

Program Leaders Gibimishkaadimin 2019



Leeann Shimoda is Ojibwe, a member of Saugeen First Nation, and of the Eagle Clan. She is the proud mother of 6 children, 10 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

She has been employed as an Executive Director of an Urban Friendship Centre, a Child & Youth Mental Health & Addictions Counselor, and is registered with the College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers. For the past 2.5 years she has been working for Independent First Nations as a Jordan's Principle Navigator.

As a child, she was adopted by a non-indigenous United Church minister and his family. She has searched for belonging and battled discrimination throughout her life. She is passionate about right relations

and in her spare time engages in open dialogue with community groups, congregations, schools, and social service organizations. She presents workshops on cultural sensitivity and the impact of Indigenous history on her life, and remains inspired by the ability of youth to become bridges between many cultures.

Joe McGill's Onondaga heritage and Scottish/Irish decent in part give shape to committing to Action on Reconciliation. Married with two adult daughters, Joe has always thrived on outdoor adventures, racing, and travel. Returning in his third year as a Program Leader to Gibimishkaadimin 2019, he hopes to continue to quietly, and at times boisterously, inspire youth to complete difficult tasks together, to find a reflective space in the day, and to complete Gibimishkaadimin with a greater understanding of Reconciliation as it is experienced in the lives of others. A Community Capacity Development Coordinator, Indigenous Ministries & Justice for the United Church of Canada, he resources the UCC Indigenous Churches and ministries in Ontario and Quebec. "There are paths we have yet to paddle together."





Shannon Edwards is a third-year nursing student at Laurentian University in Sudbury. She is Métis with Mi'kmaq and French ancestry. Shannon is from a small town called Goderich on the shore of Lake Huron. Shannon has been an active member of Lakeshore United Church and has shown leadership in the programming of Wampum, travelled to Squamish, BC for the indigenous justice forum, as well as been a Program Leader for Gibimishkaadimin 2018. She was the health co-ordinator for the Indigenous Students' Circle at her

university and helped plan a powwow and other events through the student circle. Shannon will be coming on the 2019 trip as a Program Leader. She can't wait to see how this experience will change the youth and looks forward to the many connections and lessons that will be made.

William Miller lives in Lockport, Manitoba on Treaty One Land. William's roots are in Garden Hill First Nation. He is thrilled to be coming back to Gibimishkaadimin as a Program Leader.

Not only does William enjoy canoeing, but he also makes his own canoe paddles. He is an active member of Selkirk United Church.

This year William was part of a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls project and made presentations to different schools in his community. When William is not working, he enjoys volunteering in his community. William will be helping teach youth about Truth and Reconciliation and MMIWG with Gibimishkaadimin 2019.



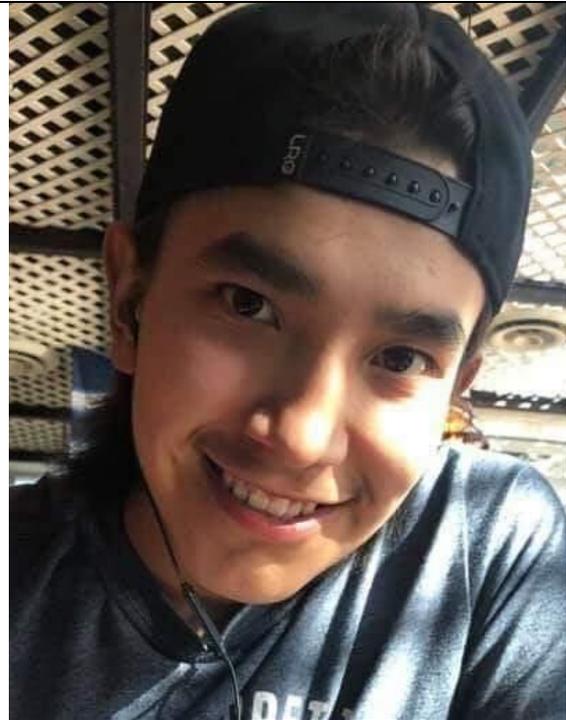


Demi Mathias is a Teme-Augama Anishnabai Kwe who resides in Sudbury and Bear Island. She completed her undergrad at the University of Ottawa and this past year finished her masters at Trent University.

Demi is an avid canoeist and professional canoe guide after working at a camp on Lake Temagami called Keewaydin.

Demi has been active in her community over the past few summers and has been a part of the birch bark canoe builds on Bear Island. She is passionate about her work with the Birch Bark canoe, and is committed to giving a positive experience, as well as being a role model for the youth. Miigwetch!

Hi, my name is **Dawson Grieves**. I am from a northern community up in Manitoba. My reservation is named Oxford House, which is Treaty 5 land. I am still a high school student. I am very thrilled to be coming back to Gibimishkaadimin this year as a Leader-in-Training. I am thankful for the opportunities given.



She: kon sewakwekon lonkiats Samantha Miller. Ohsweken nitewake:non Ohkwa: ri (Bear) ne Wakeniahten (Turtle) niwaki'taro:ten Tuscarora ne, Lunaapeew niwakonhwentsio: ten Karen'keha katewienhstha

Hello, my friend. My name is **Samantha Miller**. I'm from Ohsweken, best know as Six Nations. I am from the Tuscarora and Lenape Nation, a part of the Bear Clan.

I have introduced myself in my native language (Mohawk) which I continue to learn.

