

Co-Creators



Charlene Bearhead lives in Alberta with her husband and has 6 children and 6+ grandchildren all of whom are First Nation. Charlene has served as a teacher, principal, education director and superintendent on and off reserve in Alberta and Manitoba. She is currently the Education Lead for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. Charlene is interested in Indigenous Education because she believes that it is the key to healing the relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, healing the land and the environment in this country. Charlene also believes that we are living in, and responsible for, a key moment in our countries history and we must take action in Education: Indigenous Education for all children in this country.

Christian DaSilva is the new Director of Learning and Leadership with the Rideau Hall Foundation. Having spent the last 10 years working in international development with Global Affairs Canada Chris was a Teacher, Principal and School Board Superintendent in Nunavut prior to that. He has spent a lot of his working life with youth and youth programs and believes deeply in the power, creativity and energy of young people to solve problems.

Jennifer Brennan has worked within and for Indigenous communities for over twenty years, advancing social justice through advocacy, strategic direction and negotiation among diverse sectors. Ms. Brennan led the coordination of complex inter-jurisdictional negotiations between governments and Indigenous nations on key matters including education and land title recognition. She served as Chief of Staff at the Assembly of First

Nations, from 2012-2014 and prior to that served as Senior Director of Strategic Policy for ten years. In her work, Jennifer brings a strong sense of the importance of community participation, consensus building and an overriding commitment to the affirmation and recognition of Indigenous rights and community led direction. As Senior Advisor at the University of Toronto's Ontario Institute for Studies in Education she helped facilitate linkages between Indigenous research expertise and critical policy considerations needed to address fundamental challenges in Indigenous education. Jennifer became Executive Director of The Samuel Family Foundation in May 2015 and is a Synergos Senior Fellow, a Board member of the Circle for Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples and a member of the Princes Charities Canada Advisory Council. Jennifer holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Political Science and History from Carleton University, and a Master of Arts in Political Science from the University of Alberta.

Kluane Adamek is a citizen of Kluane First Nation and of Tlingit, Southern Tutchone ancestry. She is fluent in English and French and continues to learn her traditional languages. She is from the Dakh'l'aweidi- Killer Whale Clan, Wolf and Eagle Moieties. She dances traditionally and is a member of the Dakhká Khwáan Dancers- Inland Tlingit Dance Group. She completed her BA Degree from Carleton University and returned home to work with Yukon First Nations and local communities in the areas of education; economic development, governance and child and youth development. In her former role at the Council of Yukon First Nations, she led and managed the education

department including the development of a Memorandum of Understanding on education between federal, territorial and First Nation governments. Youth and education are her passions and as part of her role at CYFN she created the Student Mentorship Program. Kluane served as Advisor & Liaison to former AFN National Chief National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo. In 2013, she Co-founded the group Our Voices -Northern Indigenous Emerging Leaders aiming to support Indigenous youth in the Yukon to build their leadership skills through cultural revitalization and life promotion. Kluane focused her Fellowship through the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation on youth engagement in the Yukon and the first annual gathering was held in August 2014.

Alfred Keye is Turtle Clan of the Mohawk Nation, growing up on the Six Nations Reserve. He lived in New York State for eight years. His parents kept the language alive. Alfred has been a Faith-keeper since he was 17 years old and currently holds that role at the Seneca Longhouse. Alfred has four boys, one daughter and a grandchild. He has been an iron-worker, but also became a certified language teacher in 1992. Alfred has taught at the secondary level, and at I.L. Thomas Immersion. He retired due to sickness in 2005. Currently, Alfred is a Cayuga language consultant with the Woodland Cultural Centre and an Indigenous Knowledge Guardian for Six Nations Polytechnic.

Kyle Hill is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Teach For Canada. Born and raised in the small community of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Kyle's K-12 teachers played a profound and formative role in his life, and his passion for education is driven by the impact his own education had on his development. In 2014, Kyle sat on the Nova Scotia Minister's Panel on Education, which undertook a once-in-a-generation review of the province's education system. He is the Chair of the Board of Experiences Canada, a charitable organization which funds 5000 youth exchanges throughout Canada each year. He was a volunteer summer school teacher in Jamaica (2008) and Ukraine (2009). Kyle's professional background is deeply rooted in mathematics and the natural sciences. He has B.Sc. in Physics and Mathematics from Mount Allison University, and a M.Sc. and Ph.D. in medical physics from the University of Oxford, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar. His Ph.D. research enabled early-stage diagnosis of lung diseases such as emphysema and pulmonary fibrosis. From 2011-2014, Kyle used his mathematical background as a Consultant and Project Leader at the Boston Consulting Group in Toronto.

