



BOARD MEMBER BIO

Jennifer Russell

Jennifer Russell is a Metis woman who was raised in the Blackfoot community and has spent the last 20 years working with Indigenous peoples in professional, personal and volunteer capacities. She has been engaged within the grass roots level working closely with various groups, always focusing on the betterment of Indigenous peoples at the urban and reserve levels. She is currently employed with Shell Canada as a Consultation Specialist, Indigenous Relations.

Jennifer began her career working at Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse as a communications specialist. Jennifer has focused her career on communications and the critical importance of listening and sharing. Jennifer puts great value in her personal involvement within the Indigenous community and has worked at SAIT as the Coordinator for the Chinook Lodge, a Student Advisor and a Project Coordinator. Each position required Jenn to be closely involved with all educational supports for the students and staff, to encourage their growth as learners, and to create a safe and culturally sensitive environment.

Jennifer has been married for the last 20 years to her husband Richard, and together they have 4 beautiful children, ranging in ages 14 to 19. Jenn is very involved with her children's sporting activities, making sure that there is always room in her busy schedule to attend their practices and games. Jennifer spent a great deal of her time as a young woman as a fancy dancer with the Red Thunder Cultural Society Dance Troupe. The troupe travelled throughout Canada and the United States performing at locations such as Disney Land and New Orleans. She also danced throughout Alberta and British Columbia following the Pow Wow Trail.