

**White Privilege Canada (WPSC), Brock University Academics & Activists:
Advocating for Equity, Justice and Action September 30 - October 1, 2016**

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Eddie Moore, Jr.

Founder WPC, Community Activist and Scholar



Dr. Eddie Moore Jr., is an internationally renowned scholar and community activist who is the Founder of the White Privilege Conference (WPC). Dr. Moore Jr., recently marked WPC's 17th successful year. Dr. Moore Jr., is a prolific author, who has supported up and coming researchers and community activists in the field of antiracism. He has published books used in university courses that examine race and the need to redress systemic racial discrimination through an understanding of how whiteness and white supremacy operates in taken for granted social relations that undermine people of colour/ youth (in

particular) and their future potential in becoming contributors to society. His latest book is entitled, *Everyday White People Confront Racial and Social Injustice: 15 Stories*. Edited by Eddie Moore Jr., Marguerite W. Penick-Parks, Ali Michael Foreword by Paul C. Gorski.

See more at: www.eddiemoorej.com

Keynote title: "White Privilege 101: Getting in on the Conversations"

Friday September 30, 2016 at 6pm

David S. Howes Theatre

This interactive, informational, challenging and energetic session examines and explores white privilege/oppression and the imperative that those promoting diversity must "get in on the conversations." Participants will leave with the skills and knowledge necessary to begin addressing issues of white privilege/oppression individually and institutionally.

1. Introductions
2. Introductory activities
 - a. Components of Diversity
 - b. We the People
3. Fundamental Definitions
4. Equity versus Equality
5. The Way you see the World
6. Action Setting -- Next Steps
7. Questions and Answers
8. Conclusion

Debby Irving

Racial Justice Educator and Writer



Debby Irving, is a racial justice educator, writer, speaker & consultant. She has authored: *Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race* (racial and cultural memoir) 2014; "Working through Hidden Mindset Barriers" (article for *Independent School Magazine*) 2016; "Breaking the Code of White Silence" (introduction to the anthology *What Does It Mean to Be White in America? Breaking the White Code of Silence, A Collection of Personal Narratives*) 2016. Social and economic systems that intentionally or inadvertently create inequity often create a vicious cycle in which patterns of advantage become self-perpetuating. Interrupting the cycle is essential to working towards equity. Giving language to these unseen and unspoken aspects of our daily interactions is the essential next step if communities are to use

conversation to think together on how to create just environments in which individual and collective potential can be cultivated. Debby's work facilitates this process.

See more at: www.debbyirving.com

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Dr. Afua Cooper

Community Activist, Scholar, Dub Poet and James R.

Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies, Dalhousie University Halifax



Afua Cooper, Ph.D., has put African Canadian studies on the map. Her expertise in the arts, history, and education were recognized in 2005 with the Harry Jerome Award for Professional Excellence, in 2007 with the Planet Africa Renaissance Award. Afua holds a Ph.D. in African Canadian history and can be described as a trailblazer having taught the first course on Black Canadian history at the University of Toronto and Simon Fraser University. Her research and publications centred the field of Black studies in Canada she has published two historical novels and garnered Canadian and American awards. Her work in

the creative arts has been recognized with the Premier of Ontario Award for

Excellence in the Arts, a Governor General's Award nomination, and internationally with the Beacon of Freedom Award, 2012 ("My Name is Phillis Wheatley"). Cooper is a community Activist Scholar, Dub Poet and James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies.

See more at: <http://www.dal.ca/faculty/arts/jrjchair/about/CurrentChai.html> or <http://blackcanadianpoetry.com/poet-bios/afua-cooper> or <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/dalhousie-black-and-african-diasporastudies-starts-fall-2016-1.3644910>

Keynote title: "Enslaved African Canadian Teenager and White Male Privilege"

Friday September 30, 2016 at 6:45pm

David S. Howes Theatre

Diana Bastian was raped and impregnated by George More, Esq. a naval officer and member of the governing council of Cape Breton. Bastian died during childbirth giving birth to twins. One of the babies died along with the mother. This sad and tragic fact is brought to our attention because of an insert in the burial records, dated 15 Sept. 1792. The record states that Bastian "was seduced and ruined." That she was raped, impregnated and abandoned by such an older man points to the vulnerable and precarious position of enslaved Black women, who by virtue of their status had no rights or honour and were perceived as unworthy of masculine protection. This keynote will examine the tremendous privilege and power white men of all stripes had over the body of Black women and will draw on Bastian's situation to discuss the vulnerability of enslaved Black women in Canada.