Martha Krzic is the Director, Community Programs and Services for Pathways to Education Canada. In her role she engages with many communities across Canada to deliver a program that helps youth to graduate from high school; a number of these communities support Indigenous youth. My goal is to learn more about Indigenous Education so

that I can deepen my relationships and more effectively support my partners in their work. Martha would like to acknowledge her privilege to live and work on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit.

Norah Lynn Paddock is the Assistant Director of Government Relations at Universities Canada, leading the association's advocacy efforts to advance Canada's higher education, research and innovation agendas. Ms. Paddock is also the Secretary to Universities Canada's Education Committee, which studies and provides advice to the association on major policy issues, including Indigenous higher education. Prior to these roles, Ms. Paddock served as the Assistant Director of Research, Policy and International Relations at Universities Canada, and as Secretary to the Research Committee. Ms. Paddock holds a Master of Public Administration from Queen's University and a Bachelor of Social Sciences in Political Science and Global Studies from the University of Ottawa.

Heather Ochalski is a Project Coordinator at the Amaujaq National Centre for Inuit Education at Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, the national organization representing Canada's 60,000 Inuit. She is originally from Baker Lake, Nunavut and currently lives in Ottawa. She has an Honours B.A. in Psychology with a minor in Sociology from the University of Ottawa and is currently studying for her Master of Arts in Education. She holds Summer Research Institute certificates in Knowledge Mobilization: Affecting Change for Program and Policy Development as well as in Community-Based Participatory Action Research from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and the University of Alberta and is a Laureate of the 2013 Arctic Inspiration Prize.

Quinn Meawasige is 22 years young from Serpent River First Nation along the North Shore of Lake Huron. It is Quinn's passion to work with and for young people. Elected as the youngest Council member ever to serve a term on Chief and Council in his community's history from 2012-2014, Quinn current holds the male youth representative position for the Anishinabek Nation, also known as the Union of Ontario Indians. He is also a member of the Chiefs of Ontario Ontario First Nations Young Peoples Council. Through advocacy, lobbying and grassroots organizing, Quinn works to improve the quality and standard of living for Indigenous Youth across Canada and Turtle Island (North America). A natural leader, Quinn brings with him vast lived experience, traditional knowledge and a personality that allows others to easily connect with him and understand that Quinn is caring, compassionate and easy to engage with. A Three Things Consulting Facilitator, Quinn was played a key role in ensuring the success of the Gathering of Youth Wisdom.

Rose Sellars was born and raised in and around Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. She obtained her Education



Degree in 1995 and is currently working at the Council of Yukon First Nations as the Education Programs Coordinator. Rose would like to see more of our First Nations youth graduate and continue their education after high school to make lives better for themselves and their children.

Ross McGregor is the founder and former CEO of KCI Ketchum, a major capital fundraising firm which raises funding for institutions and not-for-profit and charitable organizations across Canada and beyond. He was very active in the education portfolio during his years at Ketchum, including spearheading various fundraising projects for indigenous communities. He presently serves on the board of directors of the Rideau Hall Foundation where he has been heavily involved in activities in the education space, including collaborations in indigenous learning. He also serves on the board of directors of the Tides Canada Foundation which is involved in a variety of indigenous projects in the Canadian Arctic and several Canadian provinces.

Scott Serson is a retired federal public servant born in Ottawa and raised in the Valley. The main focus of his career has been reconciliation with the First Peoples of this land including four years as Deputy Minister of Indigenous Affairs. After his retirement from public service, was a policy advisor to the National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations Phil Fontaine for five years. He is now a consultant/volunteer and one of his main areas of interest is the proper funding of Indigenous Education and other services to Indigenous Peoples. Scott is a Board Member for the Canadians for a New Partnership.

