



53rd Algonquian Conference – Panel Proposal

Annie Morissette, Saint Paul University

Quebec Native Women – Saint Paul University Summer School: Stories of Empowerment

In 2018, Quebec Native Women (QNW) and Saint Paul University (SPU) signed a full partnership memorandum of understanding to develop a Summer School on Indigenous women's leadership. The aims of this partnership were twofold. On the one hand, to offer Indigenous women leaders an opportunity to acquire tools and resources to support and strengthen their empowerment journeys as leaders, advocates, and agents of change in their community. On the other hand, to build institutional capacities to work in a pedagogical approach inspired by Indigenous practices and knowledges by creating safe learning cultural spaces in which Indigenous women leaders can gather strength to continue to make a difference in their community. This panel is an opportunity for Indigenous women leaders, speakers, and organizers, to reflect on their experience of the QNW-SPU Summer School. Participants will discuss different aspects: 1) the development of the partnership and its challenges; 2) the process of creating the content and pedagogical approach of the school; 3) the experience of the participants to the School and its outcomes. More importantly the panel will explore the mutually beneficial transformative experience and the journey of experiential growth lived by all who have taken part in this project. A reflection on the QNW-SPU Summer School allows to contribute to the efforts to decolonize education. It demonstrates and embodies Indigenous values of relational reciprocity and therefore presents a roadmap in meaningful equal Indigenous organization-university partnership, indigenization and decolonization of post-secondary institutions that is contributing to our collective well-being.



Time required: 3 hours panel

List of Confirmed Participants:

Mary Hannaburg, Quebec Native Women's Vice-President

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