

# STRENGTHENING AND REVITALIZING INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE AND CULTURE ADVISORY CIRCLE BIOS

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**AINJIL HUNT**



**Namgis First Nation  
British Columbia**

**Ainjil Hunt** is a leading change strategist, speaker and international facilitator. As the principal owner of Transformation International for the past 11 years, Ainjil has seen success in developing the Transformation business model to parallel social and economic development in First Nation communities, organizations and businesses. Ainjil is Kwakwak'wakw from the Namgis First Nation with roots in Alaska. Ainjil holds a Bachelor degree in Social Work, Public Sector Management and Indigenous Governance. Ainjil is a certified language technologist in NLP (Neuro Linguistic Programming) and Time Line Therapy, is certified in Huna Level III (Hawaiian Psychology), and is a Masters Degree Candidate in Policy and Practice from the University of Victoria and currently completing a Masters Degree in Business Administration from Simon Fraser University Beedie School of Business with a specialization in Aboriginal Leadership. Ainjil served as vice president of the Industry Council for Aboriginal Business and is an advisor to the Woman Empowering Woman In Indigenous Nations (USA).

**DR. ALEX WILSON**



**Opaskwayak Cree Nation  
Manitoba**

**Dr. Alex Wilson** (Opaskwayak Cree Nation) is Professor and Academic Director of the Aboriginal Education Research Centre at the University of Saskatchewan. She holds a BA (California State University); EdM and EdD (Harvard University). Current projects include two spirit and Indigenous Feminisms research; working with the Aboriginal HIV/AIDS CBR Collaborative Centres National Aboriginal Research Advisory Council; studies on two spirit people and homelessness; and an International study on Education and LGBTQ Indigenous peoples. Dr. Wilson is a leading organizer with the Idle No More movement, integrating radical education movement work with grassroots interventions that prevent the destruction of land and water with particular focus on the Saskatchewan River Delta and supporting community based food sovereignty efforts. Having co-developed a Masters program in Land-Based Education at the University of Saskatchewan, Dr. Wilson is now creating an international Indigenous Land-based PhD program.

## **SAMANTHA TUGAK-BROWN**



### **Rankin Inlet Nunavut**

Samantha is an Inuk from Rankin Inlet, Nunavut. Samantha moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba to pursue a post-secondary education in Indigenous governance. She received her 2 year diploma from the Aboriginal Self-Government program at Red River College and is working to complete her BA at the University of Winnipeg Indigenous Governance program. Samantha is a member of the youth group Empowering Indigenous Youth in Governance and Leadership (EIYGL) as well as the Manitoba Urban Inuit Association (MUIA). Samantha currently works at the Kivalliq Mine Training Society as an Executive Assistant. Samantha is a proud mother to twin girls, and a throat singer and embraces her Inuit culture. She enjoys sewing, singing, and learning. Samantha has a passion for helping others and aspires to become an elected leader in Nunavut once she completes her education.

## **ROSE PAUL**



### **Paqtnkek First Nation Nova Scotia**

Rose is intimately familiar with utilizing research for evidence based decision making and economic development. She has extensive experience in community engagement, facilitation and research skills. Her intimate knowledge of First Nation communities in the Atlantic Provinces will bring a First Nation lens to the development of research tools, interviews and recommendations. Rose is an award-winning Economic Development professional with over ten years of managerial and client handling experience. An effective communicator, I have a proven track-record of combining a strong ambition and knowledge to identify and maximize opportunities and have a solid track record of using advanced research, analysis, strategic planning and negotiation skills.

## **DR. TRISHA LOGAN**



### **Metis Manitoba**

Tricia Logan is Métis, originally from Kakabeka Falls, ON. Tricia completed her PhD entitled ‘Indian Residential Schools, Settler Colonialism and Their Narratives in Canadian History’ in History at Royal Holloway, University of London. She also has a MA and BA both in Native Studies from the University of MB. In 2000, Tricia started working with the Aboriginal Healing Foundation at the Southwest Region MB Métis Federation and has worked with the AHF, Legacy of Hope Foundation and National Aboriginal Health Organization research on various projects from 2000 to 2014. Tricia took part in a Michif language revitalization project. Tricia’s research interests, published pieces and writing originate from her work with Survivors of residential school and involvement with language revitalization. Most recently, Tricia worked at Irish in Britain as an Archivist/Researcher on an oral history project entitled ‘Irish Voices’ with Irish diaspora communities living in Britain. Tricia is currently an Education, Outreach and Research Coordinator at the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

## **CAROLYN LAUDE**

Kahnawà:ke, Quebec  
**INAC Representative**

Carolyn Laude is a Mohawk woman with family connections to Kahnawà:ke, but has lived off-reserve most of her life. For the past 17 years, she has worked on socio-economic policy and program files at the post-secondary, community, provincial and federal government levels. Carolyn currently works as a Senior Policy Analyst for the Department of Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs. She helps to advance and renew relationships with Indigenous peoples using a whole-of-government approach to priority-setting, policy co-development and stock-taking with National Indigenous Organizations. Carolyn also provides subject matter expertise on the topic of reconciliation. Presently, she is completing a PhD in Legal Studies at Carleton University. Carolyn’s academic research aims to deepen understanding of how and why the ‘politics of recognition’ view of reconciliation and environmental planning challenges Indigenous political, legal and spatial constructions of Indigenous title land and the ecology. She studies how Indigenous peoples, academics, policy commentators, the courts and government officials understand and seek reconciliation. Once complete, this work will contribute to rethinking policy options on reconciliation post-*Tsilhqot’in* in relation to title lands, resource extraction and environmental planning. She has an MA in Legal Studies and a BA in Political Science. Carolyn is a Senior Fellow at the University of Ottawa and occasionally lectures at Carleton University.

