

Glenbow

Glenbow Museum hires Director of Indigenous Engagement & Reconciliation

Calgary, AB (December 8, 2021) – Glenbow is delighted to announce that Dr. Amber Shilling has joined the museum in the new role of Director of Indigenous Engagement & Reconciliation.



Dr. Shilling is Anishinaabe from Mnjikaning First Nation on her father’s side and Polish/English on her mother’s. She was born and raised in Treaty 7 territory – home to the Blackfoot Confederacy, Stoney Nakoda, Tsuut’ina, and Métis (Region 3) people. Dr. Shilling completed her Ph.D. at the University of British Columbia in 2020, looking at how urban Indigenous youth utilize technology to engage with culture and language.

“We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Shilling back to Calgary to take on this new leadership role at Glenbow.” Says Nicholas Bell, Glenbow’s President & CEO. “Her past work in education and digital engagement is very exciting. As Director of Indigenous Engagement and Reconciliation, she will help build on Glenbow’s legacy of collaboration with Indigenous communities and expand on these relationships in meaningful ways. As we are reimagining the role that Glenbow can play in our community, reconciliation and decolonization are core aspects of our mission.”

Dr. Shilling shares, “I remember visiting the Glenbow on a school field trip in elementary school and feeling a sense of wonder as I saw one of the displays about Indigenous people. Looking back, I can appreciate how profoundly museums can impact one’s understanding of cultural identity and what it means to be Indigenous. This is one aspect of the work I am very excited about.

“We are in a shifting moment, and we have an opportunity at Glenbow to develop the future of the museum and everything we do with the collaboration of Indigenous people in a respectful relationship. And that, to me, is the action of reconciliation. Having a full time Indigenous person in leadership is an incredible indication that we are committed on a deep level and a very exciting level, to show reconciliation through action and not just through words.”

About Glenbow

Founded in 1966 as an independent, non-profit museum, archive and gallery, Glenbow Museum cares for an extraordinary collection of more than 250,000 works of art and historical objects – from Canada and cultures around the world – on behalf of the people of Alberta. *Glenbow Reimagined* is a project to renovate the museum’s nearly 50-year-old building and provide a vibrant, thriving cultural resource in the heart of Calgary. Glenbow is committed to expanding the accessibility and impact of art and culture, with a mission to activate art, objects, and ideas so everyone who experiences Glenbow leaves with something to share.

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Media Contact

Jenny Conway Fisher | jconwayfisher@glenbow.org | 403 918 0736 | www.glenbow.org