CALL FOR PRESENTERS

Think Indigenous International Education Conference 2027

March 3–5, 2027
Conexus Arts Centre | Regina, Saskatchewan | Treaty 4 Territory

Thinking Indigenous. Speaking Indigenous. Living Indigenous.

Think Indigenous invites educators, Knowledge Keepers, Elders, language keepers, community leaders, researchers, administrators, students, youth, cultural practitioners and educational innovators to submit proposals to present at the **Think Indigenous International Education Conference 2027 (TIIEC 2027).**

Think Indigenous is more than a conference.

It is a gathering of Indigenous educators, thinkers, storytellers and changemakers. It is a space to challenge colonial approaches to education, celebrate Indigenous knowledge systems, strengthen our relationships with one another and imagine what education can become when Indigenous peoples are at the centre of the conversation.

We are looking for presenters who are ready to **share what they know, what they have learned, what they are doing and what they believe is possible.**

You do not need to be an academic to present at Think Indigenous.

Some of the most powerful knowledge in Indigenous education lives in our communities, classrooms, languages, ceremonies, families, lands and lived experiences.

If you have knowledge, a story, an approach, a program, research, a teaching practice or an idea that can contribute to transforming Indigenous education, **we want to hear from you.**

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

TIIEC 2027 is seeking engaging, meaningful and practical presentations that contribute to Indigenous education and challenge us to think differently about how we teach, learn and lead.

Preference will be given to presentations that:

- Centre Indigenous voices, knowledge systems and experiences;
- Demonstrate meaningful community connection or engagement;
- Share practices that educators can bring back to their classrooms, schools or communities;
- Challenge colonial assumptions and structures within education;

- Provide opportunities for participation, conversation and reflection;
- Highlight successful Indigenous-led approaches to education;
- Centre the voices and experiences of Indigenous children, youth, families and communities;
- Create space for Indigenous languages, cultures, lands and ways of knowing;
- Move beyond simply identifying problems and offer ideas, practices, possibilities or calls to action.

We welcome both established practices and emerging ideas.

TIIEC 2027 PRESENTATION STREAMS

Applicants will be asked to identify the stream that best fits their proposed presentation.

Indigenous Languages & Language Revitalization

Language immersion, language nests, curriculum development, language technology, teacher development, community language planning, land-based language learning and strategies for bringing Indigenous languages back into everyday educational spaces.

Decolonizing Education

Challenging colonial structures, curriculum and assumptions; Indigenous control of Indigenous education; dismantling systemic barriers; transforming provincial education; truth-telling; reconciliation; and creating educational systems grounded in Indigenous worldviews.

Indigenous Ways of Knowing, Being & Doing

Indigenous pedagogies, traditional knowledge, ceremony, kinship, storytelling, oral traditions, intergenerational learning and the application of Indigenous knowledge systems within contemporary educational environments.

Land-Based Education

Learning from and with the land; seasonal learning; land camps; harvesting; traditional skills; environmental stewardship; Indigenous science; community-based learning and connecting curriculum to land, language and culture.

Indigenous Educational Leadership

Indigenous approaches to leadership, governance, administration, school transformation, community-controlled education, mentorship, succession planning and developing the next generation of Indigenous educational leaders.

Indigenous Student Success

Innovative approaches to attendance, engagement, graduation, identity, belonging, transitions, mentorship, academic achievement and creating environments where Indigenous students can thrive without having to leave their identities at the classroom door.

Early Learning & the Early Years

Indigenous approaches to early childhood education, language development, family engagement, play, identity, culture and supporting our youngest learners.

Indigenous Youth Voice & Leadership

Youth-led initiatives, student voice, leadership, advocacy, mentorship and opportunities for young Indigenous people to influence the future of education.

Indigenous Identity, Culture & Belonging

Supporting strong Indigenous identity, cultural continuity, belonging, kinship, family and community connections as foundations for educational success.

Indigenous Wellness in Education

Holistic wellness, mental health, educator wellness, student wellness, cultural approaches to healing, trauma-informed practice and creating healthy learning communities.

Indigenous Curriculum & Classroom Practice

Practical resources, lesson design, assessment, Indigenous curriculum development, culturally grounded teaching and innovative classroom practices educators can use immediately.

Indigenous Research & Innovation

Community-based research, Indigenous research methodologies, technology, artificial intelligence, digital learning, STEAM and emerging innovations viewed through Indigenous perspectives.

Partnerships & Systemic Change

Meaningful relationships between First Nations, schools, universities, governments and organizations; jurisdiction; policy change; reconciliation in education and examples of systems being transformed through Indigenous leadership.

Something We Haven't Thought Of

Indigenous education cannot be confined to categories.

If your work does not fit neatly into one of these streams but belongs at Think Indigenous, tell us why.

PRESENTATION FORMATS

Applicants may propose one of the following:

60-Minute Interactive Workshop

Designed for presenters who want participants actively involved in learning.

