

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



hybrid conference 2021

'Nazhike-awaasang' Bradley E. Harrington



THE SPIRITUAL HISTORY OF THE ANISHINAABE

The journey will describe how the Anishinaabe started a Physical Existence as a Spiritual Being, navigated tragedy and established themselves in the Natural History of America, most often as a footnote. The Manidoog's (Spirits) great compassion and love for the Anishinaabe plays a large part in History as well as Today.

KNazhike-awaasang (Misizaaga'iganing Ojibwe), comes from the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe located in Central Minnesota. Born and raised on the Mille Lacs Indian Reservation where he spent time learning from his grandparents about Ojibwe Life. He is a lifelong student of Ojibwe language & culture and has studied at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, Central Lakes College, UMD, UofM Twin Cities, Native Nations Institute at the University of Arizona Tucson and the Native Governance Center. He has received certification from the Native Nations Institute, the Blandin Foundation, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and White Bison/Wellbriety. He has facilitated activities at the Tribal/State Relations Training relating to Ojibwe Language & Culture, Treaties and Federal Indian Law. In the summer of 2017, he was sworn in as the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and began rebranding the local Tribal DNR to incorporate cultural knowledge and language as a Natural Resource. He currently serves as the Tribal Liaison for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources where he coordinates the Tribal Consultation process. He is a parent of Ojibwe immersion students and works in the community as an advocate for immersion education. He performs Ojibwe Ceremonies in many communities in the region. When he is not working in the tribal government as an advocate for Anishinaabe rights to language, education, spirituality and harvest, he spends time with his family.