

FEBRUARY 24, 2026

# EGSA Newsletter



## THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the second session of the Navigating Grad Life series, Funding and Opportunities, on January 22. We have more Research Cafés coming up, including a special Research-in-Practice Café for EdD students. RMSE registration is now open. Read on and mark these opportunities in your calendar!

## CONFERENCE FUNDING SURVEY

Between October 29 and November 11, 2025, EGSA conducted a targeted survey to better understand PhD students' experiences with the Conference Travel Award. A total of 28 PhD students responded. A brief [summary](#) of the findings has been shared with the Research Committee through the Research Committee Representative (PhD).

## Newsletter Highlights

Conference Funding  
Survey

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Research Café

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Research-in-Practice  
Café

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RMSE 2026

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Mentorship Program

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Upcoming Powwows

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Indigenous Resources

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Writing Commons

FEBRUARY 24, 2026

## “ NETWORKING MENTORSHIP LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### RESEARCH CAFÉ

Looking for a supportive space to talk about your research? Join us at the Research Café, an informal, student-driven gathering where graduate students can share research ideas at any stage—or simply listen and learn from peers.

**Date:** Friday, February 27, 2026

**Time:** 11:00am-12:00pm (ET)

**Format:** Hybrid (Zoom and EDU-FEB-1195A)

**Register [here](#).** Light refreshments will be provided for in-person attendees.

**\*Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2026

**Time:** 6:30-7:30pm (ET)

**Format:** Online

**Date:** Friday, March 27, 2026

**Time:** 11:00am-12:00pm (ET)

**Format:** Hybrid

**Month:** April

**Format:** In-person

**Note:** The session marked with an asterisk (\*) is a Research-in-Practice Café.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

### More about the Research-in-Practice Café

How does research come alive in real-world educational and community settings? Join us for the EGSA Research-in-Practice Café, an interactive online session exploring how scholarship, lived experience, and relational practice inform meaningful work in education and allied fields. This Café will offer graduate students an opportunity to reflect on how research can be mobilized beyond the academy, particularly in community-engaged, equity-oriented, and practice-based contexts. Open to students interested in education, research, and praxis, this session invites dialogue, curiosity, and connection across disciplines.

### RMSE 2026

RMSE 2026 is coming up on Thursday, March 5 and Friday, March 6. The RMSE is a really wonderful opportunity for you to learn more about others' research and expand your knowledge. Please find below a poster with a [link](#) for general registration.

We hope to see you there!

## STAY IN TOUCH



[egsa@uwo.ca](mailto:egsa@uwo.ca)



[EGSA Western University](#)



[Education Graduate Student Association \(EGSA\)](#)



[westernegsa](#)



[westernegsa](#)



[westernegsa](#)



**ROBERT MACMILLAN**  
SYMPOSIUM IN EDUCATION  
**2026**

**Western**  
UNIVERSITY · CANADA



*Supporting students in the 21st century classroom: Supports, interventions and equitable practices*

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**



**REGISTER NOW!**

*Dr. Jacqueline Specht*

**March 5th**  
**10 am - 11 am**



I am the director of the Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education. My research interests encompass pedagogical issues related to children's participation in the school system. My research expertise is in inclusive education, with a focus on educators, leaders, and parents and their roles in developing effective schools for all students. I have worked with schools nationally and internationally to support their transition to inclusive education.

**In person Community Room, Faculty of Education**

*Dr. Nicole Neil*

**March 6th**  
**10 am - 11 am**



I am a Registered Behaviour Analyst in Ontario, a Board Certified Behaviour Analyst, and Coordinator of the Master of Professional Education in Applied Behaviour Analysis. My work is interdisciplinary, integrating applied behaviour analysis with education, mental health, economics, and data science to address complex challenges facing individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. I collaborate with community partners, advocacy groups, and researchers across disciplines to develop practical, inclusive solutions and ensure research findings inform both practice and policy.

**Online via Zoom (link will be provided )**



FEBRUARY 24, 2026

# JOIN THE EGSA MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

*Support. Connect. Grow.*



## JOIN THE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM:

- ✓ Gain guidance from experienced peers
- ✓ Build leadership and mentoring skills
- ✓ Expand your professional and academic network
- ✓ Become part of a supportive graduate community



Scan to Apply!

