

**8th World Indigenous Women & Wellness  
Conference**

**Building on Traditional Knowledge and Wisdom**

**September 29, 30th & October 1st, 2008**

## Pre-Conference

**Sunday**

**September 28th, 2008**

**5:00 PM**

**Registration Opens**

**Grand Foyer**

**6:00 PM**

**Meet and Greet**

**Mount Royal/Lakeview**

*Entertainment: Walter MacDonald White Bear & Wendy Walker*

**8:00 PM**

**Registration Closes**



## DAY ONE

**Monday                      September 29th, 2008**

- |                |  |                       |
|----------------|--|-----------------------|
| <b>7:00 AM</b> | <b>Sunrise Pipe Ceremony</b>   | <b>Grand Ballroom</b> |
|                | <i>Blackfoot Elders: Rosie Day Rider, Bruce Wolf Child, &amp; Andy Black Water</i> |                       |
| <b>8:00 AM</b> | <b>Registration Opens &amp; Light Breakfast<br/>Exhibits Open</b>                  | <b>Grand Foyer</b>    |
| <b>8:30 AM</b> | <b>Grand Entry:</b>  | <b>Grand Ballroom</b> |
|                | <i>Grand Chief Charles Weasel Head Treaty 7</i>                                    |                       |

**We invite you to wear your traditional/customary regalia**

**Opening Prayer & Treaty 7 Traditional Welcome**

*O Canada: Wendy Walker*

**Opening Remarks**

**Introduction of Elders & Co-Chairs**

**Greeting from Special Guests & Dignitaries**

**Ruth Scalplock, Siksika Nation**

<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Refreshment Break</b>	<b>Grand Foyer</b>
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<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>Keynote Speaker: Mary Simon President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami</b>
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**Mary Simon**



Is the President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), Canada's national Inuit organization. She is also an international advisor on the environment, human rights, scientific research and development, and peace. Ms. Simon was one of the senior Inuit negotiators during the repatriation of the Canadian Constitution and participated in the first ministers' meetings preceding the Charlottetown Accord. During her tenure with the Nunavut Implementation Commission the prime minister appointed her the first Canadian Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs. Ms. Simon has been awarded the Order of Canada, the National Order of Quebec, the Gold Order of Greenland, the National Aboriginal Achievement Award, and the Gold Medal of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. She is a Fellow of the Arctic Institute of North America and of the Royal Canadian Geographic Society. She has received honorary doctorate of law degrees from McGill, Queen's, and Trent universities.

12:30 PM

Lunch

### Special Guest Speakers:

#### Elder: Bertha Clark Jones



Is one of the first outspoken voices in the Aboriginal women's movement often competing against unbeatable odds and historic prejudices. But she endured and changed the way Native women were treated in the country. She set many firsts in her life and continues to fight for the rights of the underprivileged and disadvantaged. She moved women's rights groups forward by strides when she co-founded the Alberta Native Women's Voices in the late 1960s which became the Native Women's Association of Canada. She was the first President of NWAC and though retired continues to recognize, respect, promote, defend and enhance Native ancestral laws, spiritual beliefs, language and traditions.

#### Elder: Nellie Carlson



Is a revered and well respected Elder in the Aboriginal community. Nelly shares with us some of the experiences that she has had over the years, one in which she discusses being an Elder and the other about how her love of dancing got her in trouble. She had nine children followed by several grandchildren. Nellie is the Elder at Amiskwaciy Academy in Edmonton, Alberta. Nellie feels that today's Aboriginal Youth are more angered and troubled. She feels that if Aboriginal Youth attend ceremonial gatherings more often (roundances, sweat, etc.) the Aboriginal community will strengthen.

