

# COLONIZING RESEARCH



Charlotte Loppie PhD (*UVic*)

Jeff Reading PhD (*SFU*)

Webinar series brought to you by



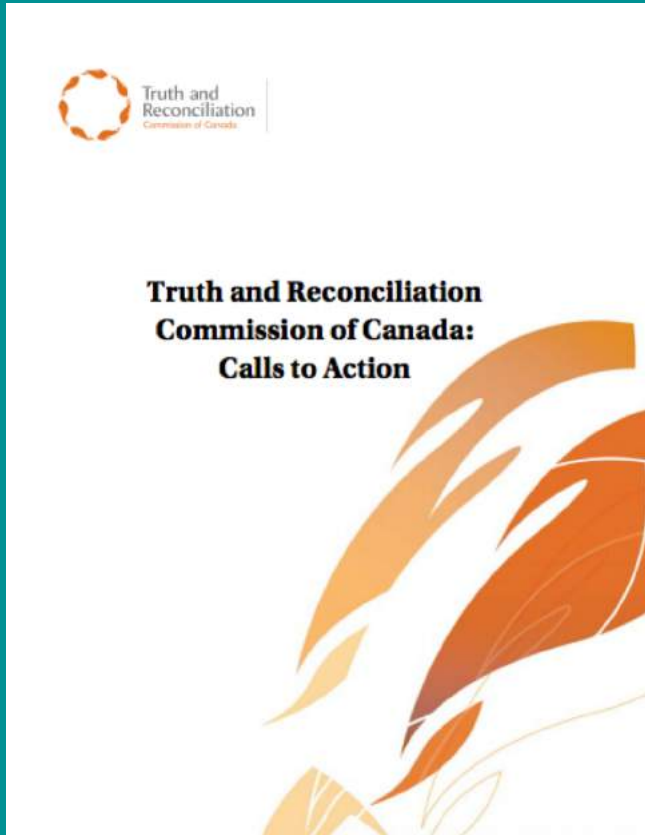
Community-Based Research Canada  
Recherche partenariale du Canada

# Territorial Acknowledgment

## Call to Action #62:

"We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments, in consultation and collaboration with Survivors, Aboriginal peoples, and educators, to:

- i. Make age-appropriate curriculum on residential schools, Treaties, and Aboriginal peoples' historical and contemporary contributions to Canada a mandatory education requirement for Kindergarten to Grade Twelve students.
- ii. Provide the necessary funding to post-secondary institutions to educate teachers on how to integrate Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods into classrooms.
- iii. Provide the necessary funding to Aboriginal schools to utilize Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods in classrooms.
- iv. Establish senior-level positions in government at the assistant deputy minister level or higher dedicated to Aboriginal content in education."







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[www.communityresearchcanada.ca](http://www.communityresearchcanada.ca)




@CbrcResearch



# Questions and Comments

ClickMeeting Shifting the Narrative: A Health-Focused Approach to Research with HIV-Positive ... Watch later Share

Shifting Narrative: A Health-Focused Approach to Research with Indigenous Women who are HIV-Positive



## Retreat-Style

- 5-day retreat; on the land
- **TB** = Art boxes, homecoming; **BC** = birch bark baskets, letting go; **SKN** = talking sticks, water ceremony; **AB** = capotes & drums, fashion show
- I feel like every essence of my being from within has been touched. ... I just feel like I'm taking a lot with me, and I feel like I even grew taller. I know I probably didn't, but I feel taller. I feel stronger and I feel ready for what I have to face at home.

ClickMeeting

AV POD

CHAT

Tracey Prentice  
It's fine for me

Centre for Community Based Research  
ok thanks Tracey. Monique, would you like to try logging off and back on?


Monique Fong Howe,1  
I am calling in...)

Centre for Community Based Research  
ok, thanks Monique!

Centre for Community Based Research  
we're recording, so you can also view this at a later time

Centre for Community Based Research  
[communityresearchcanada.ca/webinars](https://communityresearchcanada.ca/webinars)

MORE VIDEOS



# Presenters



**Dr. Charlotte  
Loppie**



**Dr. Jeffrey  
Reading**

# Webinar Recordings

The screenshot shows the 'Learning Together' section of the CBR Canada website. The navigation bar at the top includes links for Home, Who We Are, Network, News and Events, Resources, and Training. The 'Resources' link is highlighted. Below the navigation bar, the 'Learning Together' section is titled, followed by a description: 'CBR Canada hosts webinars and live online discussions to bridge research excellence. Below are webinar recordings and event summaries, organized from the most recent to earlier.' To the right of this text is a sidebar menu with 'Approach' and 'Publications' options, with 'Learning Together' highlighted in red. Below the description, there are filters for the years 2020, 2019, 2018, and Earlier, with 2020 selected. A large grey circle with the word 'JUNE' inside is positioned to the left of a large downward-pointing arrow. To the right of the arrow, a yellow box contains the title 'Shifting the narrative: A health-focused approach to research with HIV-Positive Indigenous women in Canada' and the names 'Doris Peltier and Tracey Prentice'. Below this box, there is a video player showing a webinar recording titled 'Shifting the Narrative: A Health-Focused Approach to Research with HIV-Positive Indigenous Women in Canada'. The video player includes a play button and a list of topics: 'Introduction / Opening', 'Local Indigenous', 'Shifting the Narrative', and 'A Health-Focused Approach'. To the right of the video player, there is a link to 'presentation slides' and a PDF icon.

