

Dr. Jennifer Leason's Biography



Boozhoo, Aniin Keesis Sagay Egette Kwe nindiznikaaz. Minigoziibe Anishinaabe niin dinjoba. Greetings, my Anishinaabe name is First Shining Rays of Sunlight Woman.

Dr. Jennifer Leason is an Anishinaabe kwe and an off-reserve member of Pine Creek First Nation (Minegoziibe Anishinabe), Manitoba, currently living in Treaty 6 Territory.

She is an artist, writer, community-based researcher, farmer and proud mother to Lucas and Lucy.

Dr. Leason is a Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) Canada Research Chair, Tier II, Indigenous Maternal Child Wellness and a Professor at the University of Calgary.

Her research aims to address perinatal and maternal-child health disparities and inequities by examining maternity experiences, healthcare utilization, and social-cultural contexts of First Nations, Métis, Inuit and Indigenous maternal child health and wellness.

Dr. Leason weaves data and stories with her research findings to inspire and educate. Her research examines healthy life trajectories for individuals, families, communities, nations, and the world. Her artistry expresses the beauty of each day as a path to intergenerational celebration.

Dr. Leason has published in over 25 journals, textbooks and magazines. She is the author and illustrator of 2 children's books in English and Anishinaabemowin and has shown her artwork across the country.

She has received over \$150 million in research awards. Her research is done in partnership with First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities and their partners. Although she wishes she didn't have to, part of any Indigenous scholar's work is decolonizing academia.

Websites:

Personal: <https://www.jenniferleason.com>

Reclaiming Indigenous Birth: <https://reclaimingindigenousbirth.ca>