2026 Spring HOC Conference

Strengthening the Journey: Supporting Indigenous Communities Through Culture, Leadership, and Learning

Agenda is subject to change

Sunday

Time	Session	Title	Description
4:00pm - 8:00pm		Registration Check-in Resort Lobby	T-shirt, Agenda, Curriculum, and Name Badge

Monday

Time	Session	Title	Description
8:00am - 9:00am		Breakfast & Registration	Check-in, receive materials, and enjoy breakfast.
9:00am - 10:00am		Keynote Address	Inspirational talk by a featured leader in community wellness and cultural education.
10:10am - 11:10am	1A	Adaptation Process & Timeline	Learn what adaptation means and how to build a timeline for adapting your curriculum.
10:10am - 11:10am	1B	Setup a Room & Choose Venue	Explore how the physical environment impacts learning and brainstorm ideal venues.
10:10am - 11:10am	1C	Mutually Respectful Learning Environment	Explore humility, harm reduction, and safe, respectful classroom dynamics.
11:20am - 12:20pm	2A	Building Committees	Learn how to form advisory, adaptation, and support committees for your curriculum.
11:20am - 12:20pm	2B	Guest Speakers	Create a resource list of guest speakers, tips for preparing guest speakers and thanking them.
11:20am - 12:20pm	2C	Facilitating Suicide Prevention	Support for navigating sensitive topics around suicide prevention and intervention in a youth context.
12:20pm - 1:20pm		Lunch	Lunch buffet provided.

1:30pm - 2:30pm	3A	Assessing Community Needs & Resources	Identify your community's needs and the local resources available to support them using tools like focus groups and interviews.
1:30pm - 2:30pm	3B	ACE's and Resilience	Explore how adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) impact youth and communities. Learn trauma-informed approaches and strategies to foster resilience and healing.
1:30pm - 2:30pm	3C	Adapting or Facilitating	Two options: (1) Build the curriculum to fit your community (2) Practice delivering a session with peer and trainer feedback
2:40pm - 3:40pm	4A	Lesson Planning	Learn how to create detailed facilitator agendas that outline timing, materials, activities, and goals—ensuring each session runs smoothly and stays aligned with your curriculum.
2:40pm - 3:40pm	4B	Emotional Regulation	Discover strategies for managing emotions in yourself and your students. This session will explore how emotional regulation supports a safe, effective learning environment.
2:40pm - 3:40pm	4C	Adapting or Facilitating	Two options: (1) Build the curriculum to fit your community (2) Practice delivering a session with peer and trainer feedback
3:50pm - 4:20pm		Reflection & Wrap-up	Reflect on the day's sessions, share feedback, and preview what's next.

Tuesday

Time	Session	Title	Description
8:00am - 9:00am		Breakfast	Morning meal before sessions begin.
9:00am - 10:00am		Keynote Address	Inspiration and perspective from a keynote presenter on education or culture.
10:10am - 11:00am	5A	Media in Curriculum	Explore how to incorporate engaging media—like videos, films, and clips—into your curriculum to capture youth interest and add variety to your sessions.
10:10am - 11:00am	5B	Cultural Humility	Learn how practicing humility, curiosity, and empathy can create stronger connections with youth. This

			session explores how embracing vulnerability and letting go of 'having all the answers' builds trust and reduces power imbalances.
10:10am - 11:00am	5C	Adapting or Facilitating	Two options: (1) Build the curriculum to fit your community (2) Practice delivering a session with peer and trainer feedback
11:10am - 12:00pm	6A	Getting Management On Board	Explore common challenges in getting support from tribal councils, program directors, or other decision-makers. Learn practical strategies to communicate your vision, address concerns, and build buy-in for your curriculum.
11:10am - 12:00pm	6B	Implementation Timeline	Break down your curriculum into actionable steps by creating a clear implementation plan—from finalizing content to scheduling sessions and preparing logistics—so you're ready to launch with confidence.
11:10am - 12:00pm	6C	Adapting or Facilitating	Two options: (1) Build the curriculum to fit your community (2) Practice delivering a session with peer and trainer feedback
12:30pm - 4:00pm		Lunch & Culture Sharing	@ Kiana Lodge Each Tribe / Organization will be asked to share something from their community, i.e. song, dance, story, video, craft, game, etc.

Wednesday

Time	Session	Title	Description
8:00am - 9:00am		Breakfast	Morning meal before sessions begin.
9:00am - 10:00am		Keynote Address	Kickstart the day with stories and insights on navigating challenges and community strength.
10:10am - 11:10am	7A	Incorporating Tradition	Brainstorm traditional activities, crafts, stories, and cultural teachings that can enrich your curriculum. Identify community members—such as elders, artists, and knowledge keepers—who can help bring these elements to life.

