

ZAAGI'DWIN: BLACK & INDIGENOUS SOLIDARITY



Connor "Little Thunder" LaFortune (he/him) *Moderator*

Connor "Little Thunder" Lafortune is from Dokis First Nation on Robinson Huron Treaty territory of 1850 in Northeastern Ontario. He is in his final year at Nipissing University in a Double Honours Major in Indigenous Studies program and Gender Equality and Social Justice with a minor in Legal Studies.

Connor works primarily in Life Promotion, harm-reduction, mental health, and Indigenous education through organisations such as the Thunderbird Partnership Foundation, School Mental Health Ontario, and the Mental Health Commission of Canada.

Above all else, he is a poet, an activist, a shkaabewis (helper), and a compassionate human being. Connor aims to tell Turtle Island's whole truth by uplifting voices as an Indigenous, Queer, and Francophone youth.

VIRTUAL PANEL: FEB 28TH 7:00-8:30 PM



ZAAGI'DWIN: BLACK & INDIGENOUS SOLIDARITY



Tara Chapple (she/her)
Panelist

Tara is a multi-racial woman (black, indigenous, other - visible minority), who was born and raised in Sudbury, Ontario. Tara holds a certificate in Human Resources from York University, has completed Mental Health First Aid Training, as well as she has completed a suite of courses from Rubin Thomlinson LLP in investigative training.

Tara has worked in Human Resources, Facilitation, Human Rights, and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion over the last 20 years. Currently, Tara is working as a Human Rights and Employment Equity Specialist for a large, federal organization. She also is on the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS), Work Place Harassment and Violence Prevention Regulations Roster of Investigators.

Tara believes that both her lived experience and employment history give her a unique perspective into matters concerning the equitable treatment of minority groups. She is currently living in the Greater Toronto Area.

VIRTUAL PANEL: FEB 28TH 7:00-8:30 PM



ZAAGI'DWIN: BLACK & INDIGENOUS SOLIDARITY

Cora-Rae Silk (she/her)
Panelist



Cora-Rae Silk was born and raised in Thunder Bay, Ontario, and is Anishinaabe with mixed European ancestry. She studied at Algonquin College in Ottawa before moving to Vancouver where she worked in commercial artist representation for several years.

In 2011, Cora-Rae relocated to Toronto and began a career in community arts at ArtBridges, a nation-wide network for community-engaged arts and arts for social change initiatives.

She currently resides in Sudbury, Ontario, and is the Artistic Director at Myths and Mirrors Community Arts and co-founder of the Northern Indigenous Artist Alliance (NIAA), an emerging arts service organization for Indigenous artists living and working in northern Ontario.

VIRTUAL PANEL: FEB 28TH 7:00-8:30 PM



ZAAGI'DWIN: BLACK & INDIGENOUS SOLIDARITY



Dr. Hall
Panelist

Dr. Laura Hall is an Associate Professor in Sociology/Anthropology at Carleton University, on Algonquin Anishinaabe territory. Laura's mother was Shirley Hall (nee Rice), a Mohawk who grew up in Gogama and then Skead, Ontario, and Laura's father is an English-Canadian engineer and traveller.

Laura's work focuses on Indigenous revitalization and decolonization, settler colonial studies and Indigenist feminist, anarchist and environmental frameworks. Laura is also currently writing about horror in the context of settler colonialism.

VIRTUAL PANEL: FEB 28TH 7:00-8:30 PM



ZAAGI'DWIN: BLACK & INDIGENOUS SOLIDARITY

Zainab Amadahy *Panelist*



Zainab Amadahy is an author of screenplays, nonfiction and futurist fiction. The most notable of her academic writings is "Indigenous Peoples and Black Peoples in Canada: Settlers or Allies" (co-authored with Dr. Bonita Lawrence, Mi'kmaq).

Zainab currently sits on the Advisory Council of Muskrat Magazine, where many of her writings appear. Of mixed heritage (African American, Tsalagi and Seminole), Zainab lives in Nogojiwanong, Ontario, Canada and has authored works of fiction and nonfiction.

Now semi-retired, she has worked in community arts, nonprofit housing, Indigenous knowledge reclamation, women's services and migrant settlement. For more on Zainab and to access to some of her writings check out swallowsongs.com.

VIRTUAL PANEL: FEB 28TH 7:00-8:30 PM