#### Elder: Dr. Helen Manyfingers



Is a member of the Kainai Nation. Named a member of the Order of Canada, she is described in a news release from the Governor General as "a leader amongst her people", having had a powerful impact on the Native and non-Native community in southern Alberta through a successful career in education and community service. Helen Manyfingers began her career as an instructor for Lethbridge College and later became an education counsellor for the Blood/Peigan District. Her firm belief in education and a strong supporter of First Nations control over their own education has contributed to her involvement in many academic institutions and advisory committees. Helen Manyfingers has maintained strong ties with the University of Lethbridge and holds the distinct honour of being the University's first graduate to receive an honorary degree from the University of Lethbridge and its first graduate to receive the Order of Canada.



**(1:45– 3:30 PM)**

Her publications include a study on Indigenous epistemology, Blackfoot ways of knowing, as well as publications on such topics as the impact of colonization of Indigenous peoples, Indigenous epistemology, anti-oppressive and rural social work, northern social work and Aboriginal child welfare.

For many indigenous tribes, worldwide, the spiritual symbol of the Sacred Tree of Life is Our Creator or The Creator of all things while the daughters of all Indigenous Nations are the leaves of this Blessed Tree. This presentation will address through music our traditional roles of teachers and learners exemplified by daughters, sisters, mothers, grandmothers, aunts and nieces in family life in the cycle of human development.

The presenters explain how storytelling from parents and grandparents “gift of story” offered stability in a diverse world. Through story and song, presenters will share personal narratives with unique perspectives: one tells a story of residential school survivor through the eyes of her daughter and another story captures a moment in an Aboriginal child’s journey through the public school system.

The presentation will provide people with an opportunity to share and explore healthy relationships. We will explore strategies for re-building a concept of personal power that is based on an individual's spiritual connection to people, land and the environment.

Dr. Kenney suggests that this Maori model of partnership could be used as a framework for healthcare provision by midwives within the bicultural environment of New Zealand and may be legally and ethically appropriate alternative to the current mono-cultural partnership model used by the midwifery profession in Aotearoa.



**A6 Who We Were Then; Who We Are Now**

**Alberta**

**Deni Paquette**

**Nakiska**

An examination of the colonizing mechanisms used to remove Aboriginal women for their central position in pre-contact. The presenter will discuss the stereotypes that have been created to validate those mechanisms and keep those same Aboriginal women from reclaiming their place. She will also introduce and body of Aboriginal feminist theory literature that spans the North American continent.

**A7 Holistic Student Services to Promote the Health and Well Being of Youth**

**Ontario**

**Toinette Kakepetum, Correen Kakegamic, Karla Kakegamic  
Belaire**

A youth driven presentation and brings empowerment to young people. It includes a presentation prepared by high schools students titled, "How Residential Schools Affect Youth Today" to encourage youth to work towards a healthier lifestyle, further education and to promote healing.

**5:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

**Grandmothers Indigenous Lodge**

**Lakeview/Mount Royal**

The "Grandmothers Indigenous Lodge" is an opportunity to hear oral traditional teachings from the grandmothers. Their discussions will cover topics such as women's role, culture, language, ceremony, spirituality and protocol.

**6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Monday Evening Indigenous Film Festival**

**Glenbow Museum #130-9th Ave. SE**

**Reviewed Artists:**

**Tasha Hubbard**

*Two Worlds Colliding* by Tasha Hubbard chronicles the painful story of what came to be known as Saskatoon's infamous "freezing deaths," and the schism between a fearful, mistrustful Aboriginal community and a police force that must come to terms with a shocking secret.

**Alvin Manitopyes presenting "The 8<sup>th</sup> Fire"**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> Fire* An prophecy of the 8<sup>th</sup> Fire states that they will come to a fork in the road. One road will lead to Materialism and Destruction...for almost all living creatures...The other road will lead to a Spiritual Way upon which the Native People will be standing....This path will lead to the lighting of the 8<sup>th</sup> fire, a period of eternal peace, harmony and a "New Earth" where the destruction of the past will be healed.

