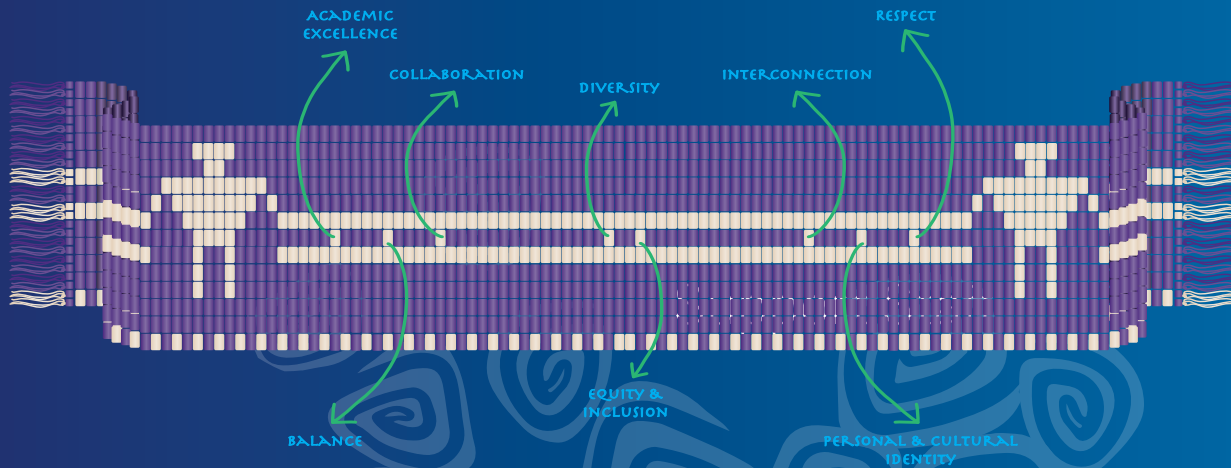


Our Guiding Principles

Through a unique and vibrant community of Indigenous people and non-Indigenous allies, Indigenous Services strives to take a strength-based approach to supporting Indigenous students' self-determination. This approach to working together with students toward their academic goals is symbolically exemplified in our Wampum Belt's 8 beads which stand for our guiding principles and core values.



Wampum Design Background

This Wampum design acts as a way to guide relationships and achieve Indigenous Services vision, mission, and goals. The inspiration for this Wampum arose from Indigenous students. Through the creative and consultative processes, we were inspired to revitalize the longstanding practice of creating and using a Wampum agreement as a way to guide our work. Since time immemorial, Wampum Belts have been used by diverse Indigenous groups across Turtle Island. Indigenous Services Wampum symbolically exemplifies the guiding principles/values necessary to uphold our shared approach to supporting Indigenous students.

Support Staff

Indigenous Services' friendly and welcoming staff pride themselves on offering holistic student support based on the values of helping and serving through Indigenous ways. These staff members provide support to prospective and current Indigenous students through drop-in services and by appointment.



indigenous.uwo.ca
is.staff@uwo.ca

Phone:
 519-661-4095
 1-888-661-4095 (Toll Free)

Fax:
 519-661-3357

In Person or by Mail:
 Indigenous Services
 Student Development Centre
 Western Student Services (WSS) building
 Room 2100
 Western University, London,
 Ontario N6A 3K7

Hours (Monday - Friday):
 September - April May - August
 8:30 am - 4:30 pm 8:30 am - 4:00 pm



INDIGENOUS SERVICES
 STUDENT DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

About the Creators

Lori Nicholas and Jason George are undergraduate students studying in the First Nations Studies Department in the Faculty of Social Science at Western. Lori is Haudenosaunee from Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Jason is Pottawatami from Stony Point (Aazhoojena).



Indigenous Services

The Student Development Centre

Vision

Indigenous peoples are fully engaging in learning communities across Western University, contributing Indigenous Knowledge, supporting the development of cultural intelligence, and shaping leaders of tomorrow.

Mission

Indigenous Services is committed to supporting Indigenous students in reaching their highest potential through a culturally-responsive space, programs, and services that provides holistic and strength-based approaches to supporting Indigenous students' self-determination.



Goals

- ⦿ Increase Indigenous presence and inclusion across the University
- ⦿ Increase Indigenous outreach, access, and engage Indigenous communities
- ⦿ Increase Indigenous student transition, retention, graduation and advancement

Our Space

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) is a vital space that acts as a central hub for Indigenous students, staff, faculty and communities to gather and find a sense of belonging in the larger institution. The space is currently nestled on the 2nd floor of Western Student Services (WSS) building between the Weldon Library and University Community Centre (UCC) on main campus.

Indigenous Services Space offers:

- ⦿ Student lounge, study space, and a quiet area with 24 hour secured access for registered students;
- ⦿ Communal gathering space;
- ⦿ Computer lab with 10 stations and free printing, photocopying and telephone;
- ⦿ Fully equipped and stocked kitchen facilities;
- ⦿ Elders' office/quiet meditation room.

Student Work Opportunities and Skills Development

- ⦿ Extensive work-study opportunities available year round;
- ⦿ Summer job opportunities;

- ⦿ Volunteers in Progress;
- ⦿ Employment listing, career counselling, workshops and training.
- ⦿ Transition support to work place

Programs and Services

Cultural and Social Programming

- ⦿ Visiting Elders are available to provide cultural supports and teaching by appointment and drop-in;
- ⦿ Daily smudging, Indigenous language, drumming/singing groups, teaching/sharing circles, and many more cultural programs;
- ⦿ Monthly corn soup lunches, and monthly dinner/socials.

Recruitment, Admission and Transition

- ⦿ Pre-application and admissions support for prospective students;
- ⦿ Customized individual and group campus tours and community visits and presentations to learners of all levels;
- ⦿ Proactive outreach and admission advocacy for Indigenous applicants.

Current Student Support

- ⦿ Academic advice and advocacy;
- ⦿ Financial aid advice/referrals;
- ⦿ Housing/residence referrals and relocation support;
- ⦿ Childcare referrals.

Mentorship and Leadership Opportunities

- ⦿ Indigenous Peer Mentoring Program — program pairs incoming Indigenous students with senior Indigenous students to offer support through cultural and academic support programming;
- ⦿ Cross-cultural leadership opportunities that educate all students about our shared history;
- ⦿ Indigenous Food and Medicine Garden — a student-led outdoor space dedicated to revitalizing Indigenous plants and medicine practices.

Youth Outreach

- ⦿ Proactive outreach initiatives geared toward Indigenous youth held on-campus including varsity sports initiatives and Annual Mini University program.

Indigenous Student Groups

- ⦿ First Nations Students Association (FNSEA) — assists in raising awareness of Indigenous postsecondary matters.
- ⦿ Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement (SAGE) — provides a support network for Indigenous graduate students to build relationships and support research and degree completion.
- ⦿ Infinite Reach: Métis Student Solidarity Network — work together to enrich and enhance Métis students' postsecondary education experience.

COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO INDIGENOUS STUDENT SUPPORT

