

WCPA-CSEP 2026

Location: University of Regina, College Building (CB)
2155 College Avenue, Regina, SK S4S 0A2
Program (last updated 02/10/2026)

Program at a Glance

Friday, October 2

12:30PM-1:00PM	Indigenous Philosophies Workshop Welcome with Knowledge Keeper Tim Poitras
1:00PM-2:15PM	Indigenous Philosophies Workshop Presentations and Q&A
2:15PM-2:45PM	Break
2:45PM-4:00PM	Indigenous Philosophies Workshop General Discussion and Closing Remarks
4:00PM-5:00PM	WCPA-CSEP Check-In
5:00PM-6:30PM	WCPA-CSEP Welcome and Dr. Stonechild Keynote
6:30PM-8:30PM	Reception & Dinner

Saturday, October 3

8:00AM-9:00AM	Breakfast
9:00AM-10:20AM	WCPA-CSEP Session Block 1
10:20AM-10:50AM	Break
10:50AM-12:10PM	WCPA-CSEP Session Block 2
12:10PM-1:30PM	Lunch
1:30PM-2:50PM	WCPA-CSEP Session Block 3
2:50PM-3:20PM	Break
3:20PM-4:40PM	WCPA-CSEP Session Block 4
4:40PM-5:00PM	Break
5:00PM-6:30PM	WCPA-CSEP Essay Prizes and Dr. Rini Keynote
6:30PM-8:30PM	Reception & Dinner

Sunday, October 4

8:00AM-9:00AM	Breakfast
9:00AM-10:20AM	WCPA-CSEP Session Block 5
10:20AM-10:50AM	Break
10:50AM-12:10PM	WCPA-CSEP Session Block 6
12:10PM-12:30PM	WCPA-CSEP Closing Remarks

Recurring Rooms

CB 101 / Atrium	Check-In
CB 139	Meals (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)
CB 210	Keynotes (balcony seating available in CB 312)
CB 131	Quiet Room

WCPA-CSEP 2026 Keynotes

Dr. Blair Stonechild

Professor of Indigenous Studies, First Nations University of Canada

“Recognizing and Respecting Indigenous Thought and Knowledge”

Friday, October 2, 5:00PM-6:30PM

CB 210 (balcony seating available in CB 312)

Abstract: Indigenous Thought and Knowledge has been dismissed over the course of civilization and is therefore little understood. Yet it is the thought system that has prevailed globally for over 99% of human existence. Indigenous thought systems which incorporated the natural and supernatural resulted in stable and harmonious social and environmental systems. Today’s rational thinking is a radical departure from Indigenous tradition and leads us off the “Good Path.” Centering thought almost exclusively around human interests is not only unwise, but is also potentially catastrophic for both ourselves and the world.

Dr. Regina Rini Keynote

Canada Research Chair in Social and Moral Cognition and Associate Professor of Philosophy, York University

“Nothing but the truth”

Saturday, October 3, 5:00PM-6:30PM

CB 210 (balcony seating available in CB 312)

Abstract: Is it valuable to believe the truth? Most philosophers assume so; the True stands alongside the Good and the Beautiful as defining aims of philosophy back to Plato. But it turns out to be extremely difficult to provide an argument for the value of truth that does not veer into circularity or derail into mere pragmatic convenience. Here I consider two opposed views taken by many philosophers – that true belief is intrinsically valuable, and that true belief is not intrinsically valuable – and argue that both are wrong.

Special Workshop: Interconnection in Indigenous Philosophies and the Disciplinary Colonial University

Abstract: Can Indigenous philosophies be practiced within a university, and specifically within Philosophy departments, which are colonial and disciplinary? The search for knowledge in the colonial university is structured by a system of conceptual divisions known as disciplines. This structure is a contingent inheritance from a Eurocentric tradition. Yet many Indigenous epistemologies instead center interconnectedness and interdependence, which are undermined by disciplinarity as well as the presuppositions and conceptual history of the philosophies that can be traced back to Europe. These difficulties are compounded by a situation where, within universities, Indigenous philosophies tend to take place in colonial languages, thus being either refracted or dispersed through concepts that do not correspond to those attached to the words in which they were developed, separate from the land in relation to which they were developed and lived. These questions are all the more important as Indigenous Philosophies not only provide a system of beliefs, practices, technologies and values that enabled many Indigenous societies to survive since time immemorial, but also offer an important and unique basis for understanding the nature, and justification of, the inherent rights to self-determination and self-government.