## DAY TWO

**Tuesday**

**September 30th, 2008**

**7:00 AM**                      **Sunrise Pipe Ceremony**                      **Grand Ballroom**  
**Nakoda Nation Elders:**  
**Irene Twoyoungman, Bill Wesley & Dale House**

**8:00 AM**                      **Registration & Light Breakfast**                      **Grand Foyer**  
**Exhibits Open**

**9:00 AM**                      **Opening Prayer**                      **Grand Ballroom**  
**Nakoda Nation Elders:**  
**Irene Twoyoungman, Bill Wesley & Dale House**

**9:15 AM**                      **Keynote Speaker: Dr. Henrietta Mann**                      **Grand Ballroom**  
**Montana State University**  
**Endowed Chair in Native American Studies**

**Dr. Henrietta Mann,**



An internationally recognized Indian scholar and the current holder of Montana State University's Endowed Chair in Native American Studies. Henrietta is the first person to hold the endowed chair in Native American studies at MSU. She is the recipient of the Montana Governor's Humanities Award for her long service to education. Dr. Mann earned her PhD at the University of New Mexico. She sought to make Native American studies a respected academic field, to educate non-Indians and make Indian students feel welcome in the world of university. Dr. Mann has taught at Harvard, received a Danforth Foundation fellowship, and has been named one of the top five women educators of the 20th century by the National Women's History Project. Dr. Mann has worked for the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C. She also delivered the inaugural Phyllis Berger Memorial Lecture in 1987.

**10:00 AM**                      **Refreshment Break**



**10:30 AM**

**Concurrent Sessions B**

**(10:30 AM-12:00PM)**

**B1 Engaging Men in Ending Violence:**

**Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement**

***Australia***

***Dr. Neil Gillispie***

***Belaire***

Dr. Gillespie will present a paper with an introduction of the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement (ALRM), provide details of EIP and Restorative Justice Programs offered by ALRM, and conclude with the lessons learned from ALRM's engaging men in ending violence in Aboriginal community's.

**B2 Nourishing the Learning Spirit & the Indigenous Renaissance**

***Saskatchewan***

***Dr. Marie Battiste***

***Waterton***

Throughout this presentation Dr. Battiste, from Potlo'tek First Nations of Unama'kik, Nova Scotia and Director of the Aboriginal Education Research Centre (AERC) at the University of Saskatchewan and Co-Director of the Aboriginal Learning Knowledge Centre, will present her work in Aboriginal education and advancing Aboriginal languages and research. Dr. Battiste is an expert to the United Nations, advisor to Canadian Heritage, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Auditor General of Canada, and an Executive Member of Canadian Commission for UNESCO. Marie is the recipient of two honorary degrees and is the 2008 recipient of the National Aboriginal Achievement Award from the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation.

**B3 Men Taking Responsibility: Stories of Change**

***British Columbia***

***Joe Fosella***

***Mayfair***

The presentation will explain how change took place and how knowledge about their history, societal view of the world, personal experiences, feelings, unknown factors and everyday stresses contributed to positive change and men taking responsibility.

**B4 Te Whare Wananga - A Celestial School of Learning for the Maori**

***New Zealand***

***Herewini Jones, Jesamine & Shane Wikaira***

***Britannia***

This presentation looks at the traditional holistic approach at learning for Maroi youth. The presentation covers the importance of value based learning. The Whare Wananga, was known as the Celestial School and was seen as the absolute environment for learning.



**B5 Health & Alcohol in the Long Grass:  
Displaced Aboriginal Australians in Darwin, Northern Territory  
Australia** *Dr. Catherine Holmes*

*Lakeview*

A model for health: which is socially and culturally contextualized; which aims to a reduction in mortality and morbidity rates; which aims to improve the wellbeing of individuals during, and potentially beyond homelessness; and which addresses alcohol abuse among this population of Aboriginal territories.