Open to all graduate students | Apply as mentor or mentee

Contact: *Shlair Alqais*, Mentorship Program Coordinator [salqais@uwo.ca](mailto:salqais@uwo.ca)

## GET INVOLVED & SHARE YOUR VOICE!

We welcome contributions from graduate students for upcoming issues of the newsletter.

You are invited to share:

- Academic or personal milestones
- Cultural food recipes
- Exciting news, celebrations, or accomplishments

Your stories help strengthen our community and highlight the diverse experiences within EGSA. Submit your content to [egsa@uwo.ca](mailto:egsa@uwo.ca).

Next deadlines:

March 20, 2026, April 17, 2026

FEBRUARY 24, 2026

## UPCOMING POWWOWS

On March 28th, 2026, Atlohosa Family Healing Services invites you to join us for an unforgettable celebration of culture and community as we greet the return of Spring.

🌟 Dance Specials — All Categories

📅 March 28th, 2026

📍 London, Ontario (Venue TBD)



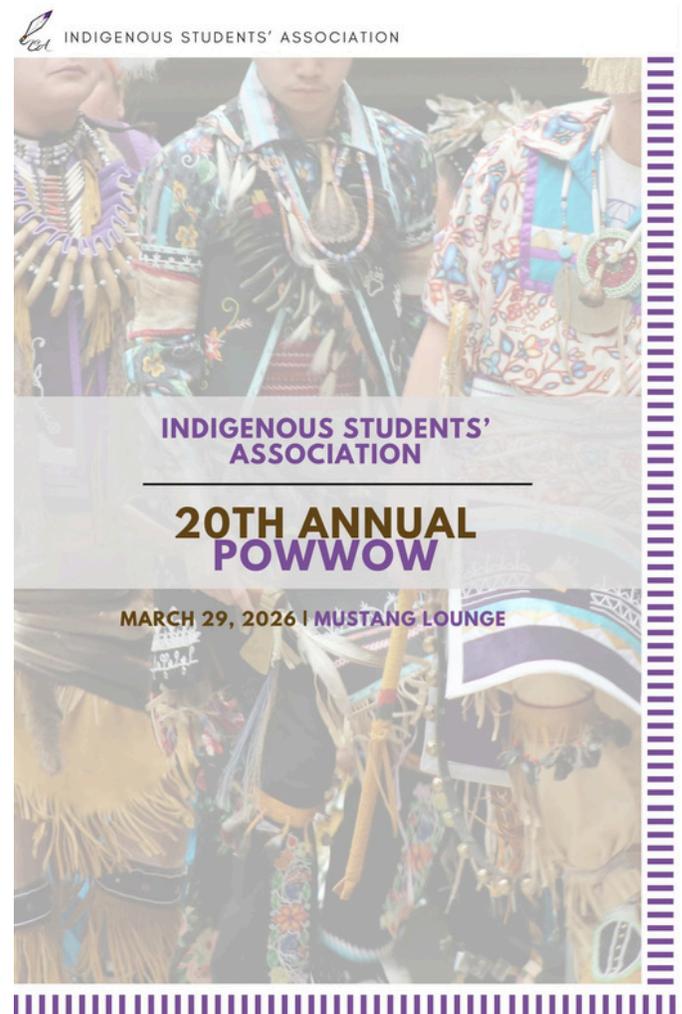
The Indigenous Students' Association at Western University is excited to invite you to our 20th Annual Powwow!

Sunday, March 29th, 2026

Join us in celebrating two decades of community, culture, and connection. There will be food and craft vendors, dancing, drumming, and more!

More details to come!

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at [indigenoustudent.club@westernusc.ca](mailto:indigenoustudent.club@westernusc.ca)



# INDIGENOUS RESOURCES

## EXTERNAL RESOURCES

Here are some upcoming Indigenous events at [Atlohsa Family Healing Services](#), shared by our Indigenous Student Representative Cheyenne Richards-Anthony.

### ATLOHSA'S MEN'S DRUM GROUP 🥁

Our gatherings celebrate our identities as Indigenous people, honour our ancestors, and strengthen our community through the power of song. Join us!

