

2026 Education Event

OCTOBER 21, 2026

Manitoba College
of Social Workers 

AGENDA

8:00 AM

REGISTRATION & EXHIBITOR TABLES OPEN

8:30 AM

OPENING & WELCOME

9:15 AM KEYNOTE

What the System Never Saw: A Fourth-Generation Story

WITH SALENA STARLING

10:15

NETWORKING AND REFRESHMENT BREAK

10:45

Supervision: Guiding Practice at Every Career Stage

WITH VICKI VERGE

11:45

LUNCH AND NETWORKING BREAK

1:00

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

**OPTION 1: Ethical Social Work Practice in the Age of AI: Balancing
Innovation, Equity and Integrity**

WITH DR. MARINA BADILLO-DIAZ

**OPTION 2: EDI in Social Work Practice:
A Journey Towards Anti-Racism and Inclusion**

WITH CHERYL FLEMING

4:00

END OF EVENT

VICTORIA INN HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE
WINNIPEG, MB

What the System Never Saw: A Fourth-Generation Story

Keynote WITH SALENA STARLING



Drawing on her lived experience as a fourth-generation child welfare survivor, Salena walks through what the system looked like from the inside: the loss of family, the severing of Indigenous identity, the profound loneliness of growing up in a system designed to help but often failing to see the full child. She also shares how she found her voice, built a company, and chose advocacy over bitterness.

For social workers, this is not just a story. It is a mirror. Audiences leave with a renewed sense of why their work matters and a more human understanding of who they are actually serving.

(Eligible for content-specific CCP hours in SW with Indigenous Peoples)

Supervision: Guiding Practice at Every Stage

WITH VICKI VERGE, MSW, RSW



This workshop highlights how high-quality, integrated supervision across all career stages strengthens practice and supports quality social work services. It provides an overview of supervision and emphasizes the ethical responsibility to engage in it, as supervision improves outcomes, enhances social workers' resilience, and promotes ongoing professional growth and job satisfaction.

(Eligible for formal CCP hours)

Option 1: Ethical Social Work Practice in the Age of AI: Balancing Innovation, Equity and Integrity

DR. MARINA BADILLO-DIAZ, LCSW



This workshop is designed to introduce social work professionals to the transformative potential of generative AI technologies. The workshop will engage participants in critical discussions about the ethical implications of using AI in social work, emphasizing the importance of social work ethics such as privacy, confidentiality, awareness of bias, and maintaining human-centered approaches while using generative AI.

Social work professionals will enhance their practice with innovative AI solutions while adhering to ethical standards and promoting human-centric approaches.

(Eligible for content-specific CCP hours in SW Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice)

Option 2: EDI in Social Work Practice: A Journey Towards Anti-Racism and Inclusion

WITH CHERYL FLEMING, MSW, RSW



Social workers are increasingly called upon to recognize and respond to systemic inequities, discrimination, and the ongoing impacts of colonialism that shape client experiences and access to services. This interactive workshop supports practitioners in strengthening equity-informed, culturally safer, and trauma-informed approaches to practice. Grounded in an Indigenous-informed and social justice lens, the session emphasizes reflective practice, relational accountability, and practical strategies to reduce harm and promote inclusive service delivery.

(Eligible for content-specific CCP hours in EDI OR SW with Indigenous Peoples)