



IndigenEYEZ Presents:

# "Queerantime" in the Time of COVID

A virtual queer community for dissolving physical distance

It can be socially isolating to be Indigenous and queer, and in the time of COVID-19 these feelings of isolation can be compounded. This series was developed with the support of the Tegan and Sara Foundation to provide a venue for connection. Join us online:

**8 SESSIONS: MAY 20<sup>TH</sup> 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup> 10<sup>TH</sup> 17<sup>TH</sup> 24<sup>TH</sup> 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY 7<sup>TH</sup>**

**7:00 - 8:30 PM PST**



**FREE  
REGISTRATION**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:  
MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>**

This series is geared to Indigenous youth who identify as 2SLGBTQQIPAA+ and their allies between the ages of 14 and 30. Our events are inclusive of non-binary participants.

- Meet new friends and connect online with others
- Have fun and feel uplifted during this socially isolating time
- Learn tools to navigate your coming out journey
- Strengthen our resilience against prejudice and discrimination

We hope that you will be able to attend all 8 sessions as the goal is to strengthen connection and build community during this isolating time of COVID. However, we also know that may not be possible for everyone.

for more info visit:  
[www.indigeneyez.com](http://www.indigeneyez.com)

[click here to register](#)

Questions? Email:  
[anni@indigeneyez.com](mailto:anni@indigeneyez.com)



# SESSION TOPICS:

**MAY 20** *On being Indigiqueer:* A coming out story (*Allan Thomas Lindley and Kim Haxton*)

**MAY 27** *Green time instead of screen time:* Ground yourself through land reconnection. With our usual distractions disappearing in the time of COVID hibernation, many of us are finding that hunger for the land more and more demanding. Join Shane for plant medicine stories and an introduction to salve and tea making with locally foraged plants. This session will be especially useful for those living in an urban setting (*Shane Sable & Kim Haxton*)

**JUNE 3** *Hearts and Parts, Part 1:* Let's talk about sex, baby! Shadow puppet storytelling about identity, consent, healthy sexual expression and the spectrum of being human. (*Allan Thomas Lindley and Hazel Bell-Koski*)

**JUNE 10** *Hearts and Parts, Part 2:* (*Allan Thomas Lindley and Hazel Bell-Koski*)

**JUNE 17** *Indigenous Futurism:* Storytelling, decolonizing, and imagination. (*Allan Thomas Lindley and Kim Haxton*)

**JUNE 24** *Connecting Through Song:* We welcome everyone to join us on a journey of connecting to each other through sounds and songs to lift our hearts, spirit and mind. All levels of participation welcome. Your presence alone is a gift. Look forward to sharing space with you <3 (*Desirée Dawson and Jody Mariko Okabe*)

**JUNE 30** *Oracle Card Making:* Oracle cards are a divination tool that can help us explore our dreams and give us direction, through deep or simple day to day questions. In this session we will activate our creativity and lean into our queerness as a place of power and deep knowing. No experience necessary (*Hazel Bell-Koski*)

**JULY 7** *Closing Circle:* We want to hear your feedback! (*Kim Haxton*)

# FACILITATORS:



## Kim Haxton

IndigenEYEZ co-founder Kim Haxton is Potawatomi from the Wasauksing First Nation in northern Ontario. With degrees in geography and outdoor recreation, Kim has two decades of experience doing wilderness therapy and leadership development with aboriginal youth.

Kim's extensive work in trauma counselling training has given her the opportunity to work hands-on with survivors of disaster, whether man-made or natural, whether immediate or ancestral. Paired with Kim's trauma work and healing knowledge is a strong background in wilderness therapy that has allowed her to support peoples' discovery of their internal compass while establishing their relationship to nature.



## Allan Thomas Lindley

Allan Thomas Lindley (they/them/their pro-nouns, sometimes he) is Syilx, Nlaka'pamux, and Mistawsis Cree First Nations from the Nicola Valley in Merritt BC. Allan is a member of the Upper Nicola Band (Quilchena), which is a part of the Okanagan Nation.

Allan has worked with homeless 2SLGBTQQIPAA+ youth and with communities in reclaiming and remembering Two-Spirit/Trans/Non-Binary/Queer/Gender Variant identities, history, and culture, in both traditional/pre-contact and contemporary Indigenous community. They also inquire, ally, and locate themselves in de-stigmatizing and educating around what often gets called 'mental illness.'



## Hazel Bell-Koski

Hazel Bell-Koski, is a self-directed, steadfast woman of mixed Anishinabeg, Finnish, Irish, and English heritage. She holds a BFA in Film Studies from Ryerson University and has maintained a multi-disciplinary arts practice for over twenty years, including public exhibits, facilitation of inter-generational community storytelling and art-making circles, and professional experience as an multi-disciplinary artist, creative facilitator, and event coordinator. She has extensive experience in working with diverse intergenerational communities. Giving her the capacity and awareness required to create and hold spaces of belonging and safety for groups of people, inviting at levels of creative confidence into a creative process.



## Jody Mariko Okabe

Jody Okabe is a Queer Tsimshian, Japanese, and French musician born and raised in Northern BC. She discovered her voice in her late 20's through organizing community open mic nights with friends in Merritt BC. Ever since then she keeps singing because she believes in the power of music to heal, and to connect us to this earth, our hearts, and to each other. She is currently working on her first album.



## Desirée Dawson

Desirée Dawson is the love spreading human who won Canada's CBC Searchlight Competition in May 2016. Soon after winning Searchlight Desirée released her debut album, 'Wild Heart' which topped CBC Music charts. Her single, 'Just Fine', spent months on CBC Radio to and made its way on to CBC's top 100 songs of 2018. Her most recent single 'All In' is now available on all major streaming services. Desirée is currently based on Coast Salish Territory in Vancouver BC but can often be found sharing her music internationally. Desirée's mission is to create in a way that allows people to feel and heal, and that's exactly what she does.



## Shane Sable

Shane Sable is a 2spirit Gitksan artist, activist, and Administrator for the Vancouver International Burlesque Festival. Shane is also the Convening Member of Virago Nation, Turtle Island's first all-indigenous burlesque collective. Shane's body of work focuses primarily on rematriating indigenous sexuality through burlesque and through community-engaged art and cultural activities.

## A NOTE ABOUT OUR ROLE AS FACILITATORS

We recognize that coming together and talking about these subjects may bring up strong feelings in people. We want to make sure that you are aware that we are artist facilitators and not counselors. We encourage you to identify your support systems before the workshops start - people that you feel safe and supported with, in case you need to process your feelings further after the session.

for more info visit:  
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