

Decolonizing Community-Based Research

SUMMARY OF LEARNINGS

The CBRCanada Winter and Spring 2021 learning series is bringing together people from across Canada and beyond to discuss the theme, *Decolonizing Community-Based Research*. This is a summary findings across three live discussions, addressing how we can pursue decolonizing research.

The live discussion themes ([see event summaries](#)) were compiled and a framework emerged with four main components: self-reflection, worldview transformation, practices that elevate Indigenous communities' voices, and systems change. Self-reflection on one's motives, positionality, and discourse are necessary steps towards decolonizing research. This step challenges one to consider widening their worldview to respect and value Indigenous knowledge systems. Coinciding with transformed worldviews, is engaging in practices that elevate Indigenous communities' voices. The movement of transformed worldviews and practices ultimately may inform systems change that honour and make space for Indigenous-led processes and Indigenous methodologies.

ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR POSITIONALITY AND PRIVILEGE

INTERROGATE YOUR MOTIVES

LISTEN TO THE OTHER

BE INQUISITIVE

1. Self-reflection



GRAPPLE WITH HOW SETTLER-COLONIALISM BENEFITS YOU

2. Worldview transformation



APPROACH DIFFERENT WORLDVIEWS WITH HUMILITY AND OPENNESS

LEARN THE HISTORY, CUSTOMS, AND TRADITIONS OF OTHERS

RESPECT AND VALUE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS

3. Practices that elevate Indigenous communities' voices

ELEVATE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS' VOICES

PLACE AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIPS AT THE CENTER OF RESEARCH

PRIORITIZE THE INTERESTS OF INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

BUILD NETWORKS OF INDIGENOUS RESEARCHERS



4. Systems change

ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS OFFER COURSES ON INDIGENOUS RESEARCH METHODS

RESEARCH INSTITUTES SUPPORT GRASSROOT AND COLLABORATIVE APPROACHES

RESEARCH ETHICS OFFICES AND FUNDERS ALLOW FOR MORE FLEXIBILITY

HIRE INDIGENOUS SCHOLARS AND PAY INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE KEEPERS FAIRLY

WEBINAR RECORDINGS

Indigenous Approaches: Being a Helper Where Invited



Dr. Sarah Wright Cardinal

Indigenous resurgence is about Indigenous families, communities, and nations reclaiming their teachings and practices. The university can play a valued role in community-led and community-engaged research to support strength-based resurgence efforts. In this session, the role of university partner as helper will be discussed and some insights from successful projects shared.

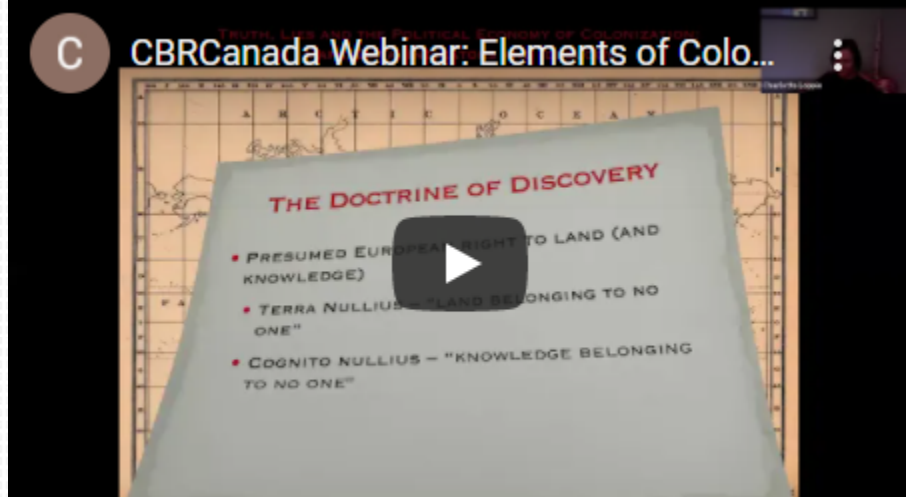
Cultural Safety (and a Culture of Safety) in Community-Based Research



Mike Standup, Carrie Martin and Renée Masching

Cultural safety is an important consideration in every aspect of our lives. This session unpacks what it means to be culturally aware in the design and implementation of community-based research and experiences of success and critique in addressing cultural safety in community-based research.

Elements of Colonizing Research



Drs. Charlotte Loppie and Jeffrey Reading

Drs. Loppie and Reading explore the contextual and practical features of research that are aligned with colonization. Using examples from the field of Indigenous health research, they also highlight the impact of colonizing research on the lives of Indigenous peoples and on their relationship with researchers and institutions.

Uplifting Indigenous Community Wisdom - Skookum Lab's Journey in Indigenous Social Innovation



Jeska Slater, Ravina Morgan, Melissa Lumberjack, Krystal Dumais-Ziprick, and Megan Rosso

Skookum Lab's goal is to make Surrey BC a great place for Indigenous children and youth to live. The lab researchers discuss how they are engaging community, organizations, and government agencies to address the systems that create and sustain Indigenous child and youth poverty in Surrey BC, now home to the largest Indigenous population in BC.

REFLECTIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS

I have gained "connections, insights, considerations for doing CBR within an academic institution which may have limited experience with it."



"This was a great mixture of different presentation styles. Great to learn from the elder and get background information about cultural safety in research."

"I was deeply enriched by the webinar promoted by CCB. The topics challenged me to think about my own work acting on a colonized country, and helped me reflect about many postures that we often reproduce without our full consciousness. Having contact with such a powerful network that addresses such critical issues has been a true privilege. May the seeds of these connections last and flourish into further cooperation, across organizations, boundaries and countries."

Stay tuned for May and June webinars and live discussions!

Contact the Secretariat



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