

2024 Cultivating Safe Spaces

12-13 JUNE 2024

Conference

Kamloops Coast Hotel &
Conference Centre
Kamloops, BC
Canada



The CSS framework

Cultivating Safe Spaces was developed in 2019 to teach facilitators how to navigate extremely difficult topics with a trauma informed approach to support decision-making and governance and has evolved into a systems changing movement.

The Cultivating Safe Spaces framework is divided into three sets of tools that supports the cultivation of belonging, connection and safety and will be introduced through various presentations, breakout sessions and group work with CSS founder, Elaine Alec.



Most Sought After Training

Explore why Cultivating Safe Spaces is one of the most sought after training for companies, communities and governments to support the well-being, inclusion, freedom and validation of their staff, clients and leadership.

Impactful and transformative

Join us for an impactful and transformative learning experience that highlights individuals across many sectors from front line workers and first responders to executive leadership and government representatives who are applying the Cultivating Safe Spaces framework to support their overall workplace well-being, psychological safety and support of meaningful inclusion of folks with various lived experiences.

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Who Should Attend

- Community members
- Elected Leadership and Decision-makers
- Youth from all backgrounds
- Executive Leadership
- Government employees
- Health Care Professionals
- First Responders
- Front line workers
- Human Resource Professionals
- Business Leaders

Why is Cultivating Safe Spaces important?

- When individuals feel belonging, connected and safe they are more likely to speak up, contribute and add valuable insights into the work.
- When individuals feel safe, they have the capacity to help each other and develop an attitude to risk and failure and open conversation.
- They learn from mistakes and adapt more quickly and are more likely to take risks and continue moving forward.
- Teams that have open and candid conversations are able to tackle hard problems more effectively.

What are the benefits of attending the 2024 Cultivating Safe Spaces Conference?

- An opportunity to meet leaders and experts in cultivating safe spaces, leadership and trauma-informed practice fields and learn from their expertise
- A chance to exchange ideas, establish valuable relationships with innovative and influential individuals
- Strengthen your professional network connections with like-minded people and enhance your new relationships and community connections
- Discover opportunities to collaborate or partner up with others
- Level up existing skills with access to facilitators and panelists who will share new information and perspectives to help you increase your knowledge base and improve your skill set



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Panelists

We are honoured to have a variety of wonderful speakers joining us for a panel discussion on how CSS is being applied in education from curriculum development, policy shifts, and research.



PANELIST

Sherry Mattice nee McCarthy

ʔuk-ʔaas Tyetsum quu-ʔas-sa ʔum-tii. Sherry Mattice nee McCarthy ʔuk-ʔaas-ʔa, ma-maʔ-ʔi ʔum-tii. Mowachaht Muchalaht -ʔaq-sups.

My traditional name is the one who holds up the community/Big house centre beam. Sherry is working towards finishing her Doctor of Business Administration in Leadership, specializing in Indigenous entrepreneurial success. Sherry is a dedicated educator who actively represents Indigenous students and communities, promoting involvement, such as cultural workshops and vigils, and partnering with universities to provide cultural rejuvenation. Sherry utilizes innovative pedagogical strategies that promote student success, such as an adapted decolonized system that allows students to improve their skills that align with real-world experiences. Built strong connections and a relationship of trust with Indigenous community members, which provides unique opportunities for understanding the community's needs from an economic development position. Sherry is skilled in business administration, decolonization, and Indigenous Studies.

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PANELIST

Jen Greenway

Jenelle Greenway (she/they) is a Two-Spirit Tahltan-Kaska writer, the host of the Go Smudge Yourself Podcast, and an Indigenous Rights activist from the Yukon Territory. She is a member of the Talakoteena House of the Tahltan Nation and thus belongs to the Wolf Clan. Jen is a descendent of the last Great Chief Nanok through her late Grandmother Violet (Nehass) Greenway.

