

Elder Mae Louise Campbell

Mae Louise Campbell is from the Ojibwa-Saulteaux Metis Nation. She has birthed five children and is a Granny and great Grandmother to many. She grew up in the small Metis northern community of Kississing Lake-Cold Lake MB, her family originates from Waterhen she is 1 of 8 children birthed to William and Marie Campbell.

Elder Mae Louise life's work is centred on protecting and resurrecting that which was almost eradicated under centuries of colonization; our Indigenous Spiritual Values and Principles. It is with a sense of urgency that she encourages all peoples at every level to commit to bringing back our Ancestral Indigenous knowledge for it is perhaps our only real hope to bring balance into a world that has suffered the consequences of colonial powers for far too long.

The scale and scope of Elder Mae Louise's vision is large and keeps her very busy. She is the Elder in Residence at Red River College and University of Manitoba, Faculty of Social Work (Selkirk campus). Guest Elder and Traditional Knowledge Educator at STFX University ,Coady Institute through their National Indigenous Women's Leadership Program. She sits on Mayor Bowman's Indigenous Advisory Circle. She developed and operated a Healing Lodge called Grandmother Moon Lodge for 18 years assisting Indigenous women to find their purpose in life through holistic Indigenous values and principles. She is Wisdom Keeper on the Grandmother Council **of Manitoba** known as Kookum Kaa Na Da Maa Waad Abinoojiiak Council: Grandmothers Protecting our Children. Additionally she has sat on the First Nations Advisory Committee Board to Canada's Prenatal Nutritional Program of Manitoba. Elder advisor for the Canadian Women's Foundation on their National Task Force Report on; Sex Trafficking of Women and Girls in Canada and most recently was a Recipient of 2016 Inspire National Aboriginal Achievement Awards under the Spiritual -Cultural category. Currently she is Elder and co-founder on a project Clan Mothers Healing Village and Knowledge Centre a contemporary sustainable innovative holistic model of healing, education and training that will support Indigenous women and girls who have been victims of sexual exploitation and sex trafficking.

Informally, Elder Mae Louise is Grandmother/Elder/Advisor to many organizations in Winnipeg, Manitoba and across Canada which employ "Indigenous value based healing systems" in their approach to working with our families, communities and All Our Relations.

At the age of 87, Elder Mae Louise is unwavering in her belief that; "this dogmatic colonized political world will only change with guidance from our original advisors; the Grandmother Councils, and Clan Mother Tribal systems which came before us. They created culturally intelligent systems of governance and were Matrilineal led resulting in mother centred communities. She believes this should be the focus for all Indigenization conversations giving hope and inspiration for critical change with in governance systems that are currently not working for Indigenous peoples. The outcome would bring sustainable - systemic change and a more balanced way forward for all peoples.