Tanya Lukin-Linklater is the Director of Enji Giigdoyang – the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives at Nipissing University. As Director, Tanya facilitates an approach that builds respectful and reciprocal relationships with Indigenous communities regionally and recognizes reconciliation as a process that frames collaborative endeavours within the university to support Indigenous students and their families. Enji Giigdoyang fosters an intergenerational, culturally responsive learning community on campus through academic, personal and cultural support. Tanya works with the Nipissing University Aboriginal Council on Education, comprised of regional representatives of First Nations and Aboriginal service organizations, that advise the President on Aboriginal programs, services and students. She oversees initiatives including the community service-learning and mentorship programs that reach Indigenous students (K-12) in partnership with 55 community partners and schools, and over 110 university students that volunteer annually since 2006. She is a member of the University Management Group, Research Ethics Board, and administers the Community Engagement Plan for Research Involving Aboriginal Peoples and Communities. She studied at University of Alberta (M.Ed.) and Stanford University (A.B. Honours) and is currently a doctoral student at Queen's University. She is Alutiiq from Port Lions and Afognak, Alaska and has worked in universities, schools and informal educational spaces since 2003.

Tom Deer has been a language teacher at Six Nations of the Grand River for the last 30 years. Through his commitment to speaking, teaching and learning, he has been instrumental to our community's language

revitalization efforts. Though he has taught Cayuga and Mohawk in the federal elementary school system, he has also been called to teach both languages at the post-secondary level at Six Nations Polytechnic, McMaster University, and Mohawk College. In 2010, he was appointed to be an Indigenous Knowledge Guardian for Six Nations Polytechnic and the Deyohahá:ge Indigenous Knowledge Centre. This title is conferred on those who have contributed to promoting, preserving and imparting centuries of knowledge to future generations. Since 1998 Tom has been a traditional Faithkeeper and ceremonial speaker at the Onondaga longhouse. In 2013, he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Sweetgrass First Nations Language Council.

Chantal C. Beaulieu is Executive Director of the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC). CMEC is composed of the 23 provincial and territorial ministers who have responsibility for education and postsecondary education in Canada. The Council provides the ministers with a forum to discuss policy issues, a mechanism through which to carry out education projects, and means through which to represent Canada's education interests internationally. Ms. Beaulieu was previously Assistant Deputy Minister, Services to Anglophones, Aboriginals, and Cultural Communities, of the Quebec Ministère de l'Éducation, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche. A lawyer by training, with a specialization in employment and education law, Ms. Beaulieu was in private practice until 1999, when she was appointed Director of Legal Services at the English Montreal School Board. She later moved to the Eastern Townships School Board, where she successively held the positions of Secretary General and Director of Labour Relations, Assistant Director General, and Director General. Ms. Beaulieu holds a Bachelor's of Law (LL.B.) and a Master's degree in Public Administration.

Chief Linda Debassige was born and raised in M'Chigeeng First Nation by her dad, Mike Debassige and late mom Winnie (Pam) Debassige along with her grandmother, Josette Debassige. She has a son, Pierre Debassige who is 14 years old. Chief Debassige graduated with Honours from the Confederation College Civil Engineering Technology Program (Advanced) in Thunder Bay, Ontario. She also has previous work and volunteer experiences in many settings including: legal, addictions and wellness, Tribal Council, Technical Services, and keynote speaking. Only the second woman elected Chief of her community, she is also the youngest ever to be elected to that post on a Manitoulin or North Shore band council. Chief Debassige was an active participant at the Gathering of Youth Wisdom, engaging youth from her community, listening and responding to the Carriers of Youth Wisdom presentations and providing guidance and support to individual Councils.

Carlana Lindeman began her career in education as a teacher and principal with the Lakehead Board of Education. In 1990 she joined the Ontario Ministry of Education (EDU) and served as an Education Officer and Regional Manager for the Thunder Bay Regional Office. In her 18 years with EDU, I worked with provincially-funded school boards, and First Nation schools and organizations, to improve student achievement. In 2008, she was invited by The Right Honourable Paul Martin to be the Education Program Director for the newly-established Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative. In that role, she leads strategies and activities related to improving academic success for First Nations, Metis and Inuit students across Canada. From 2008 to 2014, she was a member of the Ontario Special Education (English) Tribunal, and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's National Selection Committee for the First Nations Student Success Program. In 2009, she was awarded the Sandra D. Lang Lifetime Achievement Award by the Ontario Government for the depth and quality of service provided to students, families and communities across Ontario. In 2015, she received an Alumni Honour award from Lakehead University.