10:10am - 11:10am	7B	Engaging your Community - Part 1	Identify key people in your community—leaders, elders, families, and other potential partners—who can support and contribute to the adaptation of your curriculum. Build your network for collaboration and success.
10:10am - 11:10am	7C	Adapting or Facilitating	Two options: (1) Build the curriculum to fit your community (2) Practice delivering a session with peer and trainer feedback
11:20am - 12:20pm	8A	Engaging your Community - Part 2	Map out potential partners and supportive programs that align with your curriculum goals. Develop a plan for hosting community meetings and sharing information to build awareness and engagement.
11:20am - 12:20pm	8B	Building and Maintaining Equilibrium	Explore what balance means across mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual wellness. Learn practices to help you and your youth stay grounded and resilient throughout the program journey.
11:20am - 12:20pm	8C	Adapting or Facilitating	Two options: (1) Build the curriculum to fit your community (2) Practice delivering a session with peer and trainer feedback
12:20pm - 1:20pm		LUNCH	Lunch buffet provided.
1:30pm - 2:30pm	9A	When It All Goes Wrong	Learn how to respond with flexibility and calm when things don't go as planned—whether it's a last-minute change, youth crisis, or unexpected challenge. This session offers tools to help you stay grounded and keep sessions moving forward with care.
1:30pm - 2:30pm	9B	Evaluation	Define what success looks like through your community's lens—not just by data, but by impact. This session will help you develop meaningful ways to measure outcomes that reflect your values, goals, and strengths.
1:30pm - 2:30pm	9C	Adapting or Facilitating	Two options: (1) Build the curriculum to fit your community (2) Practice delivering a session with peer and trainer feedback
2:40pm - 3:40pm	10A	Pre & Post Surveys	Discover how to create pre- and post-surveys that reflect your curriculum goals and values. Learn to gather meaningful feedback from youth and use the results to guide improvements and celebrate progress.
2:40pm - 3:40pm	10B	Recruiting Youth	Explore creative and culturally relevant ways to connect with youth and spark their interest in your program. This session will cover outreach strategies, messaging tips,

			and approaches to build trust and sustained engagement.
2:40pm - 3:40pm	10C	Adapting or Facilitating	Two options: (1) Build the curriculum to fit your community (2) Practice delivering a session with peer and trainer feedback
3:50pm - 4:20pm		Reflection & Wrap-up	Reflect on the day's sessions, share feedback, and preview what's next.

Thursday			
Time	Session	Title	Description
8:00am - 9:00am		Breakfast	Morning meal before sessions begin.
9:00am - 10:00am		Keynote Address	Final keynote to inspire action, legacy, and leadership through cultural education.
10:10am - 11:10am	11A	Ice Breaker Frenzy	Try out fun and culturally appropriate ice breakers that help youth feel welcome, connected, and ready to engage. Leave with a collection of activities you can use to set the tone and build community in your sessions.
10:10am - 11:10am	11B	Funding	Explore creative ways to secure funding for your curriculum—from covering supplies and cultural materials to compensating guest speakers. This session will share tips on finding grants, building local partnerships, and advocating for support within your organization.
10:10am - 11:10am	11C	Adapting or Facilitating	Two options: (1) Build the curriculum to fit your community (2) Practice delivering a session with peer and trainer feedback
11:20am - 12:20pm	12A	Navigating Curriculum Change	Curriculums evolve. In this session, you'll explore how to make thoughtful updates that reflect new insights, community feedback, or shifting needs—while still honoring the original purpose and cultural foundations of the work.
11:20am - 12:20pm	12B	Open Circle Feedback & Sharing	Join a final circle to reflect on your journey throughout the conference. This session offers a space to share takeaways, express gratitude, offer wisdom to peers, and honor the collective knowledge built over the past

			few days.
11:20am - 12:20pm	12C	Action Plan	Whether you're just starting or nearly ready to launch, this session will help you create a personalized action plan. Break your larger vision into manageable steps, set achievable goals, and identify the support and resources you'll need to move forward with confidence.
12:20pm - 1:20pm		LUNCH	Lunch buffet provided.
1:30pm - 3:00pm		Honoring the Journey	Celebrate the close of your journey with a traditional honoring ceremony—an experience that mirrors the way you might conclude your own curriculum. This closing session includes a certificate of completion and a reflection on the significance of honoring participants. You'll leave with inspiration, ideas, and practical tips for planning a meaningful closing for your youth.
3:00pm - 3:20pm		Reflection & Wrap-up	Reflect on the entire conference and share feedback.