complicate and reframe discussions of territory that so often focus on land. Her session will highlight the importance of relationality in Indigenous writing, focusing on the connections between Indigenous peoples across the Pacific and their shared histories of resistance. Te Punga Somerville's interdisciplinary approach integrates literary, cultural, and environmental contexts, offering a unique perspective on the power of storytelling in decolonizing education and fostering Indigenous resurgence. The session will offer an inclusive space for dialogue, bringing together scholars from diverse disciplines and backgrounds to reflect on how Indigenous literary practices inform critical conversations on decolonization, environmental justice, and collective belonging. This session promises to engage attendees with thought-provoking discussions on Indigenous knowledge, relationality, and the role of literature in creating a more just future.

Dr. Alice Te Punga Somerville (Te Āti Awa, Taranaki) is a scholar, poet, and irredentist whose work sits at the intersections of literary studies, Indigenous studies, and Pacific studies. Since 2022, she has been a full professor at the University of British Columbia, jointly appointed in the Department of English Language & Literatures and the Institute for Critical Indigenous Studies. Before joining UBC on Musqueam territory, she held academic positions in Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia, and Hawai'i. Dr. Te Punga Somerville holds BA and MA degrees from the University of Auckland and earned her PhD from Cornell University. Her publications include *Once Were Pacific: Māori Connections to Oceania* (2012), *250 Ways To Start an Essay about Captain Cook* (2020), and the forthcoming poetry collection *Always Italicise: how to write while colonised* (2022). Her current research project, *Writing the New World: Indigenous Texts 1900–1975*, explores Indigenous writing in English and Indigenous languages from New Zealand, Australia, Hawai'i, and Fiji.

This session is made possible with the financial support of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences and is a Congress Open Event.

17:00 - 17:30 Closing Words

WF-004,005

Last Evening—Conference Closing Social

Location & Details TBD, Check Online Program