



INDIGENOUS LAWS WORKSHOP

INVITATION & AGENDA

WORKSHOP DATES: JULY 25-26, 2022
RSVP TO SECURE YOUR SPACE BY JULY 18, 2022

**KWANLIN DÜN FIRST NATION
& THE INDIGENOUS LAW RESEARCH UNIT**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

AGENDA	2
BACKGROUND	5
WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION	5
WORKSHOP SPIRIT & INTENT	6
LOCATION	4
ILRU FACILITATORS	7
ABOUT ILRU	7
COMMUNITY-DRIVEN APPROACH	8
ABOUT KDFN JUSTICE.....	8



AGENDA

Note that Days One and Two will be for a larger group of attendees, while a smaller number of people will attend Day Three. While there will be limited seats available for Day Three, if you would like to inquire about attending day three, please send your inquiry to Erin Linklater at erin.linklater@kdfn.net or 867-334-7673 or Darlene Smith 867-633-7800 extension 601.

DAY ONE (JULY 25): 9:00-5:00

MORNING: INTRODUCTORY IDEAS: THINKING ABOUT INDIGENOUS LAWS

9:00-9:15	Opening Prayer and Fire
9:15-10:15	Welcome & Agenda for Day One
10:15-10:45	Practices of Citizenship & Freedom and Relating & Placing our Work
10:45-11:00	Break
11:00-12:00	Indigenous Law 101:Definitions and Assumptions
12:00-12:30	Indigenous Law 101: Sources and Practices of Persuasion
12:30-1:15	Lunch

AFTERNOON: METHODOLOGY & PRACTICE

1:15-2:00	Indigenous Law 101: Resources and Methods
2:00-2:15	Indigenous Law 101: ILRU's Methodology in Brief
2:15-2:45	Working with Stories: Legal Narrative Analysis Example
2:45-3:00	Break
3:00-3:30	Legal Narrative Analysis Excercise #1 (Small Groups)
3:30-4:30	Reporting Back and Debrief
4:30-5:00	Closing Prayer

*PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
CONTACT ILRU@UVIC.CA IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS*

DAY TWO (JULY 26): 9:00-5:00

MORNING: PRACTICE AND SYNTHESIS

9:00-9:15	Opening Prayer and Fire
9:15-9:30	Reflections from Day One & Agenda for Day Two
9:30-10:00	Legal Narrative Analysis Exercise #1 (Small Groups)
10:00-10:45	Reporting Back
10:45-11:00	Break
11:00-11:30	Indigenous Law 101: Frameworks and Synthesis
11:30-12:30	Synthesis Exercise (Groups)
12:30-1:15	Lunch

AFTERNOON: Application and Next Steps

1:15-1:30	Indigenous Law 101: Applications with Examples
1:30-2:30	Application Exercise (Groups)
2:30-2:45	Report Back
2:45-3:00	Break
3:00-4:00	Next Steps: Identifying Resources, Challenges, & Solutions
4:00-5:00	Closing Reflections, Final Circle, & Closing Prayer

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CONTACT ILRU@UVIC.CA IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS

DAY THREE (JULY 27): 9:00-12:30

*NOTE THAT A SMALLER GROUP WILL BE ATTENDANCE FOR DAY THREE. WHILE THERE WILL BE LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE FOR ATTENDING DAY THREE, IF YOU WISH TO INQUIRE ABOUT ATTENDING ON THIS DAY, PLEASE SEND YOUR INQUIRY TO ERIN LINKLATER AT ERIN.LINKLATER@KDFN.NET OR 867-334-7673 OR OR DARLENE SMITH 867-633-7800 EXTENSION 601.

MORNING: RESEARCH OUTCOMES AND RELATIONSHIPS

9:00-9:15	Opening Prayer
9:15-9:30	Reflections from the Workshop & Agenda for Day Three
9:30-10:30	Forming Research Questions: Shifting Thinking & Focusing
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-12:00	Working Within & Across Legal Traditions of KDFN
12:00-12:30	Next Steps & Closing Prayer

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CONTACT ILRU@UVIC.CA IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS



MARK PRESTON WINDOW ARTWORK
COURTESY OF KDFN

BACKGROUND

In 2022, Kwanlin Dün First Nation's (KDFN) Justice Department contacted the Indigenous Law Research Unit (ILRU) about collaborating with KDFN to articulate laws within Kwanlin Dün's legal orders in the area of justice. ILRU is an independent research unit housed in the University of Victoria's Faculty of Law dedicated entirely to the revitalization and implementation of Indigenous law and governance.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

ILRU's proven and unique approaches bring the highest and most ethical standards of community-based engagement and research to the task of articulating principles, processes, and responses within Indigenous legal orders. As part of its community-based approach, ILRU's practice is to begin all collaborative research projects with a large community workshop facilitated by ILRU's legal researchers.

This two-day workshop introduces participants to ILRU's approaches to thinking about and working with Indigenous laws. Participants will engage in interactive discussions regarding the theories, debates, and challenges in Indigenous law. Participants will also be guided through a practical hands-on introduction to ILRU's method of drawing legal principles from oral narratives and applying them to the challenges of today. By the end of the workshop, participants will better understand how ILRU and KDFN will carry out their research, and have an opportunity to contribute to the development of the project. The workshop is best suited for those who can commit to attending all or most parts of the workshop, as presentations and activities have been developed to build on one another.



