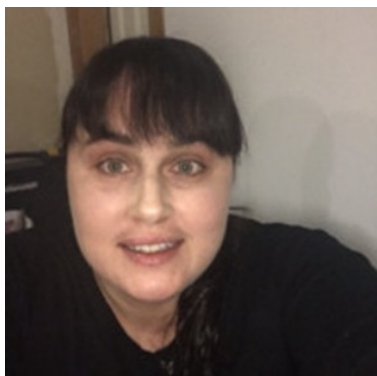




Youth Speak Out: Canada's Social Protection Systems Moderator and Panelist's Bio's March 12, 2019

The Institute for International Women's Rights – Manitoba, Inc. (IIWR-MB) is a not for profit community focused organization founded to generate education, awareness, and action to promote women's human rights. IIWR-MB reaches out to diverse individuals and organizations that are working in the general area of women's rights and every year, IIWR-MB hosts special events in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, to promote gender equality and human rights education. These events range from Women's Day celebrations and our Local to Global fundraiser. **Contact:** info@iiwrmb.ca

Moderator– Kim Fontaine



Kim Fontaine is the Program Support Coordinator for the Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre. She filled this exciting role recently after leaving her role as Executive Director of the only Indigenous Women's Domestic and Family Violence Shelter in Winnipeg. Kim has made her life's work about supporting Indigenous women, children and families to overcome the many systemic barriers and challenges they face. She is an advocate for Indigenous women and children and believes that every family should have a home filled with love, be able to go outside and be safe and to live a life free of violence where children are able to "just be kids".

Kim is a proud mom of four beautiful Ojibway children whom she raises with her husband to be strong, respectful and proud of their Indigenous culture. She is a firm believer that youth are the future, they carry many gifts and it is our inherent role to provide them with safe opportunities and support to foster and grow these gifts allowing them to share them with the world. Youth are the future and their voices are strong, we all need to listen!

Kim was a part of presenting at the World Indigenous "Say No to Domestic Violence Conference" in Adelaide Australia. The presentation was on "A De-Colonizing Approach to Trauma, Healing & Resiliency in a Canadian Aboriginal Women's Domestic Violence Crisis Shelter."

Contact: program.support@mamawi.com

Panelist—Jenny Lay



Jenny Lay is from Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation in northern Manitoba. She currently works alongside Hilda Anderson-Pyrz on the file of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls at Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc. (MKO) in Manitoba. Jenny has been touched personally by this national tragedy as her mother was murdered as a result of domestic violence in 1998. After relocating from northern Manitoba to Winnipeg, she completed her undergraduate degree in psychology and currently volunteers her time at the Canadian Mental Health Association where her team works to create programming that is more accessible and applicable for Indigenous people in Canada.

Jenny's lived and professional experience brings to light many of the current service gaps in regard to violence against women and girls and child welfare. She hopes to use her experience in a positive way through educating the public and raising awareness on the many issues that the children of murdered women face. **Contact:** layj@myumanitoba.ca

Panelist— Youth Chief, Ashley Daniels



Ashley Daniels is a proud Dakota Ojibway women *and* member of Swan Lake First Nation but as well is from Sioux Valley Dakota Nation also in Southern Manitoba.

Ashley is currently working on her Bachelor of Arts (B.A) in Native studies at the University of Manitoba. At the University of Manitoba she was a recipient for the University of Manitoba Students' Union Award for Indigenous Community Leader, Indigenous Circle of Empowerment Program Travel Grant for the Indigenous Health Conference and Student Opportunity Fund to travel to Ecuador with the University. **Contact: ashleydaniels@live.ca**

Panelist—Jamilah Naso



Jamileh Naso, is a student at the University of Winnipeg pursuing a B.A., Political Science and Human Rights.

Jamileh was 4 years old when she came to Canada as a refugee, her family fled from Iraq to Syria in 1990 during the oppressive regime of Saddam Hussein. She and her family lived in a refugee camp for 9 years until they were contacted by the UNHCR, informing them they would have a new home in Canada.

When ISIS began it's genocidal campaign against the Yazidis in 2014 she knew she had to take action. She currently works as an activist and spokesperson for the Yazidi community, bringing attention to the genocide of her people, through a project called Operation Ezra, the only community-wide multi-faith initiative in North America of it's kind, to privately sponsor and resettle Yazidi refugees to Winnipeg, Manitoba
Contact: jamilehnaso44@gmail.com

Panelist—Brittany McIntosh



Panelist—Brittany McIntosh

Brittany McIntosh studied Inner City and Urban Studies at the University of Winnipeg and is completing her Bachelors of Social Work at Booth University College. Based out of Winnipeg, Canada she is also part of NorWest Co-op Community Health Centre's Community Development team with her work focusing on skill building programs for high risk youth and community trauma response.

Brittany is passionate about ensuring the safety of women and girls and has vast experience working with women and youth who are dealing with intimate partner violence and addiction from a non-judgmental, harm reductive perspective. She strongly believes in women having economic independence and participated in the start-up of NGO Bridging Villages, making economic partnerships in northern Uganda for a Women's Vocational Training Program. Brittany also serves on the Board of Directors at Fort Gary Women's Resource Centre and is the CSO Relations Assistant for The Canadian Council of Young Feminists - Conseil canadien de jeunes feministes.
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