**B6 Outreach Sessions With Former Students of Residential Schools  
New Brunswick**

*Andrea Colfer, RHSW & Violet Paul, Senior Policy Analyst  
Bonavista*

A collaborative model for Residential school survivors and a sexual abuse framework which can be used in First Nations communities.

**B7 Culturally Relevant Gender Balanced Analysis Framework  
Alberta** *Kathleen McHugh, Chair Assembly of First Nations  
Nakiska*

This presentation will be an in-depth examination of the development of gender equality at the Assembly of First Nation (AFN), including the history and establishment of the AFN Women's Council, and the application of a culturally-relevant Gender Balanced Analysis lens on Matrimonial Real Property and Citizenship in First Nations Communities.

**12:30 PM**

**Lunch**

**Grand Ballroom**

**1:30 PM**

**Concurrent Sessions C**

**(1:30 PM – 3:00 PM)**

**C1 Survivors of Trauma Focused on Self Care &  
Maintaining Support Environments**

*Hawaii* *Jani Sheppard M.A. Belaire*

**C2 Breaking the Silence:  
Urban Aboriginal Women Speak Out about Health**

*British Columbia* *Donna Kurtz, Jessie Nyberg &  
Susan Van Den Tillaart, Metis Nation  
Nakiska*

This workshop presents preliminary findings of an indigenous research study using Traditional Talking Circles for Aboriginal women, and Elders sharing their health care experiences with health care professionals, health educators and policy makers. Conference participants will gain insight into how lived experiences and silencing of voice significantly impacts health and future health care decisions.

**C3 Promoting Peace: Ending Violence in Families**  
**Ontario Dr. Darlene Ritchie Mayfair**

The presenter will share information with participants about an innovative community based prevention program developed and guided by the understanding that indigenous knowledge and traditional aboriginal healing practices provide a foundation for reducing family violence and creating healthy environments.

**C4 Utilizing the Gladue Decision to Reclaim Personal Well-being**  
**Manitoba Sandra Delaronde, M.A. Waterton**

This presentation examines the use of the Aboriginal sentencing provision within the criminal code of Canada and explores opportunities for dialogue between the legal and Aboriginal community. The presenter suggests opportunities for working with stakeholders in visioning and presenting practical solutions to decrease the over incarceration rates of Aboriginal offenders through the utilization of the supreme court decision on Gladue.

**C5 Children From Residential Schools and Healing**  
**Manitoba Belinda Vandenbroeck B.A Native Studies/Psych**  
**Lakeview**

The presenter will talk about and demonstrate what 100 years of residential school mindsets has done to our culture, our families and our traditions. She will discuss what we need to do now to de-colonize our minds so that our children and grandchildren will know who they are, their history and the traditions.

**C6 Sisters In Spirit**  
**Ottawa Bev Jacobs & Elizabeth Bastien**  
**Brittania**

The Sisters in Spirit initiative is to address violence against Aboriginal (First Nations Inuit and Métis) women, particularly racialized and/or sexualized violence, that is, violence perpetrated against Aboriginal women because of their gender and Aboriginal identity. This type of violence typically occurs in the public sphere, where societal indifference often leaves Aboriginal women at greater risk.



**C7 DELTA  
Alaska**

**Karen McCambly, Kristine Norbert  
Bonavista**

Under the umbrella of the DELTA project in Dillingham, great strides towards breaking the generational cycle of intimate partner violence have been made by focusing on an aggressive strength based preventative initiative for youth. Thanks to an unprecedented unified community partnership, organizations come together for preventative initiatives and programs with a simple focused goal: to shower youth with support and love to their greatest capacity from every possible angle.

**3:00 PM**

**Refreshment Break**

**Grand Foyer**

**3:00 PM**

**Concurrent Sessions D**

**(3:00 – 4:30 PM)**

**D1 Sexual Health & Traditional Harm Reduction**

**British Columbia**

**Barby Skaling**

**Belaire**

Women are becoming more interested in learning about their sexuality. Aboriginal women face many challenges, lack of information about themselves; bodies and the implied secrecy surrounding female sexuality have kept us from talking openly and to our partners. The presentation will utilize humor, overhead materials, and stories exploring ways of traditional holistic approaches to encourage healthy lifestyles.

