

9th NIAGARA SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM

Saturday, February 6, 2016

Brock University

Building Solidarities

<p>9:00 - 9:50 AM</p>	<p>Registration, Welcome and Greetings Kelly Davis, "After the TRC: Moving Forward Together" Niagara Women's Drum Group</p>	<p>Sean O' Sullivan Theatre</p>
<p>10:00 - 11:20 AM</p>	<p>SESSION 1</p>	
<p>Tekenni Teyohaha:ke – Activist Settlers and Native People Working Together <i>Presented by Sherri Vansickle, Jessica Riel-Johns and Jessica Turgeon</i></p>	<p>This workshop offers practical, contemporary examples of where and how First Nations and settler peoples can honour the Tekenni Teyohaha:ke (Two Row Wampum Belt) by working together toward social justice and positive change for First Nations communities. The session explores issues such as Native children's advocacy, education, hunting rights, land claims, fracking, and contaminated water, where First Nations people's voices have been silenced and dismissed.</p>	<p>TH255</p>
<p>Who is Speaking for Whom? Using Counter Narrative in Criminal Justice Practice <i>Presented by Andrea Anderson and Beverly Orser</i></p>	<p>This workshop will illustrate ways to challenge racist and sexist discourses through storytelling and the use of counter narrative as a pathway to social change in criminal justice practices. Through case studies and examples from the courts and the media, this workshop invites participants to share ideas about the power of narrative and storytelling, and how these approaches might be used to achieve social justice goals in different contexts. The goal is to stimulate discussion about the possibilities and limitations of developing counter narratives for social justice research and advocacy.</p>	<p>TH256</p>
<p>Free Education and How to Get There <i>Presented by Freeyelle Mehari and Gab Ross from the Canadian Federation of Students</i></p>	<p>This workshop aims to educate about why education is a right, and motivate participants to form coalitions and mobilize around the <i>Education is a Right</i> campaign of the Canadian Federation of Students. The campaign advocates for a high quality, publicly funded system of post-secondary education built on the principle that education should be accessible to everyone with the desire to learn. In breakout groups, participants will brainstorm ways they can advocate for publicly funded education within their communities and campuses.</p>	<p>TH257</p>
<p>A Basic Income Guarantee <i>Presented by Niagara Poverty Reduction Network and the Basic Income Guarantee Working Group</i></p>	<p>This two-part workshop will examine the complexities of poverty in Niagara, including what makes individuals vulnerable, the systemic causes, and the impact of poverty on health and social outcomes. Part Two explores the basic income guarantee (BIG) as a social justice measure and alternative to charity. BIG will be revealed as a policy that can reduce or eliminate poverty and insecurity, narrow extreme income and wealth inequalities, share citizenship, and improve democratic and economic functioning.</p>	<p>TH258</p>
<p>11:30 AM - 12:50 PM</p>	<p>Lunch in Guernsey Market Information Fair in Thistle Corridor</p>	
<p>1:00 - 2:20 PM</p>	<p>SESSION 2</p>	
<p>May I Help You? Disrupting Consumer Racial Profiling & Anti-Black Racism <i>Presented by Tomee Sojourner</i></p>	<p>This mixed-media workshop calls on participants to engage in a collective dialogue about consumer racial profiling and anti-black racism. The content is drawn from two precedent-setting Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario cases involving women with intersecting identities who were targeted by private security officers and by a police officer, and subjected to humiliation, anti-Black racism, consumer racial profiling practices, and racialized trauma while shopping in the retail sector.</p>	<p>TH255</p>
<p>Establishing Common Ground: Connecting the Environmental Movement to other Social Justice Struggles <i>Presented by Nate Smelle and Jane Hanlon from Greening Niagara</i></p>	<p>Through a series of thought-provoking and action-inspiring exercises, participants will establish a common ground on which activists from all sectors can take a stand. Highlighting similarities between the environmental movement and other struggles for social justice, the workshop will identify the skills and processes activists need to build the collective support required make a difference. Participants will collaboratively imagine a campaign to create solidarity among all concerned citizens, including those on the fringes of activism.</p>	<p>TH256</p>