12:30PM-1:00PM	CB 330	Welcome with Knowledge Keeper Tim Poitras
1:00PM-2:15PM	CB 330	Presentations and Q&A
• Bryce Jardine-Pelletier and Harry Francis: Traditional Ecological Knowledge in the Canadian Impact Assessment Process • Jorge Sanchez-Perez: Myths, stories, and histories of philosophy • Jérôme Melançon and Jhaik Windy Hair: itwêstamâkêwin, translation, traduction: transposing concepts between languages and philosophies • Paul Simard Smith, Kurt Boyer, and David Parent: Métis Inherent Rights to Self-Government: From the Northwestern Soils and Beyond 'Time Immemorial'		
2:15PM-2:45PM	Break	
2:45PM-4:00PM	CB 330	General Discussion and Closing Remarks

WCPA-CSEP

4:00PM-5:00PM	CB 101 / Atrium	WCPA-CSEP Check-In <i>Last minute on-site registration will be available through the online link. We cannot accept cash.</i>
5:00PM-6:30PM	CB 210	WCPA-CSEP Welcome and Dr. Blair Stonechild Keynote: Recognizing and Respecting Indigenous Thought and Knowledge <i>Balcony seating available in CB 312.</i>
6:30PM-8:30PM	CB 139	Reception & Dinner

8:00AM-9:00AM | Breakfast | CB 139**9:00AM-10:20AM | WCPA-CSEP Session Block 1**

CB 108	WCPA Abstracts: Social and Political Philosophy: Agency and Democracy (Chair: Jason Breen)
	• Spencer Albert (Toronto): When Do States Act? Philosophical Accounts of State Attribution • Susan Dieleman (Lethbridge): How to "Get Things Right" with Rorty
CB 109	WCPA Abstracts: Ethics and Meta-Ethics (Chair: Alexandre Thien-Tam Dao)
	• Jodi Newman (Lethbridge): Understanding Dehumanization Through Epistemic Injustice • Ella Zhang (UBC): Existential Oppression: A Distinct Wrong of Othering
CB 110	WCPA Abstracts: History of Philosophy: Epistemology and Language (Chair: Matheus Iglessias Mazzochi)
	• Manuela Rondón-Triana (McMaster): Plato on the Epistemic Value of Madness • Yunbing Li (Calgary): Confucius' Knowledge and Context • Colin McDermot (Queen's): The Grammar of Sensation: On Anscombe's Philosophy of Perception
CB 112	WCPA Author-Meets-Critic: Free Will's Value (John Lemos, 2024, Routledge)
	• John Lemos (Coe College) • Dwayne Moore (Saskatchewan) • Neil Campbell (Wilfrid Laurier) • Alessandro Fiorello (Ottawa)
CB 132	CSEP Abstracts: Affect: Distress, Grief, and Love (Chair: Loren Klim)
	• Jasmine Tremblay D'Ettorre (Toronto): On Feeling Futility about the Future: Climate Despair, Moral Distress, and Moral Injury • Megs Gendreau (Centre College): Grief, Mourning, and the Climate Crisis • Yichun Sun (Michigan): How to Love the Natural World: On Acquisitive, Preservationist, and Relational Affects
CB 136	CESP Full Panel: Environmental Data Justice: Engaged & Interdisciplinary Perspectives (Chair/Comments: Alyssa D'Ambrosio)
	• Amber J. Fletcher (Regina): Understanding Climate Hazards in Rural Canada: A Critical Realist Approach • Mason Majsack (Chicago): Climate information co-production in the IPCC: justice considerations at every stage • Federica Bocchi (Calgary): Data Sovereignty and Justice in AI-assisted Data workflows: Space for Philosophy of Science