**D2 Prevention/Intervention of Violence and Relationships  
Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement**

**Australia**

**Dr. Neil Gillispie & Andrea Nicholls**

**Brittania**

Presenters will provide details of early intervention and prevention and family violence prevention legal services offered by Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement, and address the demarcation of responsibilities of the two tiers of government which is failing to properly fund the programs which is resulting in denying access to services to Aboriginal people and in particular women and children.

**D3 An Urban Aboriginal Approach to Child Welfare Practice**

**British Columbia**

**Heidi Hanson**

**Nakiska**

This session will review research questions and answers from twenty volunteer staff members working for an urban Aboriginal child welfare organization. Interviews were conducted between May and November 2007. A qualitative research format was used based on a grounded theory approach. The cultural approach and knowledge will generate a theory or understanding of urban Aboriginal child welfare practice.

- D4      The Mi'Kmaq of Newfoundland & Labrador Move From  
Suppression to Celebration**  
**Newfoundland      Judy A. White, Parnter, McDonald White Law Firm**  
**Self Government advisor: Miawpukek First Nation**  
**Mayfair**

The presenter is Mi'kmaq and a member of the Flat Bay Band in Newfoundland who currently resides in Conne River, Newfoundland. The presentation will be from the perspective the Policy and Planning Specialist for Women's Policy Office on Aboriginal Women's Issues. The presenter is the Chairperson of the National Centre for First Nations Governance, as well as the Chairperson of the Newfoundland Aboriginal Law section of the Canadian Bar Association.

- D5      The Awo Taan Self Assessment Wheel for Healing and Wellness**  
**Alberta      Brenda Many Fingers & Doreen Roy**  
**Lakeview**

This workshop will provide an overview of Awo Taan's manual which examines healing and wellness conceptualizations with an emphasis on research drawn for the family resilience and strengths perspectives. The Awo Taan self-assessment wheel is introduced with an in-depth explanation of the assessment and intervention components.

- D6      The Importance of Stories in Aboriginal Community**  
**Based Program Evaluations**  
**Alberta      Cynthia Bird      Bonavista**

The presenter will discuss the challenges around utilizing story telling experiences as a qualitative method in the cultural context of the community based organization delivering programs and services and in the cultural context of the families' lives. The concept of time and the impact of historical trauma are viewed as critical variables for evaluators to consider when conducting formative and summative evaluations that attempt to measure recover, healing and well-being.