James Compton, President, Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT). Founded in 1951, CAUT is the national voice for academic staff. Today, representing 68,000 teachers, librarians, researchers, general staff and other academic professionals, CAUT is an outspoken defender of academic freedom and works actively in the public interest to improve the quality and accessibility of post-secondary education in Canada. The CAUT has endorsed the broader project of indigenizing the academy and is interested in helping to facilitate the support and retention of aboriginal academic staff and the inclusion of aboriginal content in university curricula. His is also an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Information & Media Studies at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario. His research and teaching interests are the fields of political economy of media, political communication, digital labour and journalism studies. Originally from British Columbia, James worked as a reporter for Canadian Press/Broadcast News.



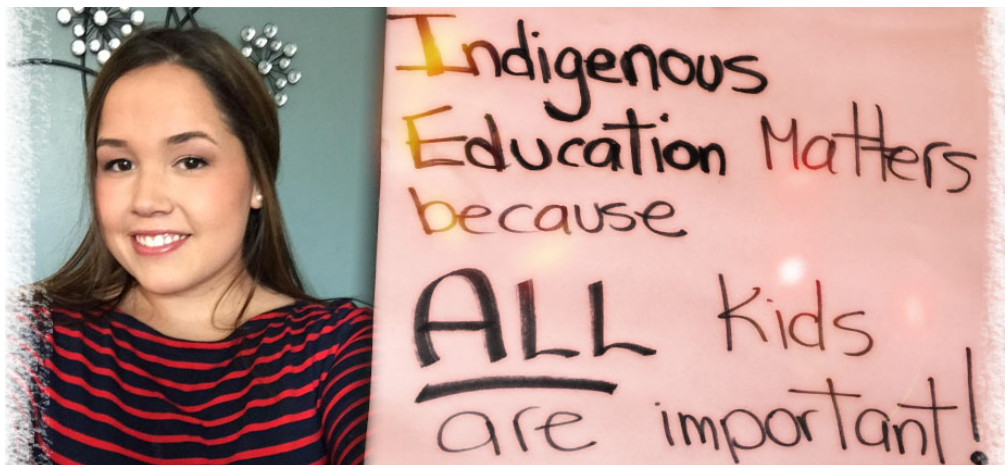
Crystal McConaghy is the Executive Assistant to the CEO of Three Things Consulting and the logistics manager for Enhancing Indigenous Education Through Co-Creation while providing communications and logistical management for other Three Things Consulting projects. Born and raised in Kingston, Ontario Crystal remains a resident of the city with her partner, 12-year-old daughter and a house full of pets. Having worked in post-secondary education, in the administration department, Crystal spent almost six years supporting students as they transitioned into college. Often called upon to provide employment seeking support for students, Crystal has an excellent understanding of the challenges facing adults returning to academia. With a degree in Sociology from Queen's University, Crystal understands the value of and believes education for Indigenous youth matters, and equitable education for all young people is important.

David Wheeler is President and Vice-Chancellor of Cape Breton University. He is an internationally experienced academic and business person with more than two decades of senior executive level involvement in change management and sustainable business practice, research and teaching. In the last five years, David has focused much of his advisory work in the fields of energy conservation and renewable energy policy in Canada and the UK. He continues to pursue his interests in the role of the private sector in international development which has been built on major projects undertaken for the World Bank, the United Nations Development Program, the Canadian International Development Agency, the

Canadian International Development Research Centre and the UK Department for International Development. David Wheeler's most recent academic posts were Pro Vice-Chancellor (Sustainability) and Executive Dean of Business at the University of Plymouth, UK (2010-2013), Dean of Management, Dalhousie University, Canada (2006-2009) and Director and Erivan K Haub Professor in Business and Sustainability at the Schulich School of Business, York University, Canada (1999-2006).

