

## Speakers' Biographies - Friday, March 24, 2017: Woodland Cultural Centre

Opening

### Introduction to the Mohawk Institute, Residential School History, Collecting & Interpretation

**Paula Whitlow**

Paula Whitlow is the Museum Director at Woodland Cultural Centre. Paula is the director of over thirty-five thousand artifacts accessioned in the collections of the Museum, making the Museum at the Centre one of the largest facilities in Canada managed and administered by First Nations. Currently, Paula is serving at the Acting Executive Director at Woodland Cultural Centre.

Session

### Repatriation, Reconciliation, and Refiguring Relationships. A Case study of the return of children's artwork from the Alberni Indian Residential School to Survivors and their families.

**Andrea N. Walsh**

Andrea N. Walsh, PhD. (Canadian: Settler Irish, British, Scottish, Nlaka'pamux ancestry) is a visual anthropologist at the University of Victoria of who specializes in 20th century and contemporary Indigenous visual and material culture and curating. Her community-based academic research and curatorial practice is located at the intersection of Indigenous and non-Indigenous experiences of space and place, histories and identities. At the University of Victoria she directs the annual contemporary Salish Artist in Residence Program. She is the Principle Investigator on a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) project to identify residential school art collections across Canada. Walsh was inducted as Honorary Witness to the TRC in 2012.

**Mary Jo Hughes**

Mary Jo Hughes is the Director of University of Victoria Legacy Art Galleries where she builds a program based on academic and community partnerships through cross-disciplinary projects. Producing historical and contemporary exhibitions with local, national and international scopes, Hughes worked across Canada as curator at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria (2007-2012), the Winnipeg Art Gallery (1995-2007) the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Queen's University, Kingston Ontario (1990-1995). She also teaches Museum Studies through Continuing Studies at UVic.

Session

### The Michipicoten First Nation Artefact Story – The Challenges of Coming Home

**Wendy Peterson**

Wendy Peterson is the Michipicoten First Nation Librarian and First Nation Ratification Officer; she is also a Community resident and member. She values the importance of the First Nation culture and history to preserve for future generations and very is eager to learn more.

**Johanna Rowe**

Johanna Rowe is a local historian and Heritage Professional focused on recording and promoting the dynamic natural and cultural stories of communities along the eastern shoreline of Lake Superior. She has authored a collection of books on the history of the area. Her consulting work includes providing government agencies, communities and corporations with cultural maps, identification of heritage values, and interpretive plaques and panels promoting natural and cultural tourism in Northern Algoma.

Session

**Ruffling the Feathers of the Smithsonian: The National Museum of the American Indian and Repatriation**

**Doug George-Kanentiio**

Doug George-Kanentiio was a member of the Board of Trustees for the National Museum of the American Indian during its founding and building decade (1996-2002). During his tenure he served as a chairperson of the Museum's Repatriation Committee. In that capacity he worked with the late Lakota professor Vine Deloria to establish an aggressive, historically unique repatriation policy which sought to assist Native nations in their recovery from decades of cultural disruption by the removal of items considered sacred and of significant cultural patrimony.

Session

**Working with Indigenous Collections at the Canadian Museum of History (CMH)**

**Linda Grussani**

Linda Grussani is a member of the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg First Nation, born and raised in the Ottawa area. A curator and art historian, she presently holds the position of Curator, Aboriginal Art at the Canadian Museum of History. Over the last 17 years, Linda has worked with the art collections at Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, the National Gallery of Canada and the Carleton University Art Gallery. Linda holds both a BA and MA in Art History from Carleton University and is currently working on a PHD in Cultural Studies at Queen's University.

**Kelly Cameron**

Kelly Cameron works with the CMH ethnographic collections and related documentation in support of requests for information associated with ongoing treaty negotiations and repatriation discussions. Helping to facilitate visits to the museum from Indigenous groups wishing to view collections and conduct research is an important activity within the Repatriation and Indigenous Relations unit, and Kelly has been involved in this kind of museum engagement since first beginning her career at CMH in the early 1990's.

**Jameson Brant**

Jameson C. Brant is a Turtle clan member with lineage from Six Nations and Tyendinaga. In devoting her career to bridging understandings between Indigenous and developing cultures she has acquired forty years of experience in areas such as field research; writing; database development for arts, artifacts and language materials; curatorial work; project and conference coordination; teaching and strategic planning. For eleven years she has been Coordinator of the Aboriginal Training Program in Museum Practices at the Canadian Museum of History.

**Penny Pine**

Coordinator, Ethnographic Collections, Canadian Museum of History. Penny Pine (Ojibwa) from Garden River First Nation, graduated from the Museum Technology program at Algonquin College (1999) and began with the Canadian Museum of History (CMH) as an intern, Aboriginal Training Programme in Museum Practices. After successful completion of the program, Penny worked in various capacities at the CMH, before joining the Collections team in 2003. Penny is a strong advocate for and provides leadership on the preservation and care of the First Nation, Inuit and Métis collection of the museum.

**Sheila Knox**

Sheila Knox is Head of Education and Programs at the Bata Shoe Museum. She has 30 years of experience in the field of Museum Education and Programs. Earlier in her career she worked at the Royal Ontario Museum, Canadian Museum of History and Parks Canada, and has been with the Bata Shoe Museum since it opened in 1992. Ms. Knox is passionate about sharing the specialized collection of the Museum, which spans the globe and world history. She firmly believes that you can learn a lot about people from what they wear on their feet.

**Stephanie Pangowish**

Stephanie Pangowish is an Anishinaabekwe from Wiikwemkoong on Manitoulin Island, Ontario. She is an instructor for Manitobah Mukluks Storyboot School held at the Bata Shoe Museum, since September 2016. With 10 years experience in making moccasins for her children's regalia, she is inspired by traditional Anishinaabe designs and colors mixed with modern fashionable accessories. As a young girl, Stephanie has loved the arts and has since married into a pow wow family where she beads, dances and sings on the pow wow trail.

**Heather George**

Heather George is a researcher and public historian focused on Indigenous issues in museums and public education. Currently Heather is working at McMaster University as Research Assistant and serving as a member of the Chiefswood National Historic Site Board of Trustees. Heather's research and work has been influenced by her mixed Mohawk and European ancestry and she finds great fulfillment in fostering greater understanding of Indigenous history and culture for non-Indigenous audiences. Heather holds an undergraduate degree in History and Indigenous Studies from Trent University, a diploma in Museum Management and Curatorship from Fleming College and a Masters Degree in Public History from the University of Western Ontario.

**Naomi Recollet**

Naomi Recollet is an Anishinaabe-kwe (Odawa/ Ojibwe) from the Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory, located on Manitoulin Island. She is currently enrolled at the University of Toronto pursuing degrees in Master of Museum Studies and Master of Information Studies (concentration in archives and record management). Ms. Recollet has gained valuable work experience as a research assistant with the Great Lakes Research Alliance for the Study of Aboriginal Arts and Cultures (GRASAC); and participant in the 2016 Summer Institute in Museum Anthropology (SIMA) at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History (NMNH).