



Anishnawbe Health Toronto

# Wisdom Weavers

## Storytelling & Traditional Teachings

Join Anishnawbe Health Toronto for a series of storytelling presentations on enduring troubling times, surviving challenges, keeping families strong, and emerging stronger for it all. Elders and Knowledge Holders from across Turtle Island will share their experiences as well as stories within their own cultures and Nations.



*Beaded Owl Earrings* provided by Eli, a client of Anishnawbe Health Toronto. The Owl Symbol represents a bird of wisdom and intuition, magic and prophecy. Owls are often seen as messengers. Some Healers call upon the Owl for insight into the truth. Some First Nations believe that the sound of the Owl is a call to summon the spirit world.

Be'sha Blondin is a Grandmother, Healer, and Traditional Knowledge Holder. Be'sha has a lifetime of experience following the traditional spiritual and cultural protocols of the "Dene Way of Life." She developed her gifts from the teachings of the Elders and her parents on the east arm of Great Bear Lake, in the Northwest Territories. Be'sha is a Traditional Healer dedicated to protecting and healing Mother Earth, strengthening Aboriginal communities in the North, across Canada and globally, sharing her wisdom and knowledge with all people to live in peace and harmony. She is co-founder of the Arctic Indigenous Wellness Foundation, and a Health Administrator and Community Development Expert. Be'sha has traveled the world to strengthen relationships among all people. She is also an Elder advisor to the Institute for Circumpolar Health Research (ICHR) and works with a team of advisors for the inVivo Planetary Health Network. Be'sha is known for her genuine love for all people, for her delightful sense of humor and hearty laugh, and for being fearless while speaking truth to power. She unites people through The Spirit of Water and is committed to reunifying the Original Peoples of Turtle Island through Grandmother Water.

In her storytelling presentation titled *When the World Was New: How and Why We Were Created*, Be'sha will tell stories to preserve and to revitalize Indigenous cultural knowledge and belief systems. Be'sha's presentation will affirm her commitment to helping people, as she has worked with communities in the North and across Canada for over 35 years delivering land-based healing programs, developing wellness plans, and teaching ceremonies, healing practices, cultural competency, and traditional knowledge approaches to wellness.



To view the video, please click on the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQ7IeNsmtBI>

This presentation series is made possible by the generous donors to the Anishnawbe Health Foundation.