10:20AM-10:50AM | Break

10:50AM-12:10PM | WCPA-CSEP Session Block 2

CB 108	WCPA Papers: Social and Political Philosophy: Borders and Territory (Chair: Spencer Albert)
	• Arthur Hill (Queen's): The Expressive Significance of Border Policies ○ Comments: Eldon Soifer (Regina) • Michael Luoma (UNBC): Restitution of Settler Private Property and the Lesser Evil ○ Comments: Paul Simard Smith (Regina)
CB 109	WCPA Papers: Early-Modern Philosophy: Hume on Prejudice and Probable Knowledge
	• Ron Wilburn (Calgary): Hume, Probable Knowledge, and "Pure Inquiry" ○ Comments: Amy Schmitter (Alberta) • Amy Schmitter (Alberta): Why so sticky?: Hume and some Predecessors on the Tenacity of Prejudice ○ Comments: Ryan Doran (Regina)
CB 110	WCPA Papers: Free Will and Moral Responsibility (Chair: James Winslow)
	• Shaleen Shahi (York): Beyond Programming: A Present-Control Account of Artificial Free Will ○ Comments: Alessandro Roberto Fiorello (Ottawa) • Michael Mohajer (York): Doxastic Wronging: Moral Responsibility without Voluntary Control ○ Comments: John Lemos (Coe College)
CB 132	WCPA Papers: Metaphysics: Ontology of Gender and Music (Chair: Nicole Menard)
	• Aurora Meliefste (Calgary): Canberra Planning for Gender Amended ○ Comments: Shannon Dea (Saint Mary's) • Peter Alward (Saskatchewan): Repetition and Creation: the Kivy-Levinson debate revisited ○ Comments: Thomas Oberle (Alberta)
CB 136	CSEP Papers: Intergeneration Ethics and Climate Violence (Chair: Frank Jankunis)
	• Alyssa D'Ambrosio (Calgary): Intergenerational Ethics and Ecological Grief: an essay Solastalgia and Sacrifice ○ Comments: Paige Messier (Alberta) • Molly Dea-Stephenson (McGill): Is Interpersonal Climate Violence Absurd? ○ Comments: Ann Levey (Calgary)

12:10PM-1:30PM | Lunch | CB 139

1:30PM-2:50PM | WCPA-CSEP Session Block 3

CB 108	WCPA Abstracts: Ethics and Political Philosophy: Rights (Chair: James Winslow)
	• Allen Habib (Calgary): Data Privacy as Property Rights • Jason Breen (Lethbridge): The Perspectives Mistake: Human Rights Inflation and the Limits of Supply-Side Human Rights Theory
CB 109	WCPA Abstracts: Philosophy of Science (Chair: Bonnie Chin)
	• Ingo Brigandt (Alberta): What role should agency have in any extended evolutionary synthesis? • Sydney Doering (Calgary): Scientists' Perceptions as a Barrier to Public Trust
CB 110	WCPA Abstracts: Mind, Language and Epistemology: Issues in AI (Chair: Mari Noble)
	• Asher Caplan (Lethbridge): On the Problem of Alien Reasoners: Conversational AI, Triangulation, and the Space of Reasons • Luke Kersten (Alberta): Toward an Epistemology of Physical Computation • Martina Orlandi (Trent): Ch(A.I.)nging Our Minds
CB 111	WCPA Abstracts: Philosophy in/as Practice & Continental Philosophy (Chair: Casidy Noble)
	• Anna Mudde (Regina) and Kristin Rodier (Athabasca): Honouring the Inarticulable: Feminist Philosophy Podcasting as Craft Practice • Jennifer Ireland: Interdisciplinarity and Sympoietic Strategies for Decolonization and Environmental Care: An Applied Practice of Art & Philosophy • Tyson Sereda (Alberta): Theorizing the Other in Baudrillard and Derrida
CB 112	WCPA Full Panel: Canadian Philosophy Panel (Chair: Eric Wilkinson)
	• Madeleine Leger (Mount Allison): Fertile Ground: Nature and Placemaking on the Chignecto Isthmus • Janet Wesselius (Alberta): Shingwaukonse's Challenge: "You do not understand what we say" • Holly Longair (Lethbridge): Identities Based on a Type of Place
CB 136	WCPA Abstracts: Environmental Philosophy: Valuing and Living with the Earth (Chair: Colin McDermot)
	• Murat Sinan Eryat (McMaster): In the name of Gaia • Kent Peacock (Lethbridge): Living With the Earth System: Two Visions • Jessica McMullin (Queen's): Can we theorise nature's value? A grammatical analysis
CB 132	CSEP Abstracts: Climate Action and Policy (Chair: Jasmine Tremblay D'Ettorre)
	• Frank Jankunis (Camosun College): Healthcare, collective action, and climate change • Rex Lee (York): Bringing the Public Closer to the Experts: Policy Literacy and Value-laden Science

