

FIRST NATIONS CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION MATRIMONIAL REAL PROPERTY COORDINATOR

KATERI AKIWENZIE-DAMM

Kateri Akiwenzie-Damm is Anishinaabek from the Chippewas of Nawash First Nation, Saugeen Ojibway Nation, in Ontario. Kateri has two sons ages four and seven and a five-year-old foster son. They live in their community at Neyaashiinigmiing on the traditional territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation. Kateri joined the (FNCPA) as the Matrimonial Real Property (MRP) Coordinator in December 2015.

During consultations between the federal government and First Nations representatives Kateri was the Lead Communications Consultant on the Matrimonial Real Property file for the Assembly of First Nations. She has 23 years of experience as a Communications Consultant working with Indigenous communities and groups. She also has 27 years of experience as a published writer, 23 years of experience in Indigenous publishing as a publisher, production manager, and editor, and 22 years of experience and training in curriculum development, academic course development, and lesson plan preparation for Indigenous learners or using Indigenous content and methodologies. Kateri has teaching experience dating back to 1987.

In her role with the FNCPA Kateri is developing MRP training and will serve as the FNCPA's expert on MRP issues.

Kateri has a lifelong commitment to working towards the revitalization of Indigenous nations by providing Indigenous peoples with the information, knowledge and training they require to make informed decisions, protect Indigenous rights, territory, and culture, dispel stereotypes and misinformation, and support the creative and cultural expression of Indigenous peoples.

Kateri is excited by the opportunity to work with the FNCPA and to continue working on the Matrimonial Real Property issue as she understands how it is connected to issues of poverty, homelessness, land rights, domestic violence, the safety of women and children in First Nations communities, and the ability of families and individuals to maintain vital connections to their communities, nations, and culture.

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