

# Growing Home: Supporting Indigenous Youth with Foster Care Stories

June 24, 2026

10:00-11:30am MT

This session presents the realities of Indigenous youth who experience Alberta's Child and Family Services (CFS) system and explores how their communities can best support them from a psychological perspective. This presentation will focus on three themes: expectation, connection, and prevention.



## Learning Outcomes:

- An overview of the impact of attachment disruptions in different areas of individual functioning and community connection
- Applied examples of how to partner with and support foster children, foster families, and those who have "aged out" of care
- Awareness of the most crucial times for this population to receive expanded and intentional support

## Speakers:

**Carmen Ekkelenkamp** - Carmen is a registered psychologist in private practice who specializes in working with complex, developmental, and/or relational trauma. She often works with Indigenous clients as well as clients connected to CFS in varying contexts. Carmen is also a foster mom of two Indigenous children. She deeply treasures her personal and professional connections with Indigenous peoples and communities.



**Target Audience:** This session is intended for Indigenous community members, especially those who work with and support families, children, and youth who have experienced CFS involvement

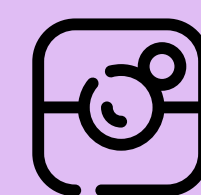
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