



# Johnston Research

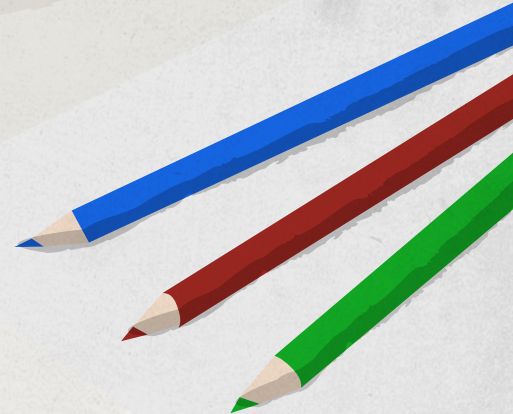
*Ahneen, hello.* My people are from Neyaashiinigmiing, Ontario, Canada and I live in Toronto, Ontario. My name is Andrea L.K. Johnston and I run a small evaluation and research firm named Johnston Research Inc. Our logo is a butterfly that visually displays the initials JR in its wings. The butterfly represents rebirth and transformation, which is the emphasis of all evaluations and research projects we conduct. Our goal is to promote positive change and self improvement through reflective thought and introspection.



*To achieve our goal,* we have developed a teaching tool called The Waawiyeyaa Evaluation Tool. The Ojibway word Waawiyeyaa refers to a circular process that can lead to rebirth and transformation. By using approaches grounded in traditional values, we have found great success in meeting the needs of the program participants and program personnel during the evaluation process.

## *The Waawiyeyaa method*

encourages participants to use traditional teachings as a framework for storytelling. The DVD shows a female and male story as an example on applying the cultural framework. A participant would start to tell their story during a paper and colour pencil crayon exercise that allows them to keep it a secret or share it, with the evaluator and/or the whole group. Program participants colour their stories during a paper and pencil crayon exercise that operates within the cultural storytelling framework.



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