MSW10-Growing Community

the MSW program

School of Social Work @ Renison University College (uWaterloo) is celebrating our 10th anniversary!



Virtual Speaker Series:

June 13th, 2023, Tuesday, 12:30-2 pm EDT

Kelly Laurila: All Our Relations



Greetings! This is Kelly here. I am an Indigenous Sáami and Irish woman, settler, Sundancer, songcarrier, social worker, academic scholar, and lecturer who was born on the original territory of the Anishinaabe and Cree peoples in Northern Ontario known as Treaty 6. Having learned much in my relationships with Indigenous peoples I see connectedness of all of life and in all my relations. My understanding informs who I am and in my academic and community work pertaining to reconciliation and social justice.

I acknowledge that my ancestry originates in Europe and that my Sámi grandfather, who was colonized in his original land (i.e., northern Finland), chose to emigrate and settle in Canada. This implicated him and my family in the continuing colonization of Indigenous peoples in Canada. I acknowledge that I am also implicated in ongoing colonization, and I hope that my learning and my Indigenous lens have helped me to see and confront social injustices and seek or facilitate relational pathways towards ethical ways of being in this world. Living in peace with all our relations should guide our life's journey.

Please register at:

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