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Indigenous Strategic Lead | Indigenous Cultural Safety

What does it mean to you to inspire inclusion and support gender equity?

My work as Indigenous Strategic Lead of Indigenous Cultural Safety at Vancouver Coastal Health is deeply rooting in my teachings as a Host Nation Matriarch and especially focuses on giving safe care, equal access and removing the barriers of discrimination towards Indigenous Peoples as marginalized and vulnerable populations

Historically, colonization was created to control and assimilate Indigenous Peoples, to extinguish the recognition of Indigenous self-government structures, assimilation and genocide.

Indigenous women face significant challenges to the full enjoyment of their human rights. Indigenous women experience multiple forms of discrimination, often lack access to education, health care and ancestral lands, face disproportionately high rates of poverty and are subjected to violence, such as domestic violence and sexual abuse, including in the contexts of trafficking and murder.

This is why the work I do here at VCH is so deeply personal to me. I want to ensure the safe and equitable care for Indigenous patients, especially our women and girls.

I hope to continue inspire staff at VCH through facilitation of Indigenous Cultural Safety workshops and traditional teachings passed down through my ancestors, my family for time immemorial.

