

Bodor, R. (Ed.). (2011). Indigenous social work practice: Creating good relationships. Edmonton: Blue Quills First Nations College ISBN 978-0-9867394-0-8

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Indigenous Social Work Practice: Creating Good Relationships is a timely and powerful collection of original articles by participants in a unique Aboriginal MSW program in northern Alberta... Because they all came into the MSW program with undergraduate social work degrees and experience working in Aboriginal communities, they were able to examine Western social work and Aboriginal healing practices for their value in addressing issues such as colonization, trauma, addictions, and parenting. Their reflections are expressed here with power, honesty, and clarity. Binding all of the chapters together is a theme of relational accountability, a sense of responsible connectedness to the people and the land, to the past and the future, to all of Creation... The strong emphasis on respect, truth, responsibility, and relationships culminates on the book's final page with the powerful and eloquent Graduation Pledge created by the students for their formal Convocation ceremony.

The book has potential value as: (a) a textbook for courses on Aboriginal social work and education, (b) a supplementary textbook in a wide variety of social work theory and practice courses, and (c) a challenging read for practitioners seeking to gain a broader sense of relationship, connection, and meaning in their work.

Michael Kim Zapf Professor Emeritus of Social Work University of Calgary

Most of the students write of the importance of relational accountability to their families, peers, community, ancestors and future generations... The final projects in this text portray many, many years of learning. Following the tradition of indigenous storytelling, they did not limit themselves to a "western" literature review, rather they also incorporated what they learned from elders, instructors, ancestors, and family members... The students have honored the voices of our storytellers and elders because this is our truth. As

knowledge holders have told us, "we don't own the knowledge, we are responsible to share it"



Dr. Leona Makokis Saddle Lake Cree Nation

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The chapters in this book were written by a cohort of Master of Social Work (MSW) students completing their graduate degree at Blue Quills First Nations College through a collaborative program with the Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary. The students represented the largest cohort of First Nations and Métis graduate-level students in the history of Canada - and perhaps North America.

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