

**Stepping forward together: Lessons from reconciliation projects at the University of Alberta** Anne Carr-Wiggin (University of Alberta); Sheila Laroque (University of Alberta); Tanya Ball (University of Alberta); Kayla Lar-Son (University of Alberta); Sharon Farnel (University of Alberta)

Since before the release of the report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, The University of Alberta Libraries (UAL) has been dedicated to reconciliation efforts. Some of their major projects that stemmed from this forward thinking include the [First Nations Information Connection \(FNIC\)](#), the Decolonization Description Project (which focuses on updating the current metadata and ways we utilize classification schemes that are used to describe Indigenous materials), and the Indigenous Internship program. In promoting and facilitating these projects, it is clear that this is just the beginning of the reconciliation process and that there is still much to be done.

With this in mind, rather than honing in on current projects, the panelists would like to shed light on future prospects. Areas that will be highlighted are in response to the [CFLA-FCAB's Truth and Reconciliation Report](#), which divides the many aspects of librarianship into the four components of the medicine wheel: mental (white), physical (black/blue), emotional (yellow), and spiritual (red).

For the *emotional (yellow) piece*, the panelists will speak to their current projects and future prospects revolving around relationship development, communications, and collaboration. Relationship development itself is a large and substantial component to reconciliation.

For the *mental (white) piece*, panelists will reveal the work underway to survey and understand current practices for description and classification of Indigenous materials. In addition, they will be speaking to ways they are investigating how these can be revised or improved through community-based research and consultation.

For the *physical (black/blue) piece*, panelists will speak to the creation of Indigenous spaces within libraries. With community collaboration and creative use of space, and display curation Indigenous communities can see themselves reflected within libraries by decolonizing the physical space.

For the *spiritual (red) piece*, all presenters will offer advice on where they believe libraries can incorporate Indigenous knowledge and methodologies. This will be a crucial connection for participants as they can take these ideas and bring them back to their own libraries. Highlights for this section include (but are not limited to): relationship development and kinship; cultural protocol; metadata and classification schemes; exhibits, displays and space; staff training and development, etc.

It is hoped that by revealing some of these problems and potential solutions, that librarians will be inspired to move from conversations to reconcili-action!