



INDIGENOUS AI GATHERING 2025

July 15-16, 2025 | Montreal



July 15: Pathways Forward: Visions for Indigenous AI

8:30am **Breakfast & Registration**

9:00am **Opening Remarks**
Elder Deborah Delisle from Kahnawà:ke

9:15am **Drumming**
George Swallow

9:25am **Welcome**

9:35am **Indigenous Pathfinders in AI Program**
Lynnsey Chartrand, Head of Indigenous Initiatives, Mila

9:45am **AI for Indigenous Communities (Pathfinders Pitches)**



10:15am **Break**

10:35am **AI for Indigenous Communities (Pathfinders Pitches)**





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- 11:05am** **Keynote: Empowering Indigenous Communities Through Education and Talent Development**
Mike DeGagné, CEO, President, Indspire
- 11:20am** **Conversation Corners with Pathfinders Pitch Teams**
- 12:00pm** **Lunch**
- 1:00pm** **AI for Indigenous Futures – Industry and Social Impact**
Moderator: Ryan St.Germaine
Panelists: Sara Wolfe, Marc Pepin, and Carol Anne Hilton
(60-minute session including Q&A)
- 2:00pm** **Lightning Talks**
It's time to Own it: Indigenous Representation and AI in the Film Industry - Shantae Gibson, Rezolution Pictures
- 2:05pm** **Break**



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Building Indigenous AI: Towards a Definition

2:20pm

Moderator: Geraldine King

Panelists: Vanessa Andreotti, Dana Tizya-Tramm, and Jackson Leween
(60-minute session including Q&A)

3:20pm

Break

3:35pm

Charting a Path: Talking Circles on Indigenous AI

Reflections

4:35pm

Jason Edward Lewis, University Research Chair and Co-director of the Abundant Intelligences Partnership, Concordia University

Networking & Cocktail

5:00pm

Featuring live music by Justin Almazan, Pathfinders in AI Program participant



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July 16: Unpacking the Layers of Indigenous AI

8:30am Breakfast & Networking

9:00am Morning Greetings

9:10am **Keynote: From Airways to Algorithms**
Peter-Lucas Jones, CEO of Te Hiku Media

Data Sovereignty & Governance
Moderator: Mark Dockstator
Panelists: Aaron Franks, Fenwick McKelvey, Kristin Kozar
(60-minute session including Q&A)

11:10am Break



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AI Ethics & Indigenous Knowledges

11:25am

Moderator: Jackson Leween

Panelists: Jeff Ward, Petera Hudson, Caroline Running Wolf
(60-minute session including Q&A)

12:25pm

Lightning Talks

The Challenges of Hidden Gifts - Dane Malenfant

12:30pm

Lunch Break

1:30pm

Inclusion in AI in a Changing Economic and Political Landscape

Moderator: Mick (Okimâwâtik) Elliott

Panelists: Brandon Meawasige and Sara Diamond
(60-minute session including Q&A)

2:30pm

Lightning Talks

SAIGE - Mary Gallerneault and Garrett Hrechka

2:35pm

Break



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AI & Environmental Stewardship

2:50pm **Moderator:** Jonathan Barry
Panelists: M. Murphy, Leslie Canavera, and Tegan Maharaj
(60-minute session including Q&A)

3:50pm **Break**

Indigenous Languages & AI

4:05pm **Moderator:** Rolando Coto Solano
Panelists: Michael Running Wolf, Keoni Mahelona, Lisa Mesher, and David Adelani
(60-minute session including Q&A)

5:05pm **Lightning Talks**
Heritage Lab - Ali Mehdi and Lisa Mesher

5:10pm **Reflections & Next Steps**
Jason Edward Lewis

5:20pm **Closing Remarks**
Elder Deborah Delisle from Kahnawà:ke

Need a break?

Drop by our Crafting Room for a moment of calm and creativity, where artist Krissy Powless will be leading medicine bag making throughout the day on July 16th.