Workshops should include approximately **45–50 minutes of presentation/activity and 10–15 minutes for discussion and questions.**

Interactive, practical and participatory sessions are strongly encouraged.

30-Minute Presentation

A focused presentation highlighting an initiative, program, research project, teaching practice, community experience or important idea.

Presenters should allow time for audience questions.

Youth Presentation

A dedicated opportunity for Indigenous youth and students to share their experiences, ideas, projects and visions for education.

Youth submissions may be supported by an educator, mentor, school or community organization.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO SUBMIT

The online application should ask applicants to provide:

Presenter Information

- Primary presenter name
- Nation / community / cultural affiliation, if the presenter wishes to share
- Organization, school or community
- Position/title
- Email address
- Phone number
- City/community
- Province/territory/country

- Additional presenter names and information

Presentation Information

- Presentation title
- Preferred presentation format
- Primary conference stream
- Secondary conference stream, optional
- Presentation abstract — maximum **300 words**
- Three learning objectives or key takeaways
- A **75-word program description** suitable for publication in the conference program and website
- Intended audience
- Grade level or educational area, where applicable
- How the presentation centres or contributes to Indigenous education
- How participants will be engaged
- Resources or practical tools participants will leave with, where applicable
- Audio/visual or room requirements
- Accessibility requirements

Presenter Biography

Each presenter should provide:

- A biography of no more than **150 words**
- A high-resolution headshot
- Nation/community affiliation, where the presenter wishes this to appear publicly
- Preferred name, title and pronouns, optional

WHO IS YOUR SESSION FOR?

Applicants may select all that apply:

- Early Childhood Educators
- K–6 Educators
- Middle Years Educators
- High School Educators
- Post-Secondary Educators
- Indigenous Language Educators
- Educational Assistants
- School Administrators
- Education Directors
- Indigenous Education Teams
- First Nations Leadership
- Knowledge Keepers / Elders

- Community Organizations
- Researchers
- Students / Youth
- Policy Makers
- General / All Conference Participants

HOW PRESENTATIONS WILL BE SELECTED

TIIEC receives more presentation proposals than can be accommodated within the conference program.

Submissions will be reviewed by the **TIIEC 2027 Conference Committee**.

Proposals will be considered based on:

Relevance — Does the presentation meaningfully contribute to Indigenous education?

Indigenous Voice — Does the presentation centre Indigenous knowledge, experiences, communities and perspectives?

Impact — Will participants leave with new knowledge, inspiration, practical strategies or a meaningful call to action?

Engagement — Does the proposed format create an engaging learning experience?

Clarity — Is the purpose of the presentation clearly communicated?

Community Connection — Where community knowledge, programs, research or experiences are being presented, is there evidence of respectful relationships with the Indigenous people and communities involved?

Originality — Does the presentation contribute something important, innovative or underrepresented to the conversation?

TIIEC particularly encourages **Indigenous-led presentations and presentations developed with meaningful Indigenous community involvement.**

Presentations that primarily promote or sell a commercial product, consulting service or organization will not be selected as educational sessions. Organizations interested in promotion, sponsorship or exhibiting should contact Think Indigenous regarding those opportunities.

IMPORTANT EXPECTATIONS

Think Indigenous recognizes that Indigenous knowledge belongs to Indigenous peoples, families, communities and Nations.

Presenters are responsible for ensuring they have appropriate permission to share community knowledge, stories, images, research or cultural information included in their presentation.

Presenters should not share ceremonial, sacred, restricted or community-specific knowledge that they have not been given permission to share publicly.

Research involving Indigenous peoples should clearly identify the relationship between the research and the Indigenous communities involved.

We ask all presenters to approach this gathering with respect, reciprocity and responsibility.

PRESENTER REGISTRATION

[TIIEC TEAM: INSERT FINAL PRESENTER POLICY HERE]

Recommended policy:

Accepted presenters receive a **complimentary TIIEC 2027 conference registration**.

For presentations involving multiple presenters, complimentary registration is limited to **one presenter per accepted session** unless otherwise approved by the TIIEC Conference Committee.

Presenters are responsible for their own travel and accommodation unless otherwise arranged in writing by Think Indigenous.

Invited keynote speakers and RED Talk speakers are governed by separate invitation agreements.

IMPORTANT DATES

Call for Presenters Opens: October 2026

Submission Deadline: November 30, 2026 at 11:59 PM CST

Applicants Notified: By December 18, 2026

Presenter Acceptance Deadline: January 5, 2027

Final Presenter Materials Due: January 22, 2027

TIIEC 2027: March 3–5, 2027

We encourage applicants to submit early.

Think Indigenous International Education Conference 2027
March 3–5, 2027
Conexus Arts Centre
Regina, Saskatchewan | Treaty 4 Territory

www.thinkindigenous.ca

Questions regarding presenter applications:
[INSERT PRESENTER EMAIL ADDRESS]