



FNLKC Conference Workshop Presenter

Workshop Title: Reading and Writing in Nakoda

Name of Presenters: Tuffy Helgeson

Biography: Tuffy Helgeson, from Fort Belknap, is committed to the goal of providing American Indian students with a quality education based upon strong cultural traditions. From an early age, Tuffy was taught the stories, ways, songs, and the language of his people. He teaches the importance of language and identity, using traditional ways of teaching and learning coupled with new innovative strategies. He has focused efforts on youth leadership by teaching students about identity, understanding treaties, changing policies and finding solutions to issues effecting tribal communities today. He truly loves his culture and does everything for the benefit of his people.

Abstract: In this presentation, Tuffy will guide workshop participants through the bases for learning language through stories. He will share his method on how to identify parts of speech. Lastly, he will introduce participants to the Fort Belknap Orthography for the Nakoda language.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this workshop, delegates will:

- Understand how to better learn language
- Be introduced to a writing system