

The 2017 Dr. E. H. Johnson Award Recipient



Dr. Cindy Blackstock



Executive Director of
the First Nations
Child and Family Caring
Society of Canada

Address and Award Presentation

at the 2017 General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Monday, June 5, 2017

at about 3:45 p.m. (Third Sederunt)

in the Gym, Athletic and Recreation Centre, Queen's University,
Kingston, Ontario

Afternoon Reception

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Location: Chez Lenny in Leonard Hall

Cost: Free with cash bar

Donation envelopes in support of The Dr. E. H. Johnson Memorial Fund will also be available. The Fund supports the annual Award “recognizing the cutting edge of mission”, exchanges between The Presbyterian Church in Canada and international partner churches, and educational events related to emerging issues in mission.



Sponsored by The Dr. E. H. Johnson Memorial Fund Committee

For more information, call 1-800-619-7301

RECOGNIZING THE CUTTING EDGE OF MISSION

The Dr. E. H. Johnson Memorial Fund

presents its 2017 Award to

Dr. Cindy Blackstock

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**2017 General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada
in the Gym, Athletic and Recreation Centre, Queen's University,
Kingston, Ontario**

Reception in Leonard Hall, in Chez Lenny, at 5:00 p.m. Cash bar

Child welfare advocate Cindy Blackstock has been chosen to receive the 2017 E. H. Johnson award in recognition of her tireless, visionary and risk-taking work on behalf of First Nations children and families, and her ongoing advocacy on behalf of First Nations peoples.

Blackstock is executive director of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada and a professor of social work at McGill University, Montreal. A member of the Gitksan First Nation, Blackstock has 25 years of social work experience in child protection and Indigenous children's rights.

In January 2016, she and the Assembly of First Nations won a landmark victory when the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal ruled that successive federal governments have discriminated against First Nations children by providing less funding for child welfare services on reserves than was provided for other children living in Canada.

The E. H. Johnson award, named in honour of the former secretary for World Mission in The Presbyterian Church in Canada, is presented annually to an individual or organization in recognition of work on "the cutting edge of mission."

In offering this award to Blackstock, the Dr. E. H. Johnson Memorial Fund Committee is mindful of the church's complicity in the history of Indigenous peoples in Canada, and particularly in the legacy of residential schools. The award affirms the church's desire to honour its commitments to healing and reconciliation expressed in its 1994 Confession to God and Indigenous peoples.