

March 11, 2019

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Week

Edmonton – The Office of Human Rights, Diversity and Equity at MacEwan University will hold the university's first Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Week (EDI). EDI Week will showcase some of the equity and inclusion programs and initiatives represented on campus.

"EDI Week celebrates our culture of inclusion, and it highlights MacEwan's commitment to being an open and inclusive post-secondary institution," say Irfan Chaudhry, director, Office of Human Rights, Diversity and Equity. "This year MacEwan University will celebrate its first EDI Week to promote the diversity of our university community."

Highlights

Opening celebrations

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Week will kick off with the Indigenous drumming of the Poundmakers drum group. **Monday, March 18 at noon. 6-157 (Building six, room 157).**

Keynote: Where we stand: Edmonton's legacy of discrimination and how we can move forward

In his keynote presentation, Bashir Mohamed will raise awareness about Edmonton's legacy of racial discrimination. He aims to provide an understanding of racial discrimination, how to be an effective agent for change, and ensure we don't revisit racial discrimination paths again. Mohamed volunteers with the Somali Women and Children's Association and also works on policing issues for Black Lives Matter.

Presentations by Canadians for a Civil Society

The first presentation features noted author and political guru, Satya Das. He will explore what it means to foster a civil society, incorporating human rights, literacy, rule of law, respect and meaningful economic opportunities.

The second presentation will examine gender equality. Vivian Abboud, founder of V-VA Salon and Spa and VivaCafé Cafeterias, will discuss gender discrimination as it happens and as women experience it. Vasant Chotai will discuss the role men must play in eliminating gender inequality. Chotai has worked in various provincial leadership positions including cross-ministry coordination on social programs and supports.

Queering consent and rape culture

This lecture will examine how sexual violence impacts queer and trans people, how it is perpetrated within these communities, and about the unique ways that rape culture shows up in queer and trans spaces.

For more information, please contact:

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Founded in 1971, MacEwan University inspires its students with a powerful combination of academic excellence and personal learning experiences. Offering more than 65 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training, the university provides a transformative education in a creative, collaborative and supportive learning environment where creativity and innovation thrive. Located in Edmonton, Alberta Canada, MacEwan University offers a unique student experience that opens up diverse pathways for achievement and growth.

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