

27th Annual PLAR Conference

PLAR – Unleash the Potential!

Portfolio Development and Indigenous Knowledge

Presenter: Banakonda Kennedy Kish Bell

This workshop will focus on the impact of the portfolio as a tool to assist our First Nations people who may lack a sense of direction and clarity related to personal, education and career goals. The work we are doing around Indigenous portfolios is helping these adult learners in such a way that it creates awareness and acceptance in terms of identity and motivates the individual to explore and acknowledge their formal and non-formal prior learning experiences.

Through the portfolio process an Indigenous worldview that is holistic in nature and uses story-telling, circle sharing processes, prayer, songs, medicine wheel teachings, bundles, and medicines to name a few, promote safety, connection and a culture of care that further motivates the learner to explore and identify former major life events that have brought about change in their lives, whether good or bad.

In addition, the process allows the individual to discover strengths and weaknesses, interests, knowledge, skills, attitudes and beliefs that contribute to a positive self-image that inspires and empowers individuals to see a clearer path to their success through their personal and professional lives.

Participants will have the opportunity to identify and discuss best practices related to Indigenous approaches to prior learning and portfolio development.