Delbert Horton serves as Chair for the National Association of Indigenous Institutes of Higher Learning. They are an Association of 11 Institutes in Canada and deliver community based programs at the secondary and post-secondary level. The member Institutes have been in existence for 10 to 35 years. The Association has developed capacity to accredit individual programs, courses and institutes. They have also developed relationships with Indigenous Institutes internationally as well. The Association feels that they have the capacity to educate themselves and the community from a cultural and academic perspective.

Greg Francis is from the small community of Kingsclear First Nation just outside the New Brunswick capital, Fredericton. He is currently in his third year of chemical engineering at UNB, and employed during the summer by Dillon Consulting. Greg is interested in Indigenous education because he believes everyone should have the same opportunity as non-Indigenous people. He wants to show other youth they have this opportunity and find ways



to motivate them so others can pursue post-secondary education after secondary school. Greg wants others to see the opportunities in the bigger world and how they can further help our communities flourish and prosper. Greg was chosen, by consensus to be one of the Carriers of Youth Wisdom to carry the message from the Gathering of Youth Wisdom to the Co-Creators.

Richard Hill has spent his life sharing knowledge and expressive culture (the arts). He works as Coordinator of the Indigenous Knowledge Centre at Six Nations Polytechnic in Ohsweken, ON. Richard believes the knowledge and wisdom of our ancestors are key to finding our proper place in the world as giving us a fair chance to do good in the world. Richard has taught at the University of Buffalo and lectured extensively about Indigenous culture, history, art, governance and ecological knowledge. He is a Tuscarora of the Beaver Clan and reside at Six Nations of the Grand River Territory.

Heather Smith is the President of the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF), a national alliance of provincial and territorial teacher organizations that represent over 200,000 elementary and secondary school teachers across Canada. CTF recognizes the inherent right of Aboriginal peoples to self-government within the country of Canada and the right of the Aboriginal peoples to define the goals of education for their children. Education has been identified as being critical in improving the lives of Aboriginal peoples and addressing long-standing inequities. CTF recognizes the essential need to implement a more inclusive role and successful educational experience for both Aboriginal teachers and learners. CTF is also very mindful of the positive results that can accrue for non-Aboriginal teachers and students from an education milieu that embraces knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal history, culture, language and perspective as an integral part of the learning experience. Originally from New Brunswick Heather has taught for 34 years, until June 2015, in primarily Grades K-5. Heather was the President of the New Brunswick Teachers Association from 2011-2013.

Jeffrey Cyr, for nearly 20 years, has provided strategic leadership for Aboriginal, not-for-profit and government organizations. Currently, he is the Executive Director of the National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC) where his strategic direction leads a network of 117 Friendship Centres and eight Provincial and Territorial Associations - the most significant off-reserve Aboriginal service delivery structure in Canada.

Cheyenne Longman, a Plains Cree Woman, is a 20-year-old artist and a musician. Cheyenne likes to speak out about social and environmental injustice, personal

family history and how the intergenerational effects have effected youth like herself, throughout their lives and educational journeys. She loves to be on stage and is fond of public speaking. Cheyenne is very passionate about finding balance within all aspects of life such as spiritual, emotional, physical, and mental wellness, and loves to inspire other youth to do the same. She encourages youth to learn about emotional intelligence, leadership, and mental and physical wellness. Cheyenne is also very fond of reading and writing, and aspires to be a guidance counsellor or gym teacher/yoga instructor. Cheyenne was chosen, by consensus, to be one of the Carriers of Youth Wisdom to carry the message from the Gathering of Youth Wisdom to the Co-Creators.

Karen Sandy is a citizen of the Cayuga Nation, wolf clan and resides at Six Nations of the Grand River Territory. In addition to working for the Six Nations Language Commission (SNLC) Karen is also a Trustee representing the interests of Six Nations students for the Grand Erie District School Board. Karen graduated from Queens University with a Masters in Public Admin. Karen has been instrumental in having the SNLC be one of the hosts of the Co-Creators Gathering.