Home | Who We Are | Network | News and Events | **Resources** | Training

## Learning Together

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Approach  
Publications  
**Learning Together**

2020 2019 2018 Earlier

**JUNE**

Shifting the narrative: A health-focused approach to research with HIV-Positive Indigenous women in Canada

Doris Peltier and Tracey Prentice

Shifting the Narrative: A Health-Focused Approach to Research with HIV-Positive Indigenous Women in Canada

Introduction / Opening

Local Indigenous  
Shifting the Narrative  
A Health-Focused Approach

presentation slides

PDF

[www.communityresearchcanada.ca/learningtogether](http://www.communityresearchcanada.ca/learningtogether)

# HONORING THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES



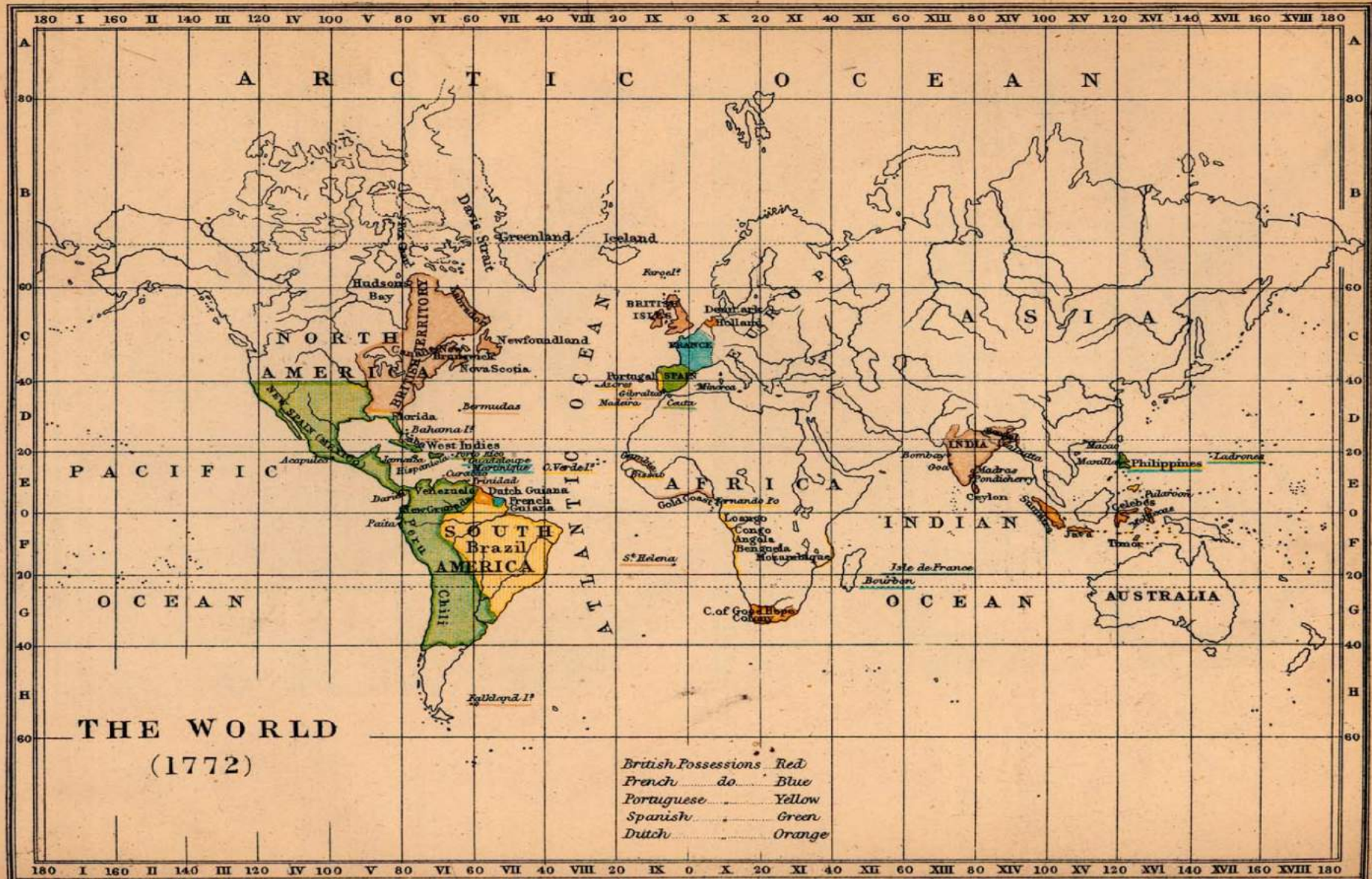


# THE DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY

- PRESUMED EUROPEAN RIGHT TO LAND (AND KNOWLEDGE)
  - TERRA NULLIUS – “LAND BELONGING TO NO ONE”
  - COGNITO NULLIUS – “KNOWLEDGE BELONGING TO NO ONE”



# TRUTH, LIES AND THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF COLONIZATION: MAPS, DATA, INDICATORS AND IDEOLOGY





# COLONIZATION

- **SEND SETTLERS TO A PLACE**
- **SETTLE AMONG AND ESTABLISH CONTROL OVER THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**
- **APPROPRIATE THE LAND AND RESOURCES FOR ONE'S OWN USE**

# COLONIZING RESEARCH

- SEND RESEARCHERS TO INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES
- CONDUCT AND ESTABLISH CONTROL OVER INDIGENOUS RESEARCH
- APPROPRIATE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE FOR ONE'S OWN USE



# THE INDIAN PROBLEM

DUNCAN CAMPBELL SCOTT *(SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS):*

“I WANT TO GET RID OF THE INDIAN PROBLEM. OUR OBJECT IS TO CONTINUE UNTIL THERE IS NOT A SINGLE INDIAN IN CANADA THAT HAS NOT BEEN ABSORBED INTO THE BODY POLITIC AND THERE IS NO INDIAN QUESTION, AND NO INDIAN DEPARTMENT.” (1920)

# **KNOWLEDGE IS POWER AND DATA ARE CURRENCY**

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**ROOTS OF MODERN COLONIAL RESEARCH**

