

2024 MEREDITH MILLER MEMORIAL LECTURE



# KIM TALLBEAR

University of Alberta

## Why Is Sex a “Thing”?

Making Relations Against a Colonial World

**Monday, April 1**

**5:00–6:30 PM**

100 ARTHUR LEWIS AUDITORIUM  
ROBERTSON HALL

**RECEPTION TO FOLLOW**

BERNSTEIN GALLERY

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**



Settler-colonial states like Canada and the US have forged their societies and governance systems with theories of what is natural, and have centered specific property regimes while doing so. Dr. Kim TallBear explains how the very notion of “sexuality” (like “nature”) makes networks of relations into controllable objects. She draws on Critical Indigenous and sexuality studies frameworks to offer alternatives to making intimate relations into “things” to be managed and controlled. This is a sex-positive talk that also paradoxically works to de-center “sex” as one manifestation of “nature.”

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

**GSS** PROGRAM IN GENDER  
AND SEXUALITY STUDIES