Mélanie-Rose Frappier is a 19-year-old Métis youth from Sudbury, Ontario. As a Youth Ambassador of Canada, Youth Aboriginal Leader & Motivational Speaker and Founder of "It's Cool to be Healthy" non-profit organization, making a positive difference in her community and country is her passion. Mélanie takes great pride in her Francophone and Metis heritage. Health promotion, empowering youth and community involvement are lifetime commitments. Over the past four years Mélanie has volunteered over 1500 hours to her community, created a non-profit organization based on raising awareness about a healthy lifestyle, has been the sole voice of students on the Aboriginal Advisory Education Committee and was instrumental in the initial offering of an Aboriginal Studies Course offered at a Secondary level in the French Catholic School Board. Mélanie was a guest speaker at We Day Toronto in 2015 where she represented the Indigenous youth of Ontario. She is an Indigenous program and service coordinator for the University of Sudbury. Mélanie was chosen, by consensus, to be one of the Carriers of Youth Wisdom to

carry the message from the Gathering of Youth Wisdom to the Co-Creators.



Sarah Thompson is the Acting Co-President & CEO and the National Director of Programs with Frontier College, a national literacy organization with over one hundred years of service in Canada. Frontier College mobilizes volunteers in support of literacy and provides customized and impactful literacy programs for children, youth and adults in a variety of urban, rural and remote settings. For twenty-seven years Sarah has worked with partners, donors, staff and volunteers across Canada to realize the mission of literacy as a right for all.

Assembly of First Nations Regional Chief Morley Googoo, (Nova Scotia / Newfoundland) is from Waycobah First Nation, in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. Regional Chief currently holds the following five Portfolios, assigned by the National Chief and supported by the National executive: TRC Calls to Action, Language, Culture and Arts (Canada 150), Youth, Sports and Recreation and Management. Regional Chief Googoo was interested in attending as The Gathering of Youth Wisdom as it provided him the opportunity to engage, learn, and hear from youth. He felt it was a great opportunity for him to hear from youth all across the country, and to learn from the event and activities. His participation was greatly valued by the youth and he played an important role as a witness and support to youth from across Canada.

Nicole Allegri is a Senior Policy Manager in the Education Branch of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada. Nicole is very interested in working with First Nations to close the education gap that currently exists. She believes that improving the education outcomes of First Nations children living on reserve is critical to improve their quality of life and contribute to stronger communities

Rebecca Jamieson is a resident and member of the Tuscarora Nation at Six Nations of the Grand River Territory. In 2011, the Six Nations Polytechnic Board appointed her President and CEO on a full time basis. Over the past forty plus years, Rebecca has been involved at all levels of First Nations education in a wide range of roles including teaching; counselling; policy,

curriculum and institutional research and development; teacher education; administration, governance and jurisdictional negotiations. In Ontario, Rebecca has also been actively involved in public postsecondary education, serving as the first Executive Director of the College Standards and Accreditation Council (CSAC), and on the Board of Governors for several Ontario Universities and Mohawk College. Rebecca holds an undergraduate degree in psychology and philosophy from Wilfrid Laurier University and a Master of Education from the University of Toronto. Rebecca is a member of the College of Teachers and holds Supervisory Officers Qualifications. She is trained in mediation and alternative dispute resolution and is a Graduate of the Carver Institute, Policy Governance. In 2007, Rebecca was honoured with the Order of Ontario for her contributions to Indigenous postsecondary education. In 2015, Rebecca was appointed a Distinguished Fellow of Mohawk College and received an Honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Western Ontario for her leadership in Indigenous education.

Zoey Roy is an award winning spoken word poet, community based arts educator and social entrepreneur based out of Saskatoon. A member of Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation, Zoey is Cree, Dene and Metis. She is currently studying at the University of Saskatchewan in the SUNTEP Program, a Teaching Musician with the National Arts Centre's Music Alive Program and managing the Rap and Rhythm Collective, a community based hip hop program. Zoey has worked with Three Things Consulting since 2013 on multiple projects, including their work on the trafficking of girls and women, supporting youth in care, facilitation and engagement of youth and adult allies. Zoey recently published her first book and is a 2016 Indspire Laureate, being honoured with the Indspire Metis Youth Recipient Award.