2:50PM-3:20PM | Break

3:20PM-4:40PM | WCPA-CSEP Session Block 4

CB 108	WCPA Papers: Social and Political Philosophy: Polarization, Responsibility, and Virtue (Chair: Yuanjin Xia)
• Casidy Noble (Guelph): Political Responsibility as a Virtuous Practice: Reframing Solidarity in Response to Structural Injustice ○ Comments: Arthur Hill (Queen's) • Mark Young (Keyano College): Addressing Polarization Via Virtue Pluralism ○ Comments: Susan Dieleman (Lethbridge)	
CB 109	WCPA Papers: Continental Philosophy: Phenomenology and Imagination (Chair: Tyson Sereda)
• Josie Nuszdorfer (Saskatchewan): From Fear to Anxiety: Worldhood in The Passion According to G.H. ○ Comments: Robert Piercey (Campion) • Robert Piercey (Campion): Ricoeur's Lectures on Imagination and Contemporary Philosophy of History ○ Comments: Joel Hubick (Regina)	
CB 110	WCPA Papers: Epistemology: Ancient and Contemporary
• Jack Zupko (Alberta): Firmness of Belief and the Fourth Criterion ○ Comments: Dimitrios Dentsoras (Manitoba) • Noa Latham (Calgary): The Explanatory Relevance Challenge to the Evidential Value of Mystical Experiences ○ Comments: Martina Orlandi (Trent)	
CB 111	WCPA Papers: Mind and Metaphysics: Aphantasia and Grounding
• Nicole Menard (UBC): A Response to the Argument for Cognitive Phenomenology From Aphantasia ○ Comments: Luke Kersten (Alberta) • Adam Murray (Manitoba): Inheritance, complexity, and dependent grounding ○ Comments: Kent Peacock (Lethbridge)	
CB 136	WCPA Paper + Abstract: Philosophy and Academia (Chair: Jennifer Ireland)
• Nancy Stevens (UNBC): Expanding the Circle Beyond the Square ○ Comments: Jerome Melancon (Regina) • Shannon Dea (Saint Mary's): A Pragmatic Theory of the Academic Mission	
CB 132	CSEP Paper + WCPA Abstract: Curiosity and AI (Chair: Megs Gendreau)
• Loren Klim (Western): Curiosity as an Ecological Virtue ○ Comments: Jennifer Welchman (Alberta) • Roger Petry (Luther): Using Analogical Reasoning to Assess Potential Impacts of Disruptive Technology: Responding to Artificial Intelligence through a Comparison with the Development of Military Engineering and the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648)	

4:40PM-5:00PM | Break**5:00PM-6:30PM | Essay Prizes & Dr. Regina Rini Keynote | CB 210 (balcony seating available in CB 312)****6:30PM-8:30PM | Reception & Dinner | CB 139**

