



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Rennie (Renee) Linklater



In-person presentation
and broadcast live online

Rennie (Renee) Linklater, PhD is a member of Rainy River First Nations in Northwestern Ontario. She has over 25 years of experience working with Indigenous healing agencies and First Nation communities. Renee has worked across the health and education sectors as a frontline worker, program evaluator, curriculum developer, educator/trainer, and researcher. She is an international speaker on trauma and healing and is the author of *Decolonizing trauma work: Indigenous stories and strategies* and editor of *Connected in Creation: A Collection of Lived Experience through Cultural Expression*. Renee is the Senior Director of Shkaabe Makwa - Centre for First Nations, Inuit and Métis Wellness at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and is actively involved in several system level initiatives across the province.

Plenary : May 10

**Working in the context
of Indigenous Health:
Trauma and culturally informed care**

Indigenous knowledge and worldviews are becoming a recognized and significant component of service delivery systems that support the healing movement. Trauma-informed approaches are critical aspects of care, particularly for First Nations, Inuit and Métis people who often experience trauma in historical and contemporary contexts. Drawing on her book, *Decolonizing Trauma Work: Indigenous stories and strategies*, this keynote presentation will discuss ways of incorporating trauma-informed approaches and Indigenous cultural knowledge into counselling and healing practices. Specific attention will be given to the understanding of wellness and wholistic health, critiques of psychiatry and psychiatric diagnosis, and Indigenous approaches to helping people through trauma, depression and experiences of parallel and multiple realities.