Ron Canuel has been President and CEO of the Canadian Education Association since 2010, and has over 40 years of experience in the public education sector. As the former Director General of the Eastern Townships School Board in Quebec, Ron was the principal architect of one of the first Canadian district-wide 1:1 laptop programs for students and teachers, and has received numerous awards in recognition of this groundbreaking initiative. He has been a frequent presenter, panelist, and lecturer at national and international conferences on student and teacher engagement, change management, innovation in education, leadership, and classroom technology integration. Ron is currently leading the delivery of a unique professional development program that supports Indigenous and non-Indigenous educators and their communities to drive change in their schools.

Rebecca Kudloo was elected as the President of Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada in 2014. Prior to being elected to that position, Ms. Kudloo served as interim President and before that time served as the regional director for the Kivalliq region of Nunavut for a number of years. As

President, she represents Pauktuutit on the Boards of Directors of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and the Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada. Ms. Kudloo has represented Pauktuutit at numerous regional, national and international events. Previously, Ms. Kudloo sat on the National Crime Prevention Council, was involved in the Sexual Abuse Coalition of the NWT, held the position of Vice President of the NWT Status of Women Council, and also was the first Interim President of Qullit Nunavut Status of Women Council. Rebecca was the co-founder and is the current Chair of Mianiqsijit, a community-based child sexual abuse and family violence counseling service in Baker Lake, Nunavut. Rebecca Kudloo has worked in the Department of Education of the Nunavut Government for more than 20 years.

Shannon Monk Payne is of Mi'kmaq and European descent, and a member of St. Theresa Point First Nation. Shannon has a Bachelor of Arts in Native Studies and Bachelor of Education from Brandon University, and a Professional Masters in Public Administration with a focus on Indigenous Policy and Governance from Queen's University. Shannon's professional background is in education, working primarily with First Nations. She has taught all grades from Kindergarten to grade 10, mainly on reserve, including time as a Teaching Principal and Special Needs Coordinator and as an Adult Educator, Trainer, and Employment Counsellor, a university Learning Skills Counsellor, a Resource Centre Executive Director, and Aboriginal Education Coordinator. Shannon worked with the Assembly of First Nations for six years as a First Nations Education Policy and Research Analyst and Community Liaison for Residential School Survivors and remains the lead for AFN's *It's Our Time* First Nations Tool Kit, and is continuing her work with Apple Computers to implement the Tool Kit into all schools. Since 2015 Shannon has worked with Three Things as a senior consultant and was the lead on a national project with a national education organization in its development of future programming for Indigenous students.

Sonia Prevost-Derbecker portfolio includes accomplishments too numerous to mention. She is the past director of the Point Douglas Revitalization Initiative where she has oversaw a integrated service delivery in one of the poorest areas in the county. Sonia's experiences of responsive leadership have included directing one of the largest child welfare agency in the city of Winnipeg, as well as an Aboriginal youth serving agency, Ndinawe. Her history of innovative program development includes a multi-service delivery Youth Resource Centre, a college certified youth care worker training program for women exiting the sex trade, second stage housing for youth and two family resource centres. Sonia was one of the last elected Aboriginal school trustees in the

largest school division in Winnipeg. As a former high school teacher, an Aboriginal woman, and the founder of Ndinawe Transitional school, Sonia believes that fair and equitable systems must be in place if we are to graduate leaders of tomorrow. In May 2014, Sonia began working with Indspire as the Vice President of Education.



Saimaniq Temela, originally from Kimmirut, Nunavut is a recently turned 18-year-old and is currently completing his high school in Kingston, Ontario, graduating in June 2016. Since he was 12 years old, Saimaniq has been part of the sail training program run by Brigantine Inc. in Kingston Ontario and was recently selected to represent Canada during a three-week voyage aboard the Shabab of Oman, a 285-foot-long sail training vessel operated by the Royal Navy of Oman. Saimaniq is a recognized community volunteer and in early in 2016 was honoured for his role in sailing when he was named the Youth Sail Trainer of the Year by Sail Training International (STI), the youngest ever and first Inuk to be honoured with this award. As a project support staff for Three Things Consulting Saimaniq provides insight and expertise from a youth and northern perspective. He helps ensure our work is relevant to young people and he provides insight and guidance as we work with our northern partners. He authors blogs, helps design other communication materials and provides logistical support on our projects.

