

## A Conversation with Rikki Baker

### CSPA Committee Member: Affiliate Members, Breaking Barriers



**Rikki Baker**

Patient Volunteer

***Why did you get involved with CSPA?***

I became involved with the CSPA after sharing my rosacea journey with the Acne and Rosacea Society of Canada. This was seen by the CSPA and I was invited to participate in Breaking Barriers 2023 in Toronto to share my experience as a patient. As an Indigenous woman with rosacea, it was fulfilling to connect with others who understood the challenges of navigating chronic skin conditions in pigmented skin

***What do you perceive as outcomes of your involvement?***

By sharing my story, I hope to raise awareness of the unique challenges faced by Indigenous and racialized patients in accessing appropriate dermatological care. I hope that my involvement has helped to amplify underrepresented voices and contributes to broader discussions about equity in healthcare.

***Why do you like volunteering with CSPA?***

Participating in CSPA initiatives has provided me the opportunity to connect with a larger community of patients and advocates. It's meaningful to know that sharing my lived experience can help others feel seen and supported.

***Why would you tell others that they should get involved with CSPA?***

CSPA creates space for patient voices and brings attention to the diverse experiences of people living with skin conditions. Getting involved offers a chance to influence positive change and connect with a supportive and driven community.

***Has a personal connection with the skin patient community inspired your participation?***

Yes. My own long journey with rosacea—including delayed diagnosis, misdiagnosis, and dismissive care—has made me passionate about advocacy. Being part of this community has helped me heal and offered an avenue to help others who may be facing similar barriers.