# THE DATA CONTROL ERA

- DATA WERE USED MOSTLY BY GOVERNMENTS TO CONSTRUCT A **NEGATIVE IMAGE** OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' HEALTH AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS, CHARACTERIZED AS THE **'INDIAN PROBLEM'**
- DATA WERE USED TO SUPPORT A FORCED **ASSIMILATION AGENDA**
  - TO **JUSTIFY FISCAL REQUESTS** FOR COLONIAL ADMINISTRATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES.
  - **FOR EXAMPLE**, DATA ABOUT DEPLORABLE LIVING CONDITIONS CREATED BY GOVERNMENT POLICY (INDIAN ACT) WERE USED TO JUSTIFY A HOST OF FAILED POLICIES THAT AIMED TO FORCE ASSIMILATION INCLUDING: **RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS, OUTLAWED CEREMONIES, RELIGIOUS INDOCTRINATION ETC.**



# THE GATEKEEPER ERA

- CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WERE GIVEN ACCESS TO INDIGENOUS DATA AT THE WHIM OF THE GOVERNMENT.
- PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENTS AND NON-INDIGENOUS RESEARCHERS COULD ACCESS INDIGENOUS DATA BUT IT HAD TO BE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
- RULES ABOUT HOW TO USE DATA WERE TIGHTLY CONTROLLED OR ACCESS WAS REVOKED

# THE ERA OF DATA STEWARDSHIP

- THE 1996 ROYAL COMMISSION ON ABORIGINAL PEOPLES (RCAP) CHANGED EXPECTATIONS - INDIGENOUS PEOPLES SHOULD MANAGE THEIR OWN AFFAIRS.
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES AND RESEARCHERS TO ACCESS DATA - LED TO SHARING AGREEMENTS BETWEEN FEDERAL DEPTS AND CENTRAL AGENCIES
- CREATION OF NEW NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS (CIHR, NAHO)
- OCAP – A SPINOFF OF THE RCAP
- FNRHS - FIRST NATIONS' CONTROLLED HEALTH SURVEY

# HOW MUCH HAS CHANGED?





# RESEARCH ENTERPRISE CONTINUES TO VALUE\*:

- EURO-CENTRIC WORLDVIEWS AND KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS
- RESEARCH AGENDAS DIRECTED BY NON-INDIGENOUS PEOPLE (E.G., RESEARCHERS, ORGANIZATIONS, GOVERNMENTS)
- PROJECTS OVER RELATIONSHIPS (E.G., TIME AND RESOURCES FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OR LEADERSHIP)
- ACADEMIC ETHICS OVER COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY
- RESEARCHER PRODUCTIVITY OVER RESEARCH BENEFIT

