



## WORKSHOP

### Land Back!

#landback is on the rise. From every corner of the country, the call for land back is getting louder and more boisterous. Indigenous communities, in solidarity with other equity seeking and racialized groups, are concentrating their decolonization efforts into one cohesive, majestic movement. Land back reunites Indigenous people with earth, water and spirit. It re-establishes a relationality that was severed during the violence of colonization. For Indigenous people, it means coming home – to place and space, to human and superhuman relations. Many may ask, where do settler Canadians fit into this homecoming? Where do the uninvited guests go and what should they expect as Indigenous communities gain land sovereignty? This workshop will explore the conceptual framework of the land back movement from the perspective of notable Indigenous scholars and leaders as well as venerated elders and shared cultural teachings.

## FACILITATOR

### Jelana Bighorn (she/her)

Jelana is a member of the Fort Peck Sioux tribe with both Lakota and Chickasaw heritage. She spent her childhood growing up in the Pacific Northwest before moving to Vancouver Island. She received her Bachelor of Education degree at UBC and has been teaching high school English and Social Studies for the past 16 years. She is especially engaged in BC First Peoples 12, Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12 and Social Justice 12 – all courses that have resulted in resounding effects both on the individual students and on the local school culture. Her approach to education as the practice of freedom is drawn from the works of bell hooks and Paulo Freire with the added influence of cultural teachings from the Lakota people.



Jelana is currently serving as a Member-at-Large on the British Columbia Teachers' Federation Executive Committee as well as the Indigenous Chair on the Vancouver Secondary Teachers' Association Executive Committee. She is completing a MA in Educational Leadership at the University of British Columbia.