



Kodály Society  
of Ontario

## “Song as intent and impact in the ethical space of engagement”

with Kelly Laurila

Even good intentions can harm. Most people do not set out to do harm to others, but in their intentions to help, the impact can be harm from not knowing what they do not know. Despite hearing about Indigenous peoples through education and media most people do not really know Indigenous peoples. This is an intentional Settler narrative that will be illuminated in this workshop through discussions of the historical, social, economic and political contexts that have significantly contributed to past and present injustices experienced by Indigenous peoples in Canada. In the context of reconciliation, this foundational knowledge will serve as context to inform what constitutes ethical leadership in music. Opportunity will be provided to participate in singing, drumming and learning specific Indigenous (e.g., Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe and Mi'kmaw) songs, meanings, and their origins. Space will be made to discuss such topics as appropriation, permissions, case examples, protocols and necessary dialogues in music collaborations. A reflection to be contemplated during this interactive workshop is what ethical engagement with Indigenous songs in mainstream classroom curriculum looks like, feels like, and sounds like?



Kelly Laurila is an Indigenous Sámi and Irish woman with close to 30 years of Anishinaabe knowledges and experiences; song carrier of an Indigenous women and girls' drum circle in community and in a federal penitentiary; social worker, and post-secondary educator. She is also an advocate for ideological and social policy change pertaining to systemic social and justice practices impacting Indigenous peoples.

Dialogue, decolonization, and movement towards action is at the forefront of her work with reconciliation initiatives.

Wednesday, July 5, 2023  
10-4pm  
Music Building, Room 227  
Don Wright Faculty of Music  
Western University  
London, ON, N6A 3K7



Save your seat here:

<https://forms.gle/Dn4aYLaCZSRhWYoa9>

Free to all.