

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

KANA WAIN DIDA

LOOKING AFTER EACH OTHER



**Virtual International Gathering
May 20 - 22, 2021**

Presented by Kitatipithitamak Mithwayawin

Please Distribute Widely

Kitatipithitamak Mithwayawin is hosting a virtual gathering May 20th to 22nd, 2021. This event will be co-hosted by the Environmental Conservation Lab at the University of Manitoba in collaboration with the University College of the North.

The University of Manitoba campus is located on Treaty 1 territory, on the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. University College of the North acknowledges that its campuses in The Pas and Thompson are located in Treaty 5 territory, in Manitoba, Canada.

Gathering Intent

The Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) was first identified in December 2019 and has quickly emerged as a global pandemic. Studies of other pandemics (including SARS, MERS, and H1N1) show that disadvantaged groups generally suffer the greatest incidence and mortality rates. With respect to H1N1, Indigenous communities in Canada had three times the incidence rates and 15 times the hospitalization rates than that of the general public, in part reflecting long-standing health inequities across the country. Countermeasures were generally inadequate and created more harm than good.

The gathering titled Kana Wain Dida, is an Anishinaabe translation meaning 'looking after each other'. Our subject matter involves exploring, reflecting and relating to various aspects and implications of COVID-19 in Indigenous communities regionally, nationally and internationally.

Who We Are

Kitatipithitamak Mithwayawin, is a Cree ('th' dialect) translation for 'holding ownership and control over the health and wellbeing of our own' and is an Indigenous led research project in Canada that aims to support and celebrate communities as they respond to COVID-19 and other pandemics of the past, present and into the future.

If you would like more information about who we are please visit <https://covid19indigenous.ca/international-gathering/>

Calls for Proposals

We invite presentations, workshops, panel discussions, creative works, music, ceremony, posters, and ideas for networking that reflect the impacts of COVID-19 in Indigenous communities and the many diverse acts of community resilience, strength and sovereignty. The three day gathering will be organized according to the respective themes of learning, sharing, and planning/ mobilization.

Themes to explore at the gathering include (but are not limited to):

- Advocacy
- Traditional Ceremonies and Healing Practices
- Colonialism and Health
- Gendered Experiences during COVID-19
- Grieving and Loss
- Impacts of Social Isolation
- Health Sovereignty and Data Sovereignty
- Learning, Sharing and Best Practices
- Networking and Alliance Building
- Elder experiences during COVID-19
- Youth experiences during COVID-19
- Stories of Strength, Resilience and Indigenous experiences during COVID-19
- Government Oppression and Colonial Policy
- Mental health and Well-being
- The Role of Communication during COVID-19 between; Individuals, communities, and communities and government agencies
 - Communications Strategies and Social Media
 - Indigenous Languages and use during COVID-19
- Oral histories and memory of past pandemics
- Education during the time of COVID-19
- Land Based Learning and other Learning Strategies
- Community and Emergency Preparedness Planning
- Food Security and Sovereignty
- Community Resourcefulness and Governance
- Community Safety and Policing during COVID-19
- Gaps in health care services, funding, programs and jurisdictional issues

Session Types

We encourage proposals from individuals, organizations, communities, or groups of individuals

Community Submission:

Communities/ community members are welcome to share stories and/ or experiences related to COVID-19. This could be in a panel, performance, workshop or roundtable formats.

Paper Panel:

Panelists present a formal paper for 15-20 minutes, followed by questions and discussion.

Discussion Panel:

We welcome panel proposals of three or more participants, showcasing initiatives and projects relevant to one of the gathering themes. Panels may include any combination of researchers, practitioners, performers and students in a collaborative, discussion-style format.

Workshop:

Presenter(s) lead participants in hands-on workshops on a particular subject or skill.

Story telling or Discussion Circle:

Participants give a brief presentation or tell a story on a specific question or topic followed by discussion with the audience.

Creative works/ Posters:

All media types are welcome, including posters, books, slideshows, videos, film/documentary or other works of art and design. An art gallery will run for the duration of the gathering. Contributors will be responsible for the delivery of their media or images of their work. Artists are encouraged to attend to allow people to learn from the artist and ask questions.

Performance:

Participants use physical performance to engage the audience, could be pre-recorded or live in a specific theme. This could involve dance theatre, improv, slam poetry, music, etc.

Proposal Submission

The deadline for session proposal submission is March 15th, 2021. Please send to 2021Conference@Covid19indigenous.ca. Submissions will be accepted in Cree, Anishinaabe, Oji-Cree, Mohawk, Inuktitut, Dene, English, Spanish, Portuguese and French. Please include an English version of the proposal if possible.

Please include in your proposal:

- Author(s) Name, University or Organization or other affiliation, Contact Information
- Session Type
- Title of presentation (10 words max)
- Theme(s) of the presentation (Note: we are open to themes outside of those listed above)
- Description of presentation (150 - 250 words)
- Time Requirement (estimation)

If you are submitting a proposal for a Performance or Creative Work please also include a sample of your work (such as an image, video, or script).

Proposal Acceptance

Proposals will be accepted via email. Review and notification will be provided on a rolling basis. If your proposal is accepted, you will be required to provide a 4-5 sentence biography with a preferred photograph for publication.

Please note: We may ask you, or you may choose to submit a pre-recorded session prior to the conference so that it may be included in the conference package.

Important Dates

Deadline for Proposals: March 15th, 2021

Notification of Acceptance: April 1st, 2021

For more information, please visit our webpage:

<https://covid19indigenous.ca/international-gathering/>

Or contact us at:

2021Conference@Covid19indigenous.ca

Toll Free: 1-800-432-1960 Ext. 9316#