Dr. Shuaneen Pete

Associate Professor, Regina University



Shauneen Pete, Ph.D., is from Little Pine First Nations, Saskatchewan. She has been an educator in the province for over twenty-five years and has worked as an alternative high school teacher; a division level educational consultant and professor. She served as both the Vice-President (Academic) and Interim President at First Nations University of Canada (FNUniv). As a public speaker, she presents on topics of workplace equity; institutional racism; cultural competency development; leadership and organizational change. She speaks to issues concerning First Nations people's histories, identities and issues including women and leadership; violence against women; First Nations education and more recently on issues associated with Indigenizing the University.

See more at: <http://www.uregina.ca/education/facultystaff/faculty/pete-shauneen.html>

Keynote title: “Acting Up: Activism and Action”

Friday September 30, 2016 at 7:30pm

David S. Howes Theatre

This presentation explores a self-study narrative aimed at exploring the tensions of Indigenizing a required undergraduate course with predominantly white, middle-class pre-service education students. At the time of the delivery of this course, Idle No More was emerging as a global movement and my learners had many questions about the purpose of this resistance movement. Through our study of Pedagogy: Theory and Practice this emergent issue provoked discussions of globalization, colonization and issues of land. Self-study allowed me the opportunity to interrogate dominant views of pedagogy and the "good (white) teacher" and resulted in my assertion toward a radical Indigeneity in my own teaching.

Ritu Bhasin

Community Activists and Lawyer



Ritu Bhasin, LL.B. MBA, is a globally recognized speaker in the areas of leadership, diversity, and inclusion and has earned a reputation as a champion, expert, and leader in these areas. Through her consulting firm, bhasin consulting inc. (bci), Ritu provides programming, consulting, and coaching services across a range of people management areas, with a focus on Cultural Competence, diversity, inclusion, and the advancement of women. Ritu works primarily with senior leadership teams, boards of directors, middle management, and emerging leader groups, including women and diverse professionals. As a speaker, Ritu constantly challenges others to take ownership of their role in addressing racism, discrimination, and prejudice, using techniques such as mindfulness to interrupt bias and change behavior. She has presented publically on a myriad of topics across the globe over the last few years, including Cultural Competence, unconscious bias, authentic leadership, personal branding, self-empowered leadership for women professionals, mindfulness as a leadership tool, and inclusive recruitment. See more at: www.bhasinconsulting.com

Keynote title: “Breaking the Shackles of Oppression & Addressing Privilege: Rise through the Authenticity Principle”

Saturday October 1, 2016 at 9:30am
David S. Howes Theatre

As people of color, we continue to be adversely impacted by oppression, privilege, and biases about who we are. Because of our differences, we're repeatedly told that we're not competent, skilled, or worthy, and that we should alter our behavior - conform - to be accepted, "fit in," and succeed. In turn, many of us internalize this oppression and we minimize and hide who we are in order to survive in the dominant culture, which has a profoundly negative effect on us. The authenticity REVOLUTION has begun! It's time that we, as people of color, rise to embrace our whole, authentic cultural selves - including our differences - and bring this to bear in our interactions. By exercising the Authenticity Principle - better understanding who we are, embracing our identities, and sharing this truth with others - we can feel truly empowered and actualized.

In this dynamic keynote, global inclusion expert Ritu Bhasin will fearlessly share why authenticity is a fundamental pillar of actualization for people of color, and why we must challenge the dominant culture's expectations of conformity. She'll discuss strategies for leveraging the Authenticity Principle to find greater personal and professional joy, including:

- What is the Authenticity Principle and why is it important?
- How does authenticity show up in our personal and professional lives?
- Identifying and overcoming the barriers to authenticity
 - Structural and systemic barriers
 - Self-imposed barriers including: internalized bias, impostor syndrome, and minimization
- Strategies for practicing authenticity

Jasiri X

Mentor, Educator and Community Leader



Jasiri X, a millennium leader leveraging the transformative power of Hip-Hop, Social Media and Technology into a new brand of social change, Jasiri performs internationally and delivers keynotes on scholarly panels. He works in underserved communities as a mentor, educator and leader, and is a founding member of the anti-violence community organization, 1Hood. He leads educators and artists in teaching youth media literacy, photography, videography, music production, creative lyricism, entrepreneurship, journalism and other modern

skills. He is a new millennium Civil Rights Activist working closely with mentor, Harry Belafonte to address current social ills. Jasiri's performance is an opportunity for the participants to engage in an artistic platform on the experiences and representation of young men of color, particularly their criminalization not only in the media but also in our daily lives.

