

Aboriginal Awareness Week

September 12 to 15, 2011

All events are free and open to the public.

This project is supported by First Peoples' House, the Social Equity and Diversity Education Office (SEDE), the Office of the Dean of Students (represented by the Aboriginal Outreach Coordinator) and the Sustainability Projects Fund, McGill.

For more information, please forward any inquiries to allan.vicaire@mcgill.ca or (514) 398-3711.

Monday September 12, 2011

OPENING CEREMONY

8:00AM - 12:00PM, First People's House - 3505 Peel Street

Opening prayer by elder Mike Standup. Discover the services offered by First Peoples' House, the Social Equity and Diversity Education Office and the Aboriginal Outreach Coordinator.

A light breakfast will be served.

INDIGENOUS ANTI-COLONIAL RESPONSES TO SEX "TRAFFICKING" AND VIOLENCE FROM THE STATE WITH JESSICA YEE

**2:00PM - 4:00PM, Break-Out Room, SSMU Building
2nd Floor 3600 McTavish Street**

Jessica Yee is a self-described "multiracial Indigenous hip-hop feminist reproductive justice freedom fighter!" A proud Two Spirit youth, she is the founder and Executive Director of the Native Youth Sexual Health Network, the first and only organization of its kind in North America by and for Indigenous youth working within the full spectrum of sexual and reproductive health throughout the continent.



An internationally re-known social activist, Jessica is currently serving as the first Chair of the National Aboriginal Youth Council at the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network as well the International Indigenous HIV/AIDS Working Group, the first North American youth representative at MenEngage International Alliance for Gender Equality, and she is the North American co-chair for the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. She sits on a number of national and international boards and collectives including SisterSong Women of Color for Reproductive Justice, Women on Web/Women on Waves, and Maggie's: Sex Workers Organizing.

RHYTHM NIGHTS

6:00PM, The Yellow Door – 3625 Aylmer Street

Discover the rhythmic tunes of Spoken Word by Inuit artist Taqralik Partridge – winner of the 2010 Quebec Writing Competition - and electronic beats by DJ Madeskimo.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=luu7iUnAkVA>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2chExnQPZbU>



Tuesday September 13, 2011

STONE CARVING WORKSHOP

10:00AM – 1:00PM

Learn about traditional Inuit stone carvings and participate in a hands-on workshop taught by Eugene Jankowski. This event will be held on McGill campus.

Spaces are limited! Reserve by e-mail: allan.vicaire@mcgill.ca

In Collaboration with the Inter-Tribal Youth Centre (Native Friendship Centre of Montreal)
www.ityc.nfcm.org/projects.html

TWO-SPIRITED PEOPLE: SURVIVING COLONIALISM WITH DIANE LABELLE

2:00PM – 4:00PM, Thompson House Ballroom – 3650 McTavish Street

What does it mean to be two-spirited? Join educator Diane Labelle as she explores the history and transformation of two-spirited identity in the aftermath of colonization.

In collaboration with Ethnoculture
www.ethnoculture.org

ETHNO CULTURE

FILM SCREENING: 'FINDING OUR TALK' WITH COURTNEY MONTOUR

6:00PM, Redpath Museum Auditorium – 859 Sherbrooke Street West

Discover success stories on individuals, communities and organizations that are reclaiming their language and their culture. A Mushkeg Media Inc. series followed by a Q & A session with Project Co-ordinator & Chief Researcher Courtney Montour.

www.mushkeg.ca

Wednesday September 14, 2011

FIRST NATIONS GARDEN EXPERIENCE

9:00AM – 3:00PM, Montreal Botanical Garden – 4101 Sherbrooke Street East

Join us for an outdoor experience to the First Nations Garden at the Montreal Botanical Garden. In the morning, learn about the history and significance of the sweat lodge with elder Sedalia Fazio. In the afternoon, take a guided tour of the First Nations Garden and learn about First Nations knowledge on horticulture and medicine.

Free passes are available at First Peoples' House, 3505 Peel Street.

In collaboration with Jardin botanique de Montréal

RHYTHM NIGHTS

6:00PM, The Yellow Door – 3625 Aylmer Street

Discover an evening of eclectic music of with Chelsea Vowel as she performs in Cree and folk singer Demiel Pepin.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rH7bzcY_Ydk

<http://www.myspace.com/demielpepinmusic>

Thursday September 15, 2011

READING WITH WAUBGESHIG RICE – 'MIDNIGHT SWEATLODGE'

10:00AM – 11:30AM, McGill Bookstore

2nd Floor - 3420 McTavish Street

Join broadcast journalist Waubgeshig Rice as he debuts his short fiction novel 'Midnight Sweatlodge'. Followed by a Q and A session with Jeffrey Mackie - host of the literary feature on CKUT 90.3 FM.



MEDIA PANEL: (MIS/SELF)REPRESENTATIONS OF ABORIGINALS IN PUBLIC SPACES

2:00PM – 4:00PM, Lev Bukhman Council Room, SSMU Building

2ND Floor 3600 McTavish Street

How are stereotypes and distortions of Canadian Aboriginals perpetuated in public spaces such as the media? This panel will examine issues of media distortion, misrepresentation and cultural appropriation in mainstream media and public institutions while examining new ways of promoting self-representation, education and cultural respect.

Panelists:

Ossie Michelin, Journalist *Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN)*

Clifton Nicholas, Community Activist (*Oka Crisis, Eska Ad Campaign*)

Odile Joannette, Co-Chair of the *Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy Network (MUACSN)*

Irkar Beljaars, Host of *Native Solidarity News on CKUT 90.3 FM*

Moderated by Devora Neumark, Inter-disciplinary artist and faculty member at *Goddard College (Vermont)*

COMMUNITY SOCIAL & FEAST

6:00PM, Native Friendship Centre of Montreal - 2001 Saint-Laurent Blvd

Come together and partake in the closing ceremonies of McGill's first Aboriginal Awareness Week. Socialize, eat, sing, dance and share your experiences of the past week. Dinner will be provided. Dancers are also welcome to bring their regalia.

In collaboration with the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal

www.nfcm.org/

For further updates on future events and programming, please check:

www.facebook.com/aboriginalsustainabilityproject