

University of Calgary
October 18, 2023

KEYNOTE LECTURE

Santanna Hernandez

2023 CMHF Award Recipient
MD Student, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary

“There Is More Than One Way to Medicine”



Santanna is Dene, from the Liidlii Kue Nation and Cold Lake First Nation on her father’s side and Dutch on her maternal side, currently living in Mohkinstsis on the Traditional Territories of the Blackfoot Peoples. A mother of four children, Santanna is working on her own healing journey from post-generational trauma and ongoing systemic racism. She is a military medical student at the University of Calgary and participating in the University of Calgary Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship in High River, AB. She serves as the student director for the Canadian Medical Association with a variety of committee roles. Previously she served as the first Indigenous president of the Canadian Federation of Medical Students. Santanna serves as co-chair on the ii'taa'poh'to'p student advisory circle and is continually working on research and initiatives to support Indigenous students at the University of Calgary. Santanna uses her wide range of leadership and governance experiences to walk a parallel path with allies. Prior to medical school, Santanna completed a Bachelor of Indigenous Social Work Degree from the University of Victoria with a focus on Indigenous health and health policy.