

Blanket Exercise

Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Outline

- Blanket Exercise participants take on the roles of Indigenous peoples in Canada.
- They are directed by facilitators representing a narrator (or narrators) and the European colonizers.
- Participants are drawn into the experience by reading scrolls and carrying cards which ultimately determine their outcomes.
- By engaging on an emotional and intellectual level, the Blanket Exercise effectively educates and increases empathy.
- Ideally, the exercise is followed by a debriefing session in which participants have the opportunity to discuss the experience as a group. This often takes the form of a talking circle.

Overview

The KAIROS Blanket Exercise is an interactive learning experience that teaches the Indigenous rights history we're rarely taught. Developed in response to the 1996 Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples—which recommended education on Canadian-Indigenous history as one of the key steps to reconciliation, the Blanket Exercise covers over 500 years of history in a one and a half hour participatory workshop.

More here: <https://www.kairosblanketexercise.org/about/>

Trainer Bio

Cheyenne Joseph is a band member of Bear River First Nation, NS. Cheyenne has been a Registered Nurse for 15 years, working with Atlantic Canada's Indigenous communities at a variety of levels. She has worked for several years directly in Indigenous communities, then at the federal government level with Health Canada, and now as an educator and academic at UNB. She currently resides in Rexton where she runs a social enterprise, a library of things, and more recently has created a sewing circle for Indigenous women to learn how to make traditional ribbon skirts.

To Register for this Workshop:

Email Sabine Beisser at sbeisser@mta.ca or call at 364-2632 before April 13, 2018.