

**25TH ANNUAL NORTH DAKOTA
INDIAN CHILD WELFARE AND WELLNESS CONFERENCE
APRIL 21ST - 23RD, 2026 AT 4 BEARS CASINO & RESORT**



**“THE PATH BEHIND US, THE ROAD AHEAD:
25 YEARS OF PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN”**

REGISTRATION BEINGS TUESDAY, APRIL 21ST, 2026 AT 7:30AM.

8:30am - 10:30am

Pre-Conference Institute for Child Welfare and Courts
Judge William Thorne: ICWA 101

Conference Day 1 – Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Moderator: Gillian Plenty Chief & Dereck Stonefish

11:30am - 12:00pm

Official Conference Welcome
Opening Prayer, Flag Song - Proclamation
Opening Remarks (Address by Tribal, Federal & State Leaders)

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Luncheon

1:00pm - 2:30pm

TBD

Michael Yellow Bird, IMTA CMT-P, MSW, PhD, University of Manitoba

2:30pm - 2:45pm

Break

2:45pm - 4:45pm

Ethics

Stephanie DeCoteau, Turtle Mountain Community College

4:45 pm

1st STAR QUILT DRAWING- Must Be Present to Win

Conference Day 2 – Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Moderator: Gillian Plenty Chief & Dereck Stonefish

7:45am - 08:30am

Continental Breakfast

8:30am - 10:00am

ICWA Family Preservation Program

10:00am - 10:15am

Break

10:15am - 11:45am

Relationship Building with Tribes

Jo-el Evans, Ashley Harding, and Kristen Potts, Oregon ICWA Team

11:45am - 1:00pm

Lunch

1:00pm - 2:30pm

Breakout Session 1

2:30pm - 2:45pm

Break

2:45pm - 4:15pm

Breakout Sesson 2

4:15pm - 5:00pm

ICWA Champion Award and NATI Honoring

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Evening Entertainment

MHA Interpretive Center

**25TH ANNUAL NORTH DAKOTA
INDIAN CHILD WELFARE AND WELLNESS CONFERENCE
APRIL 21ST - 23RD, 2026 AT 4 BEARS CASINO & RESORT**



**“THE PATH BEHIND US, THE ROAD AHEAD:
25 YEARS OF PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN”**

Conference Day 2 continued – Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Moderator: Gillian Plenty Chief & Dereck Stonefish

Breakout Session 1: 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Child Welfare	Courts	Wellness
“Active Listening” Dereck Stonefish	"Re-Thinking Safety: A better model for making removal decisions" Judge Thorne	Discover Healing

Breakout Session 2: 2:45pm - 4:15pm

Child Welfare	Courts	Wellness
“Active Listening” Dereck Stonefish	"Re-Thinking Safety: A better model for making removal decisions" Judge Thorne	Discover Healing

Conference Day 3 – Thursday, April 23, 2026

Moderator: Gillian Plenty Chief & Dereck Stonefish

7:45am - 8:30am

Breakfast

8:30am - 9:00am

Opening Prayer

9:00am - 10:00am

Personal Story

Speaker: Devon Headdress Part 2

10:00am - 10:30am

Break and Silent Auction Winners

10:30am - 12:00pm

Discovery Healing

Dr. Bradley Nelson, Alexis Rankin & Shawn Silbernagel

12:00pm - 12:30pm

Closing Remarks– Gillian Plenty Chief

Closing Prayer & Song

3rd STAR QUILT DRAWING – Must be present to win