📅 Every Thursday from 5:00 p.m. up to 8:00 p.m. (staying the entire time is not required)

📍 Location changed to Wiigiwaaminaan Lodge (550 Wellington Road, Building/Zone J)

📄 Light refreshments provided. No need to register; just come ready to share and learn songs.

### MEDICINE WHEEL 🧑🏻‍🦱

This is a safe and supportive space to heal from and discuss addictions and recovery.

What to expect:

- ✓ Sharing Circles
- ✓ Music
- ✓ Smudging

📅 Every Monday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

📍 Atlohsa's Head Office - Elders' Lounge  
343 Richmond Street (London, Ontario)

Questions? Contact Stacey at:

spuyenbroek@atlohsa.com

226-919-4679

### ATLOHSA CRAFT FRIDAY 🧶

What to expect:

- ✓ Crafting
- ✓ Music
- ✓ Socializing with community
- ✓ Food / refreshments

📅 Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

📍 Atlohsa's Head Office - Elders' Lounge  
343 Richmond Street (London, Ontario)  
Questions? Send us a message or email  
communications@atlohsa.com!

## CULTURE NIGHTS AT THE WAMPUM LEARNING LODGE

[https://wampumlearninglodge.uwo.ca/programs\\_and\\_events/culturenight.html](https://wampumlearninglodge.uwo.ca/programs_and_events/culturenight.html)

Bi-weekly on Wednesday evenings, the Wampum Learning Lodge opens our doors to bring both our Western and local communities together for three different cultural programs for crafting, fitness, and drumming!

These events are open to students as well as any local community members who wish to attend, not only those currently affiliated with Western University. See full program descriptions and dates below. Please note that the Craft Circle and Drum Practice are designated spaces for Indigenous people, while the Fitness Class is open to everyone to engage with.

# Culture Nights

## at the Wampum Learning Lodge



### Winter Semester Dates

January 21	February 18	March 18	April 15
February 4	March 4	April 1	April 29

**Dinner included for attendees!**

### Indigenous Community Crafting Circle

4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Audience: Indigenous Students and Indigenous community members

The Indigenous Community Crafting Circle invites all interested Indigenous artists, creators, and learners to visit & create together in a community setting. Bring your current project or start something new with the art supplies we provide at the WLL.



### Pow Wow Fitness Class

6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Audience: Everyone (Indigenous & non-Indigenous)

Hosted by Lisa Hill from Moccasin Flow, we move our bodies and spirits, marching to the beat of the Big Drum, incorporating steps and Zumba moves to get the energy flowing!

This fitness class is open to ALL, so bring your friends!

### Young Men's Pow Wow Singing Practice

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Audience: Young Indigenous men (Students and Community Members)

Hosted by Ray Deleary, this program is for young Indigenous men interested in learning how to sing and drum competition pow wow style with a focus on developing technical skills. Participants will be guided on proper form, drum beat, rhythm, vocal range, tone, technical components of a song and learning song types and purposes.

No experience is necessary!

**Please contact us with any questions: [wampumlearninglodge@uwo.ca](mailto:wampumlearninglodge@uwo.ca)**





# Need help with...

**Interpreting  
feedback?**

**Understanding  
genres?**

**Generating and  
organizing ideas?**

**Developing  
papers?**

**Then book an appointment with**

# Writing Commons!

It's a space where graduate students in education can receive free writing support from PhD students.

## How to book an appointment:

**Email Haiyi Yan at [hyan248@uwo.ca](mailto:hyan248@uwo.ca) or Kelly Wang at [ewang54@uwo.ca](mailto:ewang54@uwo.ca) to book a 25 or 50-minute appointment.**

Office hours are as follows until Fri. Apr. 17th, 2026:

- Mondays: 2pm-4pm with Kelly
- Tuesdays: 10am-12pm & 2-4pm with Haiyi
- Wednesdays: 2pm-4pm with Kelly

Please schedule your appointment at least 48 hours in advance.

Writing Commons is a program run by the Interdisciplinary Centre for Research in Curriculum (ICRC).



**Western**

Interdisciplinary Centre for Research  
in Curriculum as a Social Practice