See more at: www.jasirix.com

Keynote title: "America's Most Wanted: Hip Hop, Media, and Mass Incarceration"

Saturday October 1, 2016 at 1pm

David S. Howes Theatre

This session (performance) examines the negative imagery prominent in current rap music and probes who is responsible for shaping the narrative that dominates the genre. This session further analyzes the direct connection between the contrary images of young men of color and the inordinate proportion of the same demographic fueling the prison industrial complex. This session should particularly benefit participants who are working with young men of color, who study media literacy, and look at the impact of hip hop culture on the world. This performance session will be of interest to those who are working to end the criminalization of men of color not only in the media but also in our daily lives.

Jada Monica Drew

Executive Diversity & Leadership Trainer, Author



Jada Monica Drew, executive diversity & leadership trainer and author, leads Social Designs a social justice consulting company. She brings a combined understanding about youth leadership that has grown out of her many years contributing to Youth Action Project (YAP) at the White Privilege Conference (WPC) and her work leading Social Designs and as faculty and an administrator in higher education. She defines social justice as creating equity through Historic Truth Telling, Relationships, and Creative Action. Her work contributes

to: personal development and curriculum for both schools and communities.

See more at: www.jadamonicaadrew.com

Keynote title: "Building Youth Leadership using the Youth Action Project (YAP) Approach"

Saturday October 1, 2016 at 4:00pm

David S. Howes Theatre

YAP is an engaging, interactive, exciting approach to social change! YAP is a grassroots program that engages in social media, music, reflection, and real conversation as tools for change. Jada shares tools for building relationships & leadership skills among youth. The YAP focus is to connect youth who are engaging in courageous conversations and action-oriented movements in their communities and schools. Youth learn more deeply about social justice with a focus on unpacking white supremacy, white privilege and other forms of oppression. YAP supports the development of students' potential to bring positive change and action to their schools and communities. We provide opportunities for youth to: Present solutions that have worked in schools and communities; and create new action steps for change. YAP fosters a youth-teaching-youth focus and creates spaces for youth to understand the importance of respect and connecting. Youth leadership skills developed include: Public Speaking; Networking; Effective Communication; Critical Thinking; Conflict Resolution; Dialogue Principles; Healing; and Forgiveness; and Courage.

Chancellor Shirley Cheechoo



Shirley Cheechoo (Cree) was born in Eastmain, Quebec on the eastern shores of James Bay. She is an accomplished and awarding winning artist, actor and filmmaker, and has been working in the Indigenous community for over 40 years. Shirley is the Chancellor of Brock University and first Indigenous Chancellor in Canada.

She is the proud recipient of numerous awards both for her own work and for recognition of her profound contributions to arts practice throughout Ontario. She is a multi-award winning

filmmaker and the first person from a First Nation to write, produce, direct and act in a feature length dramatic film in Canada, entitled *Bearwalker*, which had a market screening at the Cannes Film Festival in France.

Shirley's play, *Path With No Moccasins*, gave her an opportunity to speak about her life and the struggle to retain her identity and Cree heritage.

She continues to teach drama workshops to Indigenous youth and young learners across Canada. In 1984, Dr. Cheechoo founded De-ba-jeh-mujig Theatre Group, located on Manitoulin Island, and this touring company has become one of the foremost and respected independent Indigenous theatre companies in the world.

As a respected visual artist, her paintings have been exhibited worldwide. Her commissions include Christmas Cards for UNICEF, Amnesty International, The Ontario Native Women's Association, and the Hospital for Sick Children. Her works can be found in many private and public collections.

Shirley began directing films in 1998, after working as a playwright, actor and director of notable plays. Her directorial debut is the award winning short film *Silent Tears*, in which she chronicles the events of one harsh winter trip with her parents to a northern trap line when she was eight years old. It was screened at the 1998 Sundance Film Festival, and was also awarded the Telefilm Canada and Northern Canada Award for Best Canadian Aboriginal Language Program.

In 2002, Shirley founded the Weengushk Film Institute (WFI), a non-profit, artist-focused film and television training centre dedicated to unlocking the creative potential of Aboriginal youth and persons of diversity and developing marking leading skills and experiences among its students. Shirley currently serves as the Executive / Artistic Director of WFI.

Keynote title: “My Road To Healing As A Residential School Warrior”

Saturday October 1, 2016 at 4:45pm

David S. Howes Theatre

As a member of the Cree Nation, I was born in Eastman, Quebec, and moved to Moose Factory, Ontario when I was a young girl. It was there that I was separated from my family and sent to several residential schools in Northern and Southern Ontario. Presently, I continue to use artistic expression as a way to channel my past experiences in-and-out of the residential school system. Healing from these experiences has been a personal lifelong journey, but it is artistic expression which has had the most significance and influence of who and where I am today.