



Call for Proposals NAISA North 2022: Sustaining Indigenous Liveliness

At Dechinta, we are brought together by our care for the land, each other, and our desire to revitalize and practice Indigenous Knowledge and Indigenous ways of knowing and being. Dechinta is dedicated to creating a future of vibrant Indigenous lifeways through a reconnection with the land. Through our education, arts and research programs, we strive to create Northern Indigenous communities that are radically self-determining, healthy, sustainable, and connected to Indigenous knowledge and practices. We aim to ensure that the education we offer and our research and knowledge mobilization is accessible to all community members, including parents, youth, women, and Two Spirit, Trans and Queer people.

Dechinta Centre for Research and Learning is hosting the Native American and Indigenous Studies Conference in 2022. This year, NAISA will take place across 8 sites globally. “Sustaining Indigenous Liveliness: NAISA North” will include in-person and virtual components in at least three different communities in the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

NAISA is the largest scholarly organization that engages Indigenous issues and communities. The international and interdisciplinary membership is comprised of professional academics, students, independent scholars, community-based educators and Elders.

Format

Dechinta invites you to join us for NAISA North virtually or in-person. Our gathering will consist of:

Virtual- pre-recorded sessions panels, virtual field trips and creative, making and artistic contributions.

In-Person- We will be hosting in-person gatherings in Whitehorse (May 25-27) and Yellowknife (June 23-25). We may host other regional gatherings in communities across the north, with dates and locations to be determined. If you are interested in organizing a NAISA gathering in your community, please reach out to the Dechinta organizational team.

We invite proposals that include: panels and individual presentations, workshops and land-based activities, or creative practices (films, musical presentations, workshops, installations or activations)

Covid-19 considerations: All in-personal gatherings are subject to the consent of the community to receive outside visitors, as well as health restrictions from the appropriate health authority. Current health restrictions in the NWT requires permission from the public health office to enter the territory.



Who:

We are seeking proposals from academics, Knowledge-Holders, land-based practitioners, researchers and artists primarily from the circumpolar north, including the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut in Canada, and Alaska.

This programming is supportive of graduate students and emerging academics, researchers and artists, Elders, land-based practitioners, community-based researchers and Knowledge Holders and is regionally diverse within the North. Our program aims to engage: 1) northern Indigenous organizations conducting research in the north 2) Community-based researchers, Elders, Knowledge-Holders and activists 3) Northern Indigenous artists, makers and creators 4) Indigenous youth 5) university based researchers, academics and students and 6) Governments and NGO's based in the north

We are calling for proposals that address the following themes: Northern Issues; Land Based research; Land Based Education; Decolonial Feminisms; Self-Determination, Governance and Law; 2SLGBTQQIA+ issues in the north, Solidarity & Intercommunalism and Internationalism, Land Based and Northern Creative and Artistic Practice; Abolition, world-building, resurgence & Decolonization.

About Dechinta:

Dechinta Centre for Research and Learning has been delivering innovative land-based education and research programming in the north since 2010. We have worked in regions and communities in both the NWT and Yukon, delivering community driven programs that celebrate the diversity of Indigenous knowledges. Dechinta is mandated to serve the needs of northern Indigenous populations through education, research, and community programs. We deliver Indigenous centered arts, culture, language and educational programming in an innovative land-based environment. We have a commitment to build educational capacity and employment opportunities for students and youth in northern Indigenous communities. We aim to increase the accessibility of land-based programming for youth, young adults transitioning out of high school and into post-secondary employment, and their families.

Dechinta's research program is committed to Indigenous Knowledge creation and dissemination on topics and issues pertinent to the North. We are working towards the creation of an employment and research training ecosystem that is central to the development of a northern research economy, with work that contributes to critical topics such as climate change and Indigenous Knowledge, Indigenous law and governance, Indigenous cultural resurgence and arts, and Indigenous language revitalization and preservation.

Proposals: Please fill out the online submission form at www.dechinta.ca/NAISA2022
Due: Proposals are due February 14, 2022.