8:00AM-9:00AM | Breakfast | CB 139**9:00AM-10:20AM | WCPA-CSEP Session Block 5**

CB 108	WCPA Abstracts: Social and Political Philosophy: Nations and Cultures (Chair: Michael Luoma)
	• D.Z. Shaw (Douglas College): Civic Nationalism and National Consciousness: A Critique of Jason Stanley • Robert Dillon (McGill): Justice in the Marketplace of Cultures: Diversity, Dialogue and Indigenous Identity • Eric Wilkinson (UBC): Maquinna's Political Economy of the Potlatch
CB 109	WCPA Abstracts: Contemporary Ethics and Bioethics (Chair: Ella Zhang)
	• James Winslow (Queen's): Contractualism, Risk, and the Strength of Individual Claims • Alexandre Thien-Tam Dao (York): Regulating Deathbots by Requiring Consent: An Instrumental Rights Approach • Sarah Hoffman (Saskatchewan): Psychedelic-Assisted Therapy, the Comforting Delusion Objection and Fear of Death
CB 110	WCPA Abstracts: Ancient and Early-Modern Ethics (Chair: Adam Jackson)
	• Dimitrios Dentsoras (Manitoba): Antiochus of Ascalon on Virtue and Happiness • William Delise (Columbia): Does 'Ought' Imply 'Can' in the Nicomachean Ethics? • Matheus Iglessias Mazzochi (Guelph): The Influence of Plato in Anne Conway's Philosophy of Love
CB 111	WCPA Abstracts: Metaphysics
	• Thomas Oberle (Alberta): The Principle of Sufficient Reason: What is it Good For? • Jinyi Zhao (Sun Yat-sen): Beyond the Entity Presupposition: A Second-Order Reflection on the Ontology of Color
CB 112	WCPA Full Panel: Ecologies of Knowledge: Rethinking Nature, Mind, and Technology after Barry Allen
	• Lauren Rundell (McMaster): Ecological Metaphysics in Barry Allen's <i>Knowledge and Civilization</i> • Sezen Bektas (McMaster): Epistemological Biases of Classical Cognitive Science and the Proposal of Interactionism • Isaac Jiang: Nature as Efficacy: Sociotechnical Entanglements in Classical Chinese Thought
CB 136	CSEP Abstracts: Continental Philosophy and Aesthetics (Chair: Sofia Huarte Aguilar)
	• Joy Ozoemelum (Concordia): Climate Change as Dialectical Reversal: Materializing the Dialectic of Enlightenment in Earth Systems • Madeline Youngman (Alberta) and Wade Sigurdson (Alberta): Rupture, Urgency, and Normalcy: A Phenomenological Critique of the Climate Crisis • Paige Messier (Alberta): Why access to appreciating the celestial sublime matters for environmental values

10:20AM-10:50AM | Break

10:50AM-12:10PM | WCPA-CSEP Session Block 6

CB 108	WCPA Papers: Social and Political Philosophy: Distributive Justice in Sex and Labour
	• Sarah Turnbull (McGill): Responding to Danaher: Against The Distribution Of Sexual Experiences ○ Comments: Anna Mudde (Campion) • Yuanjin Xia (Queen's): Distributive, Standpoint and Contributive Advantage ○ Comments: Holly Longair (Lethbridge)
CB 109	WCPA Papers: Ethics: Trust in Healthcare and AI (Chair: Sydney Doering)
	• Mari Noble (Guelph): The Temporality of Trust: Active Inquiry, Deception, and the Challenge of Living with Machines ○ Comments: Diana Heney (Saskatchewan) • Diana Heney (Saskatchewan): Developing Treatment Trust ○ Comments: Kristin Rodier (Athabasca)
CB 110	WCPA Papers: Religion and History (Chair: Aurora Meliefste)
	• Adam Jackson (York): Religion and Existential Hinges in Wittgenstein's Religious Thought ○ Comments: Roger Petry (Luther) • Pio Tran (UBC): Prescience and Free Will in Boethius's Consolation: A Thomistic Reparative Model contra Marenbon ○ Comments: Jack Zupko (Alberta)
CB 132	WCPA Papers: Philosophy of Language: Conceptual Engineering and Generalized Conversation Implicatures
	• Bonnie Chin (Calgary): Failure-Driven Meaning Revision as Conceptual Progress ○ Comments: Peter Alward (Saskatchewan) • Ryan Doran (Regina): What are Generalized Conversational Implicatures? ○ Comments: Bonnie Chin (Calgary)
CB 136	CSEP Abstracts: Liberalism v Indigenous Perspectives
	• Aisling Gilmour (Carleton): Grounded Normativity Against Liberal Land, Resources, and Political Membership • Sofia Huarte Aguilar (Calgary): Ancestral and Kin Relationships: Indigenous Ontologies as Models for Climate Decision Making • Corey McKibbin (Carleton): Toward a Red River Métis Informed Relational Environmental Policy in Southern Manitoba

12:10PM-12:30PM | WCPA-CSEP Closing Remarks | CB 210