





Innovation & Development Commons
Brown Bag Lunch – September 25th
1st floor Education Room (410), UHNBC Prince George
12:15pm – 1:00pm



Dr. Henry Harder, Professor UNBC School of Health Sciences and Dr.
Donald B. Rix Leadership Chair for Aboriginal Environmental Health
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The Research Vision for Examining the Relationship Between Environment & the Physical and Mental Well-Being of BC's Indigenous Communities

Dr. Harder will discuss the role of the Dr. Donald B. Rix, BC Leadership Chair for Aboriginal Environmental Health and the vision for influencing research on the relationship between the environment and the physical and mental well-being of BC's Indigenous Communities.

Teleconference :1 877-385-4099 Passcode: 8353420#

WebEx <https://innovationdevelopment.webex.com>

Meeting Number: 804 389 850

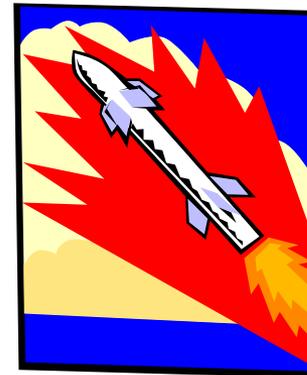
Meeting Password: brownbag



Many, many silos

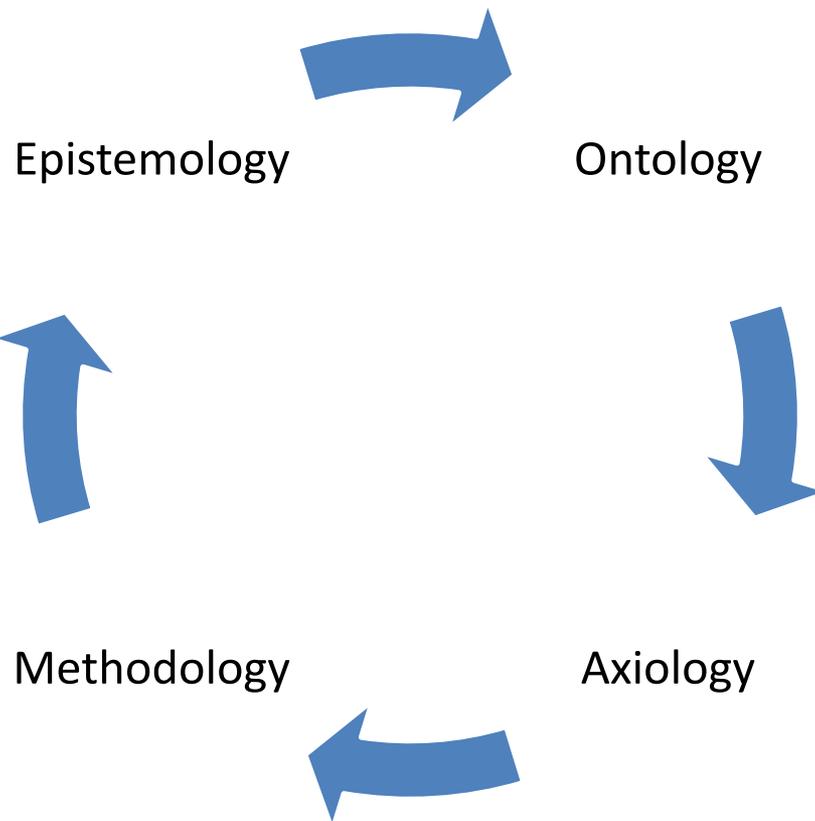


- Definition of health
- Environmental
- Educational
- Governmental
- Research
 - Quantitative
 - Qualitative



Indigenous Research Methodologies

- Ontology – theory of the nature of being
- Epistemology – theory of the nature of knowledge
- Axiology – theory of value
- Methodology – must be decolonized
 - Stage 1 – Indigenous scholars placed themselves within a western research framework
 - Stage 2 – Introduced an indigenous paradigm but within a western framework, struggled not to be marginalized
 - Stage 3 – Development of an Indigenous paradigm – decolonization – (Linda Tuhiwai Smith, 1999)
 - Stage 4 – Current state (Steinhauer, 2001)



- Research within Aboriginal Communities can be problematic if it is not informed by Aboriginal peoples themselves, based on ethical knowledge(s) and procedures which locate the protocols of working with Aboriginal peoples within themselves. Research must be approached with integrity and fidelity to these knowledge(s) procedures and protocols. (Atkinson, 2002)

Environmental

- Not just the physical environment
 - Margot Parkes: Ecohealth and Aboriginal Health: A Review of Common Ground.
- It is how we interact with the environment and its changes
- What are the human impacts of environmental changes? How does behaviour change?
- What are the cumulative effects?
- Solastalgia – Glen Albrecht

Principles

- Community led
- Community based
- Strict adherence to Chapter 9 TCPS 2
- Location - Relationality
- Engaged passionate researchers
- Designed to make a difference in the community not the academy
- Break down the silos



- **Holistic**

- characterized by comprehension of the parts of something as intimately interconnected and explicable only by reference to the whole.
- characterized by the treatment of the whole person, taking into account mental and social factors, rather than just the physical symptoms of a disease.

Research Underway

- Caries Disparities – University of Montreal
- Reinterpreting existing data with CSFS to understand the importance of the environment to mental health
- Storytelling as a research method
- CIHR Pathways to Indigenous Health – Component 2
- Nisga'a village of Gitwinksihlkw

References

- Atkinson, J. (2002). Lifting the Blankets. <http://trove.nla.gov.au/work/16945552?selectedversion=NBD24190877>
- Parkes, M. (2011) Ecohealth and Aboriginal Health: A Review of Common Ground. NCCAHA. <http://www.nccah-ccnsa.ca/Publications/Lists/Publications/Attachments/49/Ecohealth%20and%20Aboriginal%20Health%20%28English%29.pdf>
- Smith, TL (1999) *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*. Dunedin, NZ: McGill-Queen's University Press.
- Steinhauer, P. (2001) Situating Myself in Research. *Canadian Journal of Native Education*. 25(2), 183-187.
- Wilson, S. (2008). *Research is Ceremony: Indigenous Research Methods*. Halifax and Winnipeg: Fernwood Publishing.
- National Collaborating Center for Aboriginal Health. <http://www.nccah-ccnsa.ca/en/>

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- If research doesn't change you as a person, then you haven't done it right. (Shawn Wilson)

