

Summer School 2005 ~ August 15-18<sup>th</sup>

*Mental Health Promotion  
Identity, Culture and Power*



**Learning Package: Biographies**



**Dr. Lewis Mehl-Madrona**

Of Cherokee and Lakota ancestry, Lewis Mehl-Madrona graduated from Indiana University with a degree in biophysical chemistry. He attended Stanford University School of Medicine. He completed his residencies in family medicine and in psychiatry at the University of Vermont. He is American board certified in family medicine, geriatrics, and psychiatry. His PhD is from the Psychological Studies Institute in Palo Alto, California. He is the author of *Coyote Medicine*, *Coyote Healing*, and the most recent, *Coyote Wisdom: The Power of Story in Healing*. He has just relocated to Saskatchewan from the University of Arizona. He will be an Associate Professor of Family Medicine at the College of

Medicine and Director of Aboriginal Health for the Department. He is interested in what modern medicine can learn from aboriginal healing methods and philosophies and how to incorporate that into daily practice. He is interested in a narrative approach to medicine and psychology, and how stories create our lives and in how we create stories which when shared become cultures.

### **Caroline L. Tait**

Caroline L. Tait is Métis from MacDowall, Saskatchewan, Canada. She received her Ph.D. from the Departments of Anthropology and Social Studies of Medicine at McGill University, Montreal in 2003. Caroline has a Bachelor of Arts degree from McGill University in anthropology and a Master's of Arts degree in medical anthropology from the University of California at Berkeley. During 1995-1996 academic year, Caroline was a Fulbright Scholar and Visiting Fellow at Harvard University, Cambridge Massachusetts in the Departments of Anthropology and Social Medicine. Caroline is the past coordinator of the National Network for Aboriginal Mental Health Research funded by the Canadian Institute for Aboriginal Peoples Health Research and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Division of Social and Transcultural Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, McGill University in May 2004. Caroline is past Vice-chair of the Aboriginal Women's Health and Healing Research Group, a national group of Aboriginal women who have recently been granted funding from Women's Health Bureau, Health Canada for the creation of a Centre of Excellence for Aboriginal Women's Health and Healing Research. In May 2004 she joined the Indigenous Peoples' Health Research Centre, First Nations University of Canada and the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, University of Saskatchewan as an Assistant Professor. Caroline's research spans across North America, contrasting the Canadian and American public health responses to substance abuse by pregnant women. Her doctoral dissertation is entitled, "*The tip of the iceberg": The "making" of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome in Canada*". Caroline is also the author of *A Study of the Service Needs of Pregnant Addicted Women in Manitoba*, and *Fetal Alcohol Syndrome among Canadian Aboriginal peoples: Review and Analysis of the Intergenerational Links to Residential Schools*, commissioned by the Aboriginal Healing Foundation.

### **Dr Allyson McCollam**

Dr Allyson McCollam, Chief Executive, Scottish Development Centre for Mental Health was involved in setting up SDC in 1997 and has been Chief Executive since 2003, having previously been Director of Research. Allyson has extensive experience and knowledge of mental health policy and practice in Scotland and has a background in social policy and social research. Recent work in the field of mental health improvement includes:

- A programme of work for NHS Health Scotland on Evidence into Practice, Practice into Evidence which entails compiling evidence based case study examples of mental health improvement and training for practitioners and programme planners in the use of evidence and in evaluation, to build capacity
- Leading a project on Building Community Well-being to explore community perspectives on what contributes to well being and the implications for policy and practice
- Involvement in the evaluation of Choose Life, Scotland's suicide prevention strategy and the evaluation of a national programme on depression
- Work on inequalities and mental health in Scotland

**Elaine Malbeuf**

Elaine Malbeuf is a life long resident of Northern Saskatchewan. She is of aboriginal ancestry and is fluent in both Michif and English. Elaine is currently employed as the Director of Community Health Services for the Keewatin Yatthe' Regional Health Authority. She has a strong administrative background, is a certified addictions counselor and life skills coach. She has additional post secondary training in general arts and science with an emphasis in community development. Elaine has several years of experience in the addictions field, both on a professional and personal level. She is a strong advocate for “grass roots” participation in the development and design of community based initiatives.

Elaine maintains that aboriginal communities have the inherent power to build on their strengths in spite of the rapid cultural and societal change that has occurred. To truly support viable community change, community development approaches must take into consideration root cause issues, primarily those of the post colonization era.

She also believes that to achieve long-term sustainability it is important to respect the community's state of readiness and the community's characteristics. These must be honored to truly support communities in “finding their own way.” For change to truly be sustainable it must begin at the personal level and move onward to the community level.

Elaine is a third generation survivor of the Mission School Era. She has successfully overcome a multitude of multi generational issues of alcoholism and family violence and is now a pursued as a conference speaker and role model in the area of individual, family and community healing. She attributes her quality of life to her relationship with the Creator.

**Dr. Judith Martin**

Dr. Judith Martin (Ph.D. Sociology) is Executive Director of the Work and Family Unit, Department of Labour, Government of Saskatchewan. In 1997-98 she served as the Executive Director of the Balancing Work and Family Initiative, including the Public Task Force on Balancing Work and Family.

For over 30 years, she has worked as an academic, a community developer and since 1986 has held senior management positions in the co-operative and public sectors within Saskatchewan.

In 1978-79 Dr. Martin founded and chaired one of the earliest union based work-family committees (AUPE – AADAC Branch). In 1999, she served as Visiting Fellow at the Work-Life Research Centre in Manchester, England. In 2000-2002, she co-chaired a Federal-Provincial-Territorial review of work-life policy initiatives which

resulted in the report: *Work-Life Balance in Canada: A Report to Ministers Responsible for Labour in Canada (2002)*.

Her publications include articles on work, child care policy, and work-family issues. Currently, Dr. Martin is a Director on the Board of the Vanier Institute for the Family (Ottawa), is a Director on the Community Health Foundation, (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan), and a Director on the Saskatchewan Labour Force Development Board.

Dr. Martin, who has a long history of social development and community development professional and volunteer work in Saskatchewan and Canada, is the recipient of numerous awards, including the *YWCA Women of the Year-Special Award*, to commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women..

Dr. Martin has two adult daughters.