<p>Creating Community through Social Entrepreneurialism</p> <p><i>Presented by Cristina Murano from Lace Up Your Cleats</i></p>	<p>This workshop will introduce the basics of starting a small business that is community-oriented and socially conscious. The case study is <i>Lace Up Your Cleats</i>, my business that operates in downtown Toronto, which provides soccer and futsal programming to women, transgender and genderqueer folks. We will talk about social entrepreneurship, walk through the steps of starting your own small business, and discuss different approaches to working with marginalized and underrepresented groups.</p>	<p>TH257</p>
<p>Sex and Shame: The Challenges of Sex Worker Alliances in Niagara</p> <p><i>Presented by the Sex Worker Alliance of Niagara</i></p>	<p>The goals of the workshop are to raise awareness about the reality of sex workers' lives and the disparate and often inaccurate perceptions in academia and the larger society on how best to help; to reflect on Amnesty International's declaration that sex workers' rights are human rights; and to facilitate discussion in order to come up with concrete ideas and approaches for creating alliances between sex workers and social organizations to promote sex workers' rights and legislative equality.</p>	<p>TH258</p>
<p>2:30 - 3:50 PM</p>	<p>SESSION 3</p>	
<p>Are you Sustainable? A Practice of Self-Care for Burnout Prevention</p> <p><i>Presented by Tabitha Jamieson</i></p>	<p>In this workshop, participants will learn to distinguish activism fatigue from burnout, and identify the sources and triggers of each in their profession and personal activist endeavours. They will become more self-aware of their own risks, and work to maximize their own social justice goals within healthier parameters. Most importantly, participants will work toward preventing activism burnout as a continual process of self-care. This is a highly interactive workshop, building on the collective input from the audience.</p>	<p>TH255</p>
<p>How to be a Good Ally</p> <p><i>Presented by Nona Bader and Jodielynn Harrison, Equity Officer, CUPE 4027</i></p>	<p>A diverse group of collaborators will lead participants in thinking about how to engage in anti-oppressive solidarity work with equity-seeking groups. Moving from theory to action, we will first focus on the principles of allyship and support work, and then explore together how to be good allies.</p>	<p>TH256</p>
<p>The Global Climate Movement and COP 21</p> <p><i>Presented by Development and Peace</i></p>	<p>The most critical and essential solidarity building initiative in our times involves a unified global response to the catastrophic effects of climate change. World leaders have met annually since 1994 to discuss the crisis of climate change, but have failed to implement decisive actions and policies to combat the obvious and disastrous effects of environmental degradation. What did the most recent climate conference accomplish? What are our roles as individual citizens and Canadians in ushering in a climate of personal, corporate, economic, and political change necessary for achieving climate justice?</p>	<p>TH257</p>
<p>Exploring Solidarity through Voice and Movement</p> <p><i>Presented by Shannon Kitchings and Heryka Miranda</i></p>	<p>This workshop explores the concept of solidarity and its relationship to the embodied self through voice work and dance/ movement activities. The workshop facilitators will bring their passion and love of the arts and share their knowledge of how to use voice and dance/movement for social justice. They will also demonstrate ways to practice movement and voice work as self-care techniques. Discussions will be interactive and participants will have an opportunity to use voice and movement in a safe space. No dance or singing experience required.</p>	<p>Sean O' Sullivan Theatre</p>
<p>4:00 - 4:30 PM</p>	<p>Photograph Exhibit and Refreshments</p>	
<p>Photographs of and by Migrant Workers</p> <p><i>Presented by the Niagara Migrant Workers' Interest Group</i></p>	<p>Migrant workers are often literally indentured labour because of system flaws and political maneuvering. The goal of the exhibit and table display is to increase awareness among participants of social injustice happening in our backyard and to provide an avenue to help.</p>	<p>Sean O' Sullivan Theatre</p>
<p>4:30 - 6:00 PM</p>	<p>Guswenta: Renewing the Two Row Wampum</p>	
<p>Documentary and Panel Discussion</p> <p><i>Brooke Lindsey Johnson (Six Nations) Jay Bailey (Metis) Rick Hill (Six Nations) Discussant: Kelly Davis</i></p>	<p>The film, <i>Guswenta</i>, documents a three week canoe trip organized by the Onondaga Nation and Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation in the summer of 2013, down the Hudson River to NYC, where the team participated in the United Nations International Day of the Worlds Indigenous Peoples. The campaign fostered Indigenous leadership for environmental clean-up and preservation.</p> <p>A panel presentation following the film will include members of the original Two Row Renewal trip. Inspired by their transformational experience, they are now involved in organizing the Two Row on the Grand canoe trip.</p>	<p>Sean O' Sullivan Theatre</p>