With a background in Indigenous Governance, she is passionate about decolonizing education and co-creating Knowledge, as well as providing tools and action plans for Indigenous and Settler folk to join Reconciliation conversations and the LandBack movement. As a facilitator, Jen aims to break down hierarchical spaces and to inform individuals and businesses on how to move forward in an inclusive and reconciliatory approach, especially with Indigenous Peoples.

Her facilitation has ranged from regional to international spaces. Recent events include the Gender-Based Violence Action Plan (2023), Healing Our Spirits Worldwide Conference (2023) as well as the Climate Action Secretariat and First Nations Leadership Council (2022).

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PANELIST

Jody Dlouhy-Nelson

Jody Dlouhy-Nelson is a white settler originally from Treaty 4 lands with a presence in Treaty 6 territory/lands of the Cree, Saulteaux, Lakota, Dakota, Nakoda, and homeland of the Métis-Michif in what is also known as Saskatchewan. She currently lives on the unsold territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation in Kelowna, British Columbia.

With a career spanning two provinces and several decades in teaching and school leadership from Kindergarten-Post-Secondary in schools, districts, and university, Jody is an experienced educator. Recently, she completed her doctoral studies at the University of British Columbia Okanagan (UBCO) seeking to understand how pre-service teachers take up decolonization and Indigenization in their classroom spaces. She also worked as a research assistant on a large SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council) community partnership grant at UBCO entitled Co-Curricular Making: Honouring Indigenous Connections to Land, Culture, and the Relational Self. Privileged to learn from and work alongside Syilx People who hold traditional teachings about the water, land, and all the interconnected life-forces, Jody is a lecturer in the Bachelor of Education program at UBCO. She believes in the capacity of pre-service teachers to embrace local Indigenous Knowledge and instill this learning in their students of today and future. It is about finding hope in healing Mother Earth through co-meaning-making in spaces where local Indigenous Knowledge guides all who are present.

Agenda

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Wednesday 12 June 2024

01 Breakfast 08:00 a.m.

02 Opening Keynote 9.00 a.m.
from Elaine and overview of the CSS
Framework

03 Wellness Break 10.30 a.m.

04 Networking Breakout 11.00 a.m.

CSS Facilitators and Train the Trainer Participants

An opportunity for Certified Cultivating Safe Spaces Facilitators and Train the Trainer participants to network and ask questions about how CSS is being applied across various sectors and areas of interest.

Previous CSS Participants

(virtual, in person, organizations)
An opportunity for participants to network and ask questions about the CSS framework and move into a deeper understanding of how to apply the CSS framework.

Brand New to CSS Participants

An opportunity for those brand new to Cultivating Safe Spaces to participate in a World Cafe Activity to learn the basic framework and how it may apply to your work.

Agenda

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Conference Centre
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Canada

Wednesday 12 June 2024

05 Lunch 12:00 p.m.

06 Cultivating Safe Spaces in Education 1.15 p.m.
Panel discussion on how CSS is being applied in education from curriculum development, policy shifts, and research.

07 Break 2.15 p.m.

08 Session 1 2.45 p.m.
35-40 pax in each room



A. CSS in Climate Work - Janet Mrenica

Janet is the founder of Taproot.jem.Systems. She offers coaching, facilitation and consulting services. As a Certified Cultivating Safe Spaces Facilitator, Janet's work supports meaning making and relationship building to transform unhealthy systems. She believes that there is a leader in every chair.

Janet is a Fellow Chartered Professional Accountant, is Certified as an Integral Professional Coach, the International Coaching Federation (ACC level), a Climate Change Coach, a Trauma Informed Coach and is a Bereavement Facilitator.

Agenda

Kamloops Coast Hotel &
Conference Centre
Kamloops, BC
Canada

Wednesday 12 June 2024



Janet is a Climate Reality Leader, a Regional Organizer with the Climate Reality Project Canada and the Canadian Ambassador for She Changes Climate. She has completed the Climate Action Now course and Community Climate Action Pilot for Pachamama Alliance. As a CPA, she has completed the Fundamentals of Environment, Sustainability and Governance (ESG) Certificate Program with CPA Ontario.