*\*FUND, PUBLISH, PROMOTE, ETC.*

# RESEARCHERS CONTINUE TO:

- PUT PRESSURE ON INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN UNWANTED/IRRELEVANT RESEARCH
- 'OWN' INDIGENOUS HEALTH KNOWLEDGE
- CONTROL THE PROCESS, ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND REPORTING OF INDIGENOUS RESEARCH
- DETERMINE WHO HAS ACCESSSES TO INDIGENOUS DATA
- POSSESS THE PRODUCTS OF INDIGENOUS RESEARCH

## **CONTINUED DEFICIT FOCUS ON:**

- 'VULNERABILITY' AND BURDENS
- WHAT MAKES INDIGENOUS PEOPLE UNWELL
- HOW INDIGENOUS PEOPLE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DISPARITIES

## **AND**

- IGNORE COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CAPACITIES AND WHAT IS WORKING WELL
- LEADING TO PATHOLOGIZING/STIGMATIZING OF INDIVIDUALS, COMMUNITIES AND PEOPLES



## LET'S ASK OURSELVES SOME HARD QUESTIONS

- HOW AM I CONTRIBUTING TO COLONIZING RESEARCH?
- HOW AM I ENCROACHING ON INDIGENOUS LIFE TO BENEFIT MY RESEARCH CAREER OR AGENDA?
- HOW AM I HOLDING ON TO POWER – OVER WHAT ISSUES ARE PRIORITIZED, WHAT QUESTIONS ARE ASKED, AND OF WHOM; OVER WHAT INDIGENOUS EXPERIENCE MEANS
- HOW AM I USING MY PRIVILEGE TO WORK IN SOLIDARITY WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES, COLLECTIVES AND/OR ORGANIZATIONS?

“If you have come here to help me, you are  
wasting your time, but if you have come  
because your liberation is bound up with  
mine, then let us work together.”

— Lilla Watson

**MANY THANKS**





# SOURCES

- [HTTP://NCTR.CA/ASSETS/REPORTS/HISTORICAL%20REPORTS/RYERS  
ON%20REPORT.PDF](http://nctr.ca/assets/reports/historical%20reports/ryerson%20report.pdf)
- [HTTPS://WWW.FACINGHISTORY.ORG/STOLEN-LIVES-INDIGENOUS-  
PEOPLES-CANADA-AND-INDIAN-RESIDENTIAL-SCHOOLS/HISTORICAL-  
BACKGROUND/UNTIL-THERE-NOT-SINGLE-INDIAN-CANADA](https://www.facinghistory.org/stolen-lives-indigenous-peoples-canada-and-indian-residential-schools/historical-background/until-there-not-single-indian-canada)
- [HTTPS://WWW.OMFRC.ORG/WP-  
CONTENT/UPLOADS/2016/06/SPECIAL EDITION8.PDF](https://www.omfrc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/specialedition8.pdf)
- [HTTPS://WWW.BAC-LAC.GC.CA/ENG/DISCOVER/ABORIGINAL-  
HERITAGE/ROYAL-COMMISSION-ABORIGINAL-  
PEOPLES/PAGES/INTRODUCTION.ASPX](https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/aboriginal-heritage/royal-commission-aboriginal-peoples/pages/introduction.aspx)

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[www.communityresearchcanada.ca/learningtogether](http://www.communityresearchcanada.ca/learningtogether)

Q&A!




# Upcoming Events – Next Week

**Thu., Mar. 04**

Live Discussion: Elements of  
Colonizing Research

**Register**

A group of people are gathered around a circular table, looking at a large circular graphic. The graphic is a hub-and-spoke diagram with a central blue circle containing a laptop icon. Radiating from this center are various colored circles and lines, each containing a different icon representing technology, research, and communication. The icons include a red circle with a list, a yellow circle with gears, a green circle with a Wi-Fi symbol, a purple circle with a magnifying glass, a red circle with a padlock, a yellow circle with a plus sign, a blue circle with a play button, and a green circle with a mail icon. The people are seen from above, looking down at the table.

**Register:** [www.communityresearchcanada.ca/events](http://www.communityresearchcanada.ca/events)

# CBRCanada Awards



Submit by March 1st at 5pm EST  
[www.communityresearchcanada.ca/awards](http://www.communityresearchcanada.ca/awards)

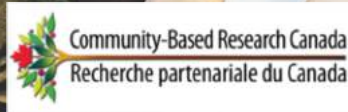


**“Tell us what  
you think!”**



Feedback Form:  
Webinar: Elements of Colonizing Research

Takes 2 min



NYAWEH / WELA'LIOQ

Thank You!

[www.communityresearchcanada.ca](http://www.communityresearchcanada.ca)



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