WORKSHOP SPIRIT & INTENT

The spirit and intent of this workshop is for all participants to collaborate, listen to each other, and remain curious and open-hearted to possibilities. We hope to establish a respectful place of sharing. The co-facilitators believe that everyone has something meaningful to contribute regardless of sex, age, gender, social status, or political affiliation. We will actively promote an environment for this workshop that is trauma-informed, gender affirming, and inclusive and respectful of all voices. If you have questions or concerns about attending or you would like to suggest something that would assist you in attending, please contact Erin Linklater at erin.linklater@kdfn.net or 867-334-7673 or Darlene Smith 867-633-7800 extension 601.

TRAUMA-INFORMED SPACES

The workshop will have a sacred fire. There will also be a wall tent set up where people can sit and have tea with an Elder. The workshop will begin and end with a circle. The space will be opened and closed each day with prayer. There will be at least one designated support person (either a knowledge holder, Elder, or counsellor) accessible to participants at all times during the workshops. If you have questions or concerns about trauma-informed practice and these workshops, please contact Erin Linklater at erin.linklater@kdfn.net or 867-334-7673 or Darlene Smith 867-633-7800 extension 601.

PHOTOS AND VIDEOS

Please note that ILRU or KDFN may take photos, videos, or recordings at this workshop to help support the project and their work. If you would prefer not to be in photos or videos, please alert the team as well as the videographer/photographer upon arriving. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Erin Linklater at erin.linklater@kdfn.net or 867-334-7673 or Darlene Smith 867-633-7800 extension 601.

LITERACY

All literacy levels will be accommodated. All materials will be read out and materials will be provided in advance of the workshop so those who would like to read them before hand, or convert them into audio files, have the chance to. If you have concerns or questions about this, please contact Erin Linklater at erin.linklater@kdfn.net or 867-334-7673 or Darlene Smith 867-633-7800 extension 601.

2SLGBTQQA+ AFFIRMING ENVIRONMENT

Gendered washrooms are on site. An all gender washroom will be made available for the event. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Erin Linklater at erin.linklater@kdfn.net or 867-334-7673 or or Darlene Smith 867-633-7800 extension 601.

FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS

Breakfast, lunch, snacks, and coffee/tea will be provided. There will be gluten-free and vegan options available upon request. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Erin Linklater at erin.linklater@kdfn.net or 867-334-7673 or or Darlene Smith 867-633-7800 extension 601.

DOOR PRIZES

There will be numerous door prizes available for attendees.

LOCATION

Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre Longhouse

ILRU FACILITATORS



ABOUT ILRU

The [Indigenous Law Research Unit](#) (ILRU) is an independent research unit housed in the University of Victoria's Faculty of Law. ILRU was founded in 2012 by Dr. Val Napoleon (Cree/Saulteau), emerging out of a partnership with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. ILRU partners with and supports work by Indigenous communities, and develops practical resources to tackle the large-scale challenges facing Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities today.

[ILRU's resources](#) have been used to guide curriculum development, support claims in Canadian courts, and inform policy, processes, laws, and practices addressing social and environmental issues. ILRU deepens engagement with Indigenous laws by developing educational resources and facilitating workshops, training, and broader conversations on critical Indigenous legal issues that are inclusive of Indigenous feminisms.

Since its inception, ILRU's work has spanned a wide range of legal issues across many Indigenous legal orders, including social issues (harms/injuries, gender, equality, human rights, children and families, housing, and violence/vulnerability); environmental issues (land, water, and non-human life and relations); political issues (governance, institution-building, inter-community/inter-societal relations, citizenship, dispute resolution, legitimacy and accountability); and economic issues (intellectual property).

COMMUNITY-DRIVEN APPROACH

ILRU follows an [approach to research](#) that is grounded in strong, reciprocal relationships between ILRU and partner communities and supports trust and collaboration. The methodology is a community led, multiple-phase process that engages with publicly available resources and community participants in a structured way.

ILRU uses a method of analysis that looks for legal principles and reasoning within oral narratives. This approach reflects how Indigenous communities teach, learn, and hold knowledge through stories and the telling of stories.

Looking to stories as legal resources helps researchers develop basic understandings that are then deepened in conversation with community members and experts. Following those conversations, researchers organize their learning into a legal framework that outlines the legal principles, processes, and responses that guide decision making for a specific legal question.

The final phase is a robust validation process during which researchers meet with community members who have participated in the project to ensure they have final control over their words and how their contributions appear in published materials.



ABOUT KDFN JUSTICE

KDFN Justice's mandate is to provide a comprehensive range of community justice, family and child welfare, support, safety, enforcement, outreach, and healing programs and services to families, children, youth, adults, and Elders. This will be accomplished through collaboration with key stakeholders and partners.

Importantly, KDFN Justice is partnering with KDFN Heritage, as KDFN Justice's initiatives are culturally founded and land-based in promoting social justice and responding to needs and priorities of the citizens of KDFN, and, within limits, to Yukon First Nation and other people.

In addition, KDFN Justice is committed to building further capacity for the implementation of self-government, the laws of KDFN and Administration of Justice agreements focused on building an inclusive society founded on protection of equality and human rights.



CRANBERRIES
COURTESY OF KDFN