08 A. CSS in Climate Work - Janet Mrenica / Cont...

She is a practitioner of Circle Practice and a graduate of the Next Stage Facilitation™ Intensive Program, Ten Directions. Her work calls on the three centres of body intelligence (head, heart and gut) in various ways and provide for holistic development and awakening to one's innate leadership of self.

With over 30 years of experience with the Government of Canada, not for profit organizations & small business, nationally/internationally, Janet is experienced in leading human-centered development & change: over 13 years has been at the Executive level. Much of her work has been in the community level, environment and sustainability field. She brings the lenses of inclusion, gender, anti-racism, anti-oppression, people culture, indigenous/ancient traditions/wisdom & low carbon economies to her work.

Janet will weave her direct experience in the environmental and climate movements with her work as a both a Coach, in supporting individual, team and organizational leadership capacity development in systems change, and as a Facilitator, in courageous conversations in talking about Climate Work. Janet has been an environmentalist since her early high school days. For the last 1.5 years, Janet has co-facilitated monthly Climate Cafes hosted by Carbon Conversations Toronto. These are simple, hospitable, empathetic spaces where fears & uncertainties about our climate & ecological crisis can be safely expressed.

Agenda

Kamloops Coast Hotel &
Conference Centre
Kamloops, BC
Canada

Wednesday
12 June 2024



Robyn Ward is an ally and social justice disrupter to all spaces lacking inclusion and human rights, frequently Womxn, BIPOC and 2SLGBTQQIA+ intersections. Her focus is healing, connecting, nurturing and supporting healthy relationships internally and externally.



08 Session 1 / Cont... 2.45 p.m.

B. CSS in HR - Robyn Ward

Robyn is the CEO and Founder of Rewarding Relationships. She offers Executive Coaching, Cultivating Safe Spaces Facilitation, Business Consulting, Social Impact Metric Consulting and Allyship Workshops.

She is a Certified Executive Coach (ICF/ACC), Certified Cultivating Safe Spaces Facilitator (CSS), volunteer counsellor (ENH), speaker, activist, and change-maker. She has mixed European heritage (Ukrainian, English, German) and is the proud mother of two Indigenous teenagers. Her life and her family's life is rooted in the Anishinaabe 7 Sacred Teachings: Respect, Courage, Wisdom, Humility, Truth, Honesty and Love. These values guide her daily and hold her personally and professionally accountable throughout her life.

For 20 years she has focused her professional development on four fields: psychology, business, coaching and technology. When she's not supporting clients or facilitating workshops, Robyn is a Board Member and consultant at Animikii. As well, she serves on the Board of the ICF Vancouver Island Coaches Association and she serves as a (non-Indigenous) Matriarch at the Sage Initiative.

Agenda

Kamloops Coast Hotel &
Conference Centre
Kamloops, BC
Canada

Wednesday
12 June 2024



08 Session 1 / Cont... 2.45 p.m.

C. CSS for Neurodivergent Team Members

Neurodiversity refers to the different ways people perceive and interact with the world. No two people's brains work the same, because we all experience things differently. This means there is no one "right" way of thinking, learning and behaving. Many neurodivergent people change their behavior or try to hide their differences to fit in and accommodate others around them. This coping mechanism is known as masking and over time masking can lead to burnout, stress and depression. This workshop will help leaders and managers learn how the Cultivating Safe Spaces Framework can support the development of practices and policies that support all team members.

Agenda

Kamloops Coast Hotel &
Conference Centre
Kamloops, BC
Canada

Wednesday
12 June 2024



08 Session 1 / Cont... 2.45 p.m.

D. Cultivating Safe Spaces in Business - Bree Bainard-Verruyt

Bree is a business owner with over 20 years of experience, and she has a strong focus on community and connection. She is constantly seeking new ways to expand her practices and support others in her industry. Bree transitioned into the role of a Virtual Assistant (VA) agency owner, leading BeeVee Professional Services with her team to provide support to business owners. Through her work as a VA, she learned about cultivating safe spaces and has worked to incorporate these practices within her team. Having been trained by Elaine Alec, Bree is now a facilitator, aiming to heal and transform team dynamics in businesses and industries, promoting love-based work environments.

