

Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Friedrich-Alexander-Of Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Th Social Sciences, and Theology



## 13<sup>th</sup> Nuremberg Forum 2024 **Education for Sustainable Development – Spiritual Dimensions** 30 Sept – 2 Oct 2024 in Nuremberg

## Newsletter No 5

Dear readers of our newsletter for the upcoming academic symposium, we are delighted to introduce our esteemed keynote speaker,

## **Professor Blair Stonechild**

Professor Blair Stonechild, an influential Indigenous scholar and advocate, has dedicated his career to advancing Indigenous education and promoting crosscultural understanding. He is a Professor of Indigenous Studies at First Nations University of Canada, where his work has profoundly impacted the academic community and beyond. With a focus on Indigenous spirituality, history, and education, Professor Stonechild has made significant contributions to the preservation and revitalization of Indigenous knowledge systems.



Professor Stonechild's academic journey is marked by his commitment to bridging the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. His efforts in fostering dialogue and mutual respect have earned him widespread recognition and respect. As an author, he has penned several pivotal works, including "The Knowledge Seeker: Embracing Indigenous Spirituality" and "Loss of Indigenous Eden and the Fall of Spirituality", which explore the depths of Indigenous spiritual traditions and their relevance in contemporary society.

Central to Professor Stonechild's philosophy is the integration of traditional Indigenous values and worldviews into modern educational frameworks. He advocates for an education system that honors Indigenous perspectives and promotes a holistic approach to learning. His pioneering work in this area has paved the way for more inclusive and culturally sensitive educational practices, benefiting students and educators alike.

In his keynote address, Professor Blair Stonechild will delve into the significance of Indigenous spirituality in contemporary education and its role in fostering holistic development. He will discuss how embracing Indigenous wisdom can lead to more inclusive and empathetic learning environments. Professor Stonechild will also explore the challenges and opportunities in integrating

https://www.evrel.phil.fau.de/nuernberger-forum/nuremberg-forum-2024 Picture credits: https://www.fnuniv.ca/academic/faculty/dr-a-blair-stonechild/



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Indigenous knowledge systems into mainstream education, offering practical insights and strategies for educators and policymakers.

Therefore Professor Stonechild's contributions extend beyond academia since he is actively involved in community initiatives aimed at promoting cultural preservation and social justice. His leadership and advocacy work have had a profound impact on Indigenous communities, empowering them to reclaim their cultural heritage and assert their rights. His efforts have been instrumental in advancing reconciliation and building bridges of understanding between diverse cultural groups.

We are honored to have Professor Blair Stonechild as a keynote speaker at our symposium and look forward to the valuable perspectives and insights he will share. His dedication to Indigenous education and cross-cultural understanding continues to inspire and guide us towards a more inclusive and equitable future.

Join us as we welcome Professor Blair Stonechild and gain deeper insights into the transformative power of Indigenous spirituality and education. We are excited to hear his thoughts on how we can collectively work towards a more harmonious and culturally enriched society.

Note: Registration is open and we would like to ask you to register as early as possible to facilitate our planning: <u>https://www.evrel.phil.fau.de/nuernberger-</u> forum/nuremberg-forum-2024/registration

We would of course also be delighted if you **shared our newsletter with your colleagues**. Perhaps one or the other will be interested in our Nuremberg Forum.

To this end you can also **share the video** that is linked here: https://www.youtube.com/shorts/xI6THSdiGvs