**4:45 – 6:30 PM**

**Forum & Panel**

**Britannia**

**“Canada’s Apology to Survivors of the Residential School”**

**June 11th, 2008**

*Aboriginal leaders will discuss and provide insight on the significant event*

*Moderator: Former Alberta Premier Ralph Klein (1992-2006)*

*Panel: Beverly Jacobs,*

*President, Native Women’s Association of Canada*

*Dr. Marie Smallface-Marule,*

*President, Red Crow College, Blood Reserve*

*Muriel Stanley Venne, C.M.*

*President & Founder, Institute for the Advancement  
Aboriginal Women*

**6:30 – 7:00 PM**

**Reception**

**Grand Foyer**

**7:00-10:00 PM**

**Gala Dinner**

**Grand Ballroom**

*Emcee:*

*Michelle Thrush*

*Keynote Speaker:*

*Dr. Esther Tail Feathers, MD “Indigenous Health”*

*Olivia Tail Feathers, Singer & Drummer*

*Lori Villebrun, “Mary”*

*Jessica McMann, Hoop Dancer*

*Charlene Hellson, “Unpacking the Aboriginal Backpack”  
“Indianology”*

*Red Thunder, Native Dance*





## DAY THREE

**Wednesday**

**October 1st, 2008**

**7:00 AM**

**Sunrise Pipe Ceremony**

**Grand Ballroom**

**Tsuu T'ina Nation Elders: Eliza Eagle Tail,**

**Fred Eagle Tail & Hal Eagle Tail**

**8:00 AM**

**Breakfast**

**Grand Foyer**

**Exhibits Open**

**9:00 AM**

**Opening Prayer**

**Grand Ballroom**

**Tsuu T'ina Nation Elders: Eliza Eagle Tail,**

**Fred Eagle Tail & Hal Eagle Tail**

**9:15 AM**

**Keynote Speaker: Dr. Martin Brokenleg**  
**Director of Native Ministries**  
**Professor of First Nations Theology,**  
**Vancouver School of Theology**



Dr. Martin Brokenleg is the Director of Native Ministries in Vancouver, British Columbia. He serves as a Vice President of Reclaiming Youth International, providing training for individuals who work with youth at risk. He holds a doctorate in psychology and is a graduate of the Episcopal Divinity School. For thirty years, Dr. Brokenleg was professor of Native American studies at Augustana College of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He has also been a director of The Neighborhood Youth Corps, chaplain in a correctional setting, and has extensive experience as an alcohol counselor. Dr. Brokenleg has consulted and led training programs throughout North America, New Zealand, and South Africa. He is the father of three children and an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe practicing the culture of his Lakota people.

**10:00 AM**

**Refreshment Break**

**10:30 AM**

**Concurrent Sessions E**

**(10:30 AM – 12 Noon)**

**E1 Crimes Against Aboriginal Women**

**Alberta**

**Jo-Anne Daniels**

**Belaire**

“Crimes against Aboriginal women”, is a journey. The presentation looks at the immediate problems of racial poverty and discrimination causing overwhelming violence and crimes targeted at Aboriginal women. It is a difficult journey and challenges society, but none more so than Aboriginal women who have to live with the realities on a daily basis.

**E2 Family Violence in Mi’Kmaq Communities: Building Knowledge & Direction Through Community Based Research**

**Nova Scotia**

**Dr. Jane McMillan & Denise Moore MSW**

**Mayfair**

Their research focuses on the intergenerational and enabling dynamics of family violence, and provide opportunities for Mi’Kmaq communities to identify approaches and strategies necessary to create an infrastructure for sustainable processes for prevention, intervention and remedy implementation.

**E3 The Circle of Courage-Early Childhood**

**Vancouver**

**Dr. Martin Brokenleg Brittania**

Those who work with young children have the best opportunity to lay the foundation of experiences that strengthen a child from within. The Circle of Courage philosophy operates at the level where all children are alike regardless of the ethnic community from which they come. Positive youth culture works and research documents that positive approaches are effective in actually helping children.

**E4 Elder Panel**

**Alberta**

**Moderator: Cory Many Fingers**

**Elders Panel:**

**Andy Black Water**

**Bruce Wolf Child**

**Rosie Day Rider**

**Fred Eagle Tail**

**Eliza Eagle Tail**

The Elders are the first teachers and from their knowledge and wisdom we learn our place in the world. This includes our connection to spirit, language, voices of the ancestors and ceremony. The panel speakers will share their wisdom and workshop participants will have an opportunity for questions and answers.

**E5      Strengthening Families: Grounding the Program in  
Community Reality**

**Manitoba      Dr. Rachel Eni, Gladys Rowe, Jac-Lynn Wasyliw  
Nakiska**

Rather than relying on the Westernized Medical Model of maternal child health indicators such as prenatal health of the mother individually, this program focuses on the family as a whole and interconnected entity where the health and wellbeing of the entire family and community are health determinants, allowing the father and the community to become main contributors and supporters to the health of the child bearing mom.

