

Keynote address

Transformation of Trauma through Love and land: Indigenous movements towards healing and thriving

Dr Johnson-Jennings (Choctaw Nation) a clinical health psychologist will address how trauma is being transformed in Indigenous communities on Turtle Island. She will highlight her health intervention research among her Indigenous community and others that have focused on ancestral love and resilience that feeds to feed the spirits of future generations today. Furthermore, she will highlight how clinical health providers can co-design community based, led health interventions that support Indigenous thriving and flourishing in today's world.

Presenter: Dr Michelle Johnson-Jennings



Dr Michelle Johnson-Jennings (Choctaw Nation Enrolled Tribal Member) is a license eligible clinical health psychologist and serves as the Canadian Research Chair (CRC) Nominee in Indigenous Community Engaged Research and associate professor in Indigenous Studies and Associate in Community Health and Epidemiology in Medicine. Over the years, Dr. Johnson-Jennings has partnered with multiple

International and nation Indigenous nations, organizations and communities to prevent both substance use and food addiction/obesity risks. To do so, she has co-developed health interventions entrenched in ancestral guidelines to encourage a renewed commitment to health and revitalization of medicine, food and land-based practices. Her research endeavours span the globe from founding and formerly directing the Research for Indigenous Community Health (RICH) Center, at the University of Minnesota to recently completing a US Fulbright Scholar award to conduct research in New Zealand at the University of Waikato, Te Kotahi Research Institute. Dr. Johnson-Jennings received her PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Counseling Psychology and a Master's from Harvard University in Human Development and Psychology and Contemporary Native Issues. She has taught courses in Indigenous health, Global Indigenous health and Indigenous psychology. Dr. Johnson-Jennings' therapeutic expertise lies in working with Indigenous communities and decolonizing healing while transforming narratives of trauma. She also serves on several international and national advisory committees, mentors students in several countries, and is honoured to be the mother of four amazing children.