



**First Nations Language Keepers Gathering
Workshop
Dr. Angelina Weenie & Ida Swan**

Title: āsōnamākēwin

Presenter: Dr. Angelina Weenie & Ida Swan

Biography: Dr. Angelina Weenie is from Nakīwacīhk, Sweetgrass First Nation and is a faculty member at the First Nations University of Canada. Her work is focused on developing First Nations language curriculum and promoting First Nations languages.

Biography: Ida Swan is from Wapāwikoscikanihk, Pelican Narrows and is a faculty member of the First Nations University of Canada. She is currently working on her Ph.D thesis on the ācimowina ikwa ācathokewīna; the oral narratives of the nihithawahk.

Abstract: Indigenous language revitalization is critical to our communities. nēhiyawewin ōma kā ohpinamahk. As the kēhtē-ayak tell us, we must uphold our languages to keep our identities, our communities, and our nations strong. Sharing, promoting, and teaching our languages are essential to reviving First Nations languages. This workshop will begin with an overview of the language programs offered by Indigenous Education and the Department of Indigenous Languages, Arts and Cultures, at the First Nations University of Canada. These include the First Nations Language Certificate Program, the Certificate of First Nations Languages, and a new proposed Master of Indigenous Language Education program. In the Cree language, āsōnamākewin means to pass on those gifts which have been given to us. Language is a gift and in First Nations worldview and philosophy, nēhiyawīhtwāwin, it is important to give back. It is in this spirit that we present a workshop on First Nations language methodologies, how to teach languages which will inspire youth to want to learn their language. Participants in this workshop will have an opportunity to practice language teaching methods.

Learning Outcomes: Participants will:

- Learn about current research in First Nations language revitalization;
- Be provided with an overview of the First Nations language programs and courses offered at the First Nations University of Canada;
- Be presented with an overview of First Nations language methodologies; and,
- Have an opportunity to practice teaching Cree with action, song, and story.