

# The Canadian Mosaic

## Materials and Methods for Teaching Multicultural Canada



Spring 2024

## WEBINAR SERIES SPRING 2024 PROGRAM

Canada positions itself as a country made up of a cultural mosaic rather than a cultural melting pot; varied elements of ethnicity, culture, racial identity and language living side by side. Join Educators from across the United States for this webinar series, designed to give a historic context of elements of the Canadian mosaic, including:

- History & Legacy of the Residential School System
- Climate Change in the classroom
- Indigenous Voices & Pedagogies

But more than just an overview, each webinar - available as a series or stand alone - will provide tools and resources to help educators effectively and accurately integrate the topics into their curriculum. Go straight from the webinar to your classroom!

## SCHEDULE

### ***History & legacy of the residential school system***

February 27 & March 4, 2024 | 7:00pm ET - Sandra Bender, National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation  
<http://tinyurl.com/CanadianMosaicNCTR>

### ***Incorporating climate change education across the Curriculum***

March 19, 2024 | 7:00pm ET - Laura Myers, Learning for a Sustainable Future  
<http://tinyurl.com/CanadianMosaicLSE>

### ***Resurgence: bridging existing curricula with Indigenous voices and pedagogies***

April 15, 2024 | 7:00pm ET - Christine M'Lot, Anishinaabe educator and curriculum developer  
<http://tinyurl.com/CanadianMosaicMLot>

## ORGANIZERS: NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTERS ON CANADA

Emma Schroeder, Canadian-American Center, University of Maine

Amy Sotherden, Center for the Study for Canada & Institute on Québec Studies, SUNY Plattsburgh

Kyla Sweet, The Center for Canadian-American Studies, Western Washington University

## Webinar topic: **Residential School System**

**SPRING SERIES SESSION 1: February 27 | 7:00pm EST**  
**SPRING SERIES SESSION 2: March 4 | 7:00pm EST**

### February 27: **The History of the Residential School System**

This session will cover how the residential school system came to be, the residential school experience, and the legal fall-out, including the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and the establishment of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. We'll conclude by looking at the NCTR Archives and how to access its records.

### March 4: **The Legacy of the Residential School System**

This session will cover the ongoing impacts of the residential school system, including intergenerational trauma, the Sixties Scoop, Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, forced sterilizations of Indigenous women, the justice system, and other ongoing social issues such as housing, food & water security, etc. We will then turn to resilience and reconciliation, and conclude by looking at measures of allyship that one can take.



**[REGISTER HERE!](#)**

<http://tinyurl.com/CanadianMosaicNCTR>

Community Engagement and Education Program Coordinator, **Sandra Bender** (she/her), is a lifelong human rights advocate and brings her passion for public education to her work. As a second generation Canadian of grandparents who came to this land as adult immigrants and refugees, she is a staunch Indigenous ally and strives to use her position of privilege to further understanding and reconciliation through outreach and education. Sandra is a proud member of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, feminist, and neurodivergent, and believes in bringing an intersectional lens to every aspect of her life. Past work has included Indigenous land claims advocacy, work with the unhoused communities in Winnipeg and Atlanta, work with newly-arrived refugees, and projects with the local 2SLGBTQIA+ community. Sandra holds several undergrad degrees and a masters, is an ex-opera singer, fitness & hiking enthusiast, and runs the music program at a downtown church in Winnipeg.



### **National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation**

The NCTR is a place of learning and dialogue where the truths of the residential school experience will be honoured and kept safe for future generations.



## Webinar topic: **Climate change in the classroom**

**SPRING SERIES SESSION 3: March 19, 2024 | 7:00pm EDT**

### **Incorporating climate change education across the Curriculum**

Why climate change education, and why now? This session, presented by Laura Myers, will discuss UN Sustainable Development Goals and their connection to Climate Action. Resources4Rethinking.ca climate change educational resources to support student learning and action will be showcased. Inspiration to evolve your climate pedagogy!



**[REGISTER HERE!](http://tinyurl.com/CanadianMosaicLSF)**

<http://tinyurl.com/CanadianMosaicLSF>

**Laura Myers** is a retired teacher with over 30 years of experience, teaching primarily high school mathematics. After watching “Before the Flood” on Earth Day in 2017, she decided it was time to explicitly incorporate climate change into her math classes. In 2019, Laura was trained as a Climate Reality Leader through the Climate Reality Project and in 2020, she started teaching Environmental Science 120. In 2022, she was awarded the 2022 Gaia Champion Teacher Award for excellence in climate action and youth empowerment. In June of 2022, she decided to retire from classroom teaching and made climate change education her primary focus when she joined Learning for a Sustainable Future as an environmental educational consultant. She helps high school teachers incorporate climate action and the Sustainable Development Goals across the curriculum.



#### **Learning for a Sustainable Future**

Learning for a Sustainable Future is a Canadian charity that has been working for over 30 years to integrate sustainability education into Canada's school system. In partnership with educators, youth, governments, businesses, and community members, we are empowering our children to change the world



Learning for a  
Sustainable Future

**LSF**

## Webinar topic: Indigenous voices and pedagogies

SPRING SERIES SESSION 4: April 15, 2024 | 7:00pm EDT

### Resurgence: bridging existing curricula with Indigenous voices and pedagogies

In this workshop, Christine M'Lot will share collectively generated wisdom and knowledge from her groundbreaking textbook, [Resurgence](#). This inspiring collection of contemporary Indigenous poetry, art, and narratives serves as a vital resource for K-12 teachers seeking to bridge existing curricula with Indigenous voices and pedagogies. Designed especially for educators, this session will provide valuable insights into Indigenous education, Indigenous content suitable for your classrooms, and Indigenous learning processes.

During the workshop, we will explore the critical distinctions between Indigenization and Decolonization, offering a deeper understanding of how to create learning spaces that are both "Indigenized" and "Decolonized." Christine will provide practical guidance on thoughtfully engaging in these processes within the learning spaces you are invited to create. Together, we will share Indigenous-centered teaching practices, fostering a more inclusive and culturally responsive educational environment.



[REGISTER HERE!](#)

<http://tinyurl.com/CanadianMosaicMLot>

**Christine M'Lot** is an Anishinaabe educator, curriculum developer and consultant from Winnipeg, Manitoba. She has over twelve years experience working with children and youth in multiple capacities including teaching, facilitating, family programming, children's disability services, and child welfare. Christine also co-edited an Indigenous education textbook called *Resurgence: Engaging with Indigenous narratives and cultural expressions in and beyond the classroom* (2022).



### Portage & Main / Highwater Press

[Portage & Main Press](#) publishes a wide range of innovative and practical educational resources. Independent, Canadian, and woman-owned since 1967, it supports dynamic learning communities by bringing together authors, educators, and K-12 students. [HighWater Press](#), an imprint of Portage & Main Press, publishes stories by emerging and established Indigenous writers and work to honour and support Indigenous resurgence by amplifying narratives that share joy, creativity, strength, bravery, and community.