Agenda

Kamloops Coast Hotel &
Conference Centre
Kamloops, BC
Canada

Wednesday 12 June 2024



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| 08 | Session 1 / Cont...
E. True Colours and CSS
Perspectives - Kyle Alec
Kyle is from the Syilx (Okanagan)
Nation and Secwepemc (Shuswap)
Nation and is a member of the Penticton
Indian Band in Southern British
Columbia. Kyle will present a hybrid
session on True Colors Personalities and
the Four Perspectives which are
personality and perspective
temperament models that help leaders
understand how to better support
inclusion, validation, well-being and
freedom for their team members which
promotes trust and effective teams. These
tools support conflict resolution, team
building and improved communication. | 2.45 p.m. |
| 09 | Closing Plenary | 4:15 p.m. |
| 10 | End | 5:00 p.m. |
| 11 | Networking Dinner
Celebration & Entertainment by
Hypnotist Scott Ward | 5.30 p.m. |

Agenda

Kamloops Coast Hotel &
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Canada

Thursday 13 June 2024

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|----|---|------------|
| 01 | Breakfast | 08:00 a.m. |
| 02 | Understanding Self
Group Work
With Elaine Alec | 9.00 a.m. |
| 03 | Wellness Break | 9.45 a.m. |
| 04 | Session 2
A. CSS in Climate Work - Janet Mrenica

B. CSS in HR - Robyn Ward

C. CSS for Neurodivergent Team
Members

D. Cultivating Safe Spaces in Business -
Bree Bainard-Verruyt

E. True Colors and Cultivating Safe
Spaces Perspectives - Kyle Alec | 10:15 a.m. |
| 05 | Lunch | 11.45 a.m. |

Agenda

Kamloops Coast Hotel &
Conference Centre
Kamloops, BC
Canada

Thursday 13 June 2024

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|----|---|-----------|
| 06 | Session 3 | 1:00 p.m. |
| | A. CSS in Climate Work - Janet Mrenica | |
| | B. CSS in HR - Robyn Ward | |
| | C. CSS for Neurodivergent Team Members | |
| | D. Cultivating Safe Spaces in Business - Bree Bainard-Verruyt | |
| | E. True Colors and Cultivating Safe Spaces Perspectives - Kyle Alec | |
| 07 | Wellness Break | 2.30 p.m. |
| 08 | Networking Breakout #2 | 3:00 p.m. |
| | Train the Trainer Circle | |
| | CSS Facilitators Circle | |
| | Previous CSS Participants and Brand New to CSS | |
| 09 | End | 5.00 p.m. |

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Exhibitor & Artisan Application Form

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Conference Exhibitors (2 people)

Full payment required to reserve your table. Includes 6" skirted table, two chairs, free wifi, inclusion in social media campaign, link to your business or organization page on our website, breakfast, snacks and networking dinner on first night and access to keynote, panels (does not include breakout sessions)

\$1500

Artisans (2 people)

Full payment required to reserve your table. Includes 6" skirted table, two chairs, free wifi, inclusion in social media campaign, link to your business or organization page on our website, breakfast, snacks (does not include networking dinner or breakout sessions)

Types: artwork, beadwork, crafts

\$300

Required Information

Name:

Email:

Mailing Address:

Website Address:

Description of exhibit:

SCAN TO APPLY



Generate awareness

As an exhibitor, you can generate awareness and network with 200 participants from across Canada (and even a few from the United States) from communities, governments, businesses and a variety of sectors whose focus at this event is cultivating safe spaces and centering well-being in their work.

- Once we receive your registration you will be sent an invoice with the option to pay via credit card or e-transfer.
- Event runs from 9am - 5pm with breakfast served at 8am
- Set up available as early as 7:30 am. There is no security on site, please do not leave valuables overnight.