Bridging the Cultural Gap with First Nations

by Creating Healthy and Powerful Relationships

Michel Pujoh Room, University of Victoria Student Union Building A121 Ring Road, Victoria, BC

Nov. 8, 9am-5pm, Nov 9, 9am-3pm, 2018

# In this transformative 2-Day workshop, participants will:

- Learn to resolve conflicts from the inside out
- Learn to orient our practice with an awareness of the damage we all carry from colonialism
- Understand how to tap into clients from an intuitive place
- Join the circle and experience first-hand the power of self-reflection combined with authentic conversation
- Learn about a unique yet simple approach to making sense of complex human dynamics
- Uncover the challenges that are in the world of each and everyone's "story" and discover how to untangle the stories that are keeping people in conflict

## An experience that will enlighten your world!

As conflict resolution practitioners, mediators and facilitators, we have a responsibility to master ourselves so that we can inspire and work with our clients in a meaningful way. How many of us find it difficult to overcome bias, guilt or shame stemming from our collective Canadian past in order to connect in a genuine way with one another? Are we scratching at the surface or are we working from a truly powerful place to meet real pain with real heart? If it is true that we don't know what we don't know and that we can only give what we have, let's seize this opportunity to come together to experience deeper awareness and collectively transform our practice.

Pre-requisite: A desire to be REAL and to work from a place of authenticity and integrity

# Our Approach

We believe that authentic conversation is the basis to creating change, transforming ourselves and building and sustaining strong communities and organizations. All of our interventions enable individuals to raise their level of consciousness, enhance their speaking and listening skills and learn how to relate constructively to one another. Our approach is challenging with quick results because it challenges practitioners to reflect on their own unproductive thoughts, perceptions and behaviors and to examine how they are showing up (or not showing up) with their clients. Cultural sensitivity, impartiality, integrity and discretion are key principles to how we approach and conduct all of our work.

## Who We Are



### Matt Thorpe, Senior Director & Conflict Resolution Specialist

As a Thought Leader and Conflict Resolution Specialist, my experience and unique approach creates a safe space for individuals to stand in their integrity and have the difficult conversations that are needed in order to clear conflicts within themselves and with the people that matter. The guts and hard work that was required for me to find my purpose came from over 29 years of continuous sobriety. My past experiences and successful resolution of my own challenges drives me to do this work today. Through my learning circles, mediation, coaching and facilitation services, I have worked with various client groups, including victims, offenders, unions, and all levels of Government departments, schools and Aboriginal communities. I am acutely aware of the need for cultural sensitivity whenever disputes occur between individuals, whether in the workplace or in a community. I place true value on humanness, which allows all participants not only to be

heard, but also to gain a deeper awareness of themselves and of their personal responsibility in their relationships and environments. My intuition and ability to deeply connect shifts attitudes and behaviours in life-changing ways by resolving the root causes of the issue, thereby creating lasting positive changes. My role as Sr. Director of M. Thorpe & Associates Inc. (an Aboriginal organization) fully stands in the world of authenticity, integrity and commitment. I am First Nations (Delaware/Peacemaker) from the school of hard knocks who's best and most powerful learning comes from the non-traditional teachings I continue to acquire and their application toward my own transformation.

### Lise Leblanc, BA, MEd, RP



I am a Registered Psychotherapist and Conflict Resolution Specialist with over 20 years of experience working in therapeutic, educational, and leadership roles. Through my work with M. Thorpe & Associates, I have acquired extensive experience with mediation, facilitation of groups in conflict, designing and implementing conflict resolution interventions, and developing solutions toward reconciliation using an Alternative Dispute Resolution model that incorporates traditional indigenous practices such as the circle process. As a facilitator, counsellor and mediator, I have not been immune to life's challenges. Fortunately, my struggles have brought me to a place where I can share my knowledge and experience about internal and external conflicts that arise from unhealthy attachments, trauma and unresolved issues. I am dedicated to helping people take responsibility for the quality of

their lives by providing concrete tools, strategies and supports that allow them to free themselves from guilt, shame, past trauma and the faulty conditioning that is keeping them stuck. My best work is done with those who are looking for a shift, and who are ready to face their reality with honesty and integrity.

Tickets: \$ 225 for individuals.

For more information, call 250-383-4412, email office@dialogueandresolutionservices.ca or register through EventBrite at <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/deepening-the-practice-tickets-49118518812">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/deepening-the-practice-tickets-49118518812</a>