

## **SPEAKER BIO'S**

### **ELDER BRENDA MASON**

It is my pleasure to introduce Elder, Brenda Mason. Her Anishinaabe name is *Imprint Hanging Standing Woman* and she belongs to the Fish Clan—Red Sucker. Brenda is Oji/Cree, she speaks her language, a mother. She was raised in Sandy Lake First Nation Community by her Uncle Dad and Aunty Mom. Brenda has a biological family, who she visited every summer in Red Lake as a child. She comes from a large family on both sides. Brenda is a proud grandmother with her grandchildren. Brenda is a community member of Thunder Bay today. Brenda has been working in mental health for 32 years with the Mental Health Outpatient Program, St. Joseph's Health Centre. She provides Indigenous Traditional Cultural and Spiritual Services. Brenda walked and worked with the Elders for a number of years until she was encouraged to go out 'there' to do her work. Brenda practices what she was trained to do by the Elders. Brenda participates in different committees in Thunder Bay and outside of Thunder Bay, one of which is AECEO.