**E6      Equay-wuk - A Unique Independent Women's Group**

**Ontario      Felicia Waboose & Darlene Angeconneb  
Bonavista**

A program that has developed a unique and innovative approach to meet the challenges of providing information and services to women in 31 remote isolated First Nation Communities.

**12:00PM      Lunch      Grand Ballroom**

**Traditional Naming Ceremony:**

**Josie Nepinak, Awo Taan Healing Lodge, Executive Director**

**12:45PM      Round Dance  
Honor Song  
Passing of Baton -2010 Conference Host**

**1:30 PM      Closing Remarks  
Conference Hosts:  
Gerri Many Fingers, Awo Taan Healing Lodge, Board Chair  
Josie Nepinak, Awo Taan Healing Lodge, Executive Director**

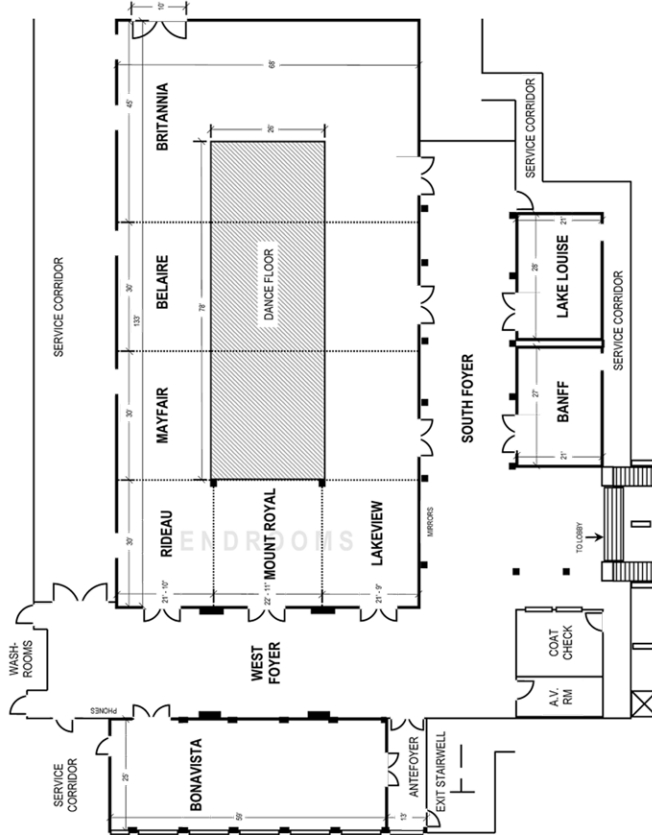
**2:00 PM      ADJOURN**



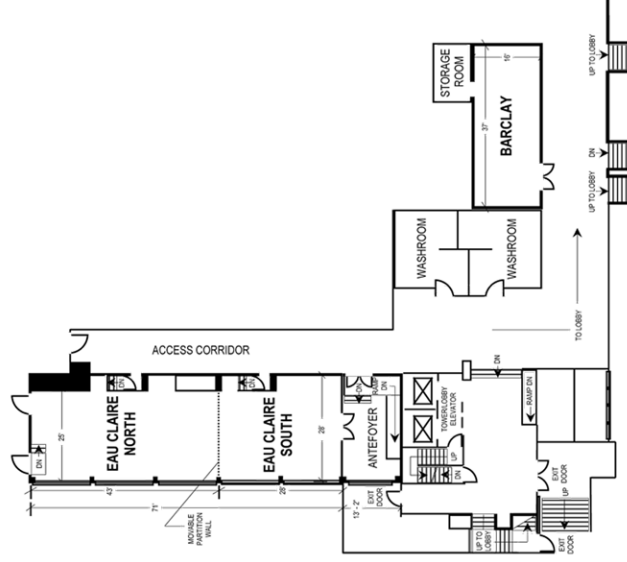


# CONVENTION AND CONFERENCE FACILITIES

CONFERENCE LEVEL



ARCADE LEVEL



2ND FLOOR



17TH FLOOR

