

First Nations Education Steering Committee;
The Power of Stereotypes

Our purpose for today is to reflect on the ways in which our behaviours and practices can be influenced by the stereotypes and biases we have learned and more importantly to learn about how we can unlearn those stereotypes and prejudices in order to act at all times in a professional manner.

Stereotypes and prejudice are the building blocks for discrimination. Beginning at childhood we learn our first stereotypes and start the process of learning to be prejudice about others. The Power of Stereotypes Workshop is designed to provide participants with a greater understanding to the root causes of racism and other forms of discrimination. We will look at the many ways in which racism effects our willingness to value and respect customs, traditions and beliefs that are different from our own. We will have opportunities to practice techniques and strategies that can assist us in unlearning stereotypes and preventing discrimination. The workshop is framed around the acronym **LAF**. Over the course of the workshop we will strive to;

Learn from each other and about each other. We will then take what we learn and ...

Apply it to making our communities and work environments places that welcome and value diversity and are free of racism. During the workshop we will also have...

Fun. So come prepared to have fun, to be challenged and to gain a better understanding of what is required to welcome and value diversity and to combat racism.