

Learning through Stories: A Conversation about Indigenous Evaluation

With Larry Bremner and Melissa Tremblay

Readings and resources

Online resources

What is Decolonization? What is Indigenization?

This web page by Queen's University explains the complex and multi-faceted meanings of "decolonization" and "Indigenization" in the context of the Canadian settler colonial state.

- ["What is Decolonization? What is Indigenization?"](#)

EvalIndigenous

EvalIndigenous is a multi-stakeholder partnership that aims to advance the contribution of Indigenous evaluation to global evaluation practice. It began in November 2015 as a global task force network of EvalPartners.

- [Learn more about EvalIndigenous](#)
- [EvalIndigenous Origin Story: Effective Practices within Local Contexts to Inform the Field and Practice of Evaluation](#)

The Indigenous Voices project, led by EvalIndigenous, highlights the presence and work of Indigenous people who have the tools and knowledge to practice evaluation, especially with their own communities.

- [Indigenous Voices playlist on YouTube](#)

The Fundamentals of OCAP

This online course, offered by the First Nations Information Governance Centre, focuses on the principles of ownership, control, access, and possession (OCAP). OCAP asserts that First Nations must have control of data-collection processes and own and control how this information can be used.

- [Learn more about OCAP](#)
- [The Fundamentals of OCAP® course](#)

Guidelines for Ethical Aboriginal Research

Published in 2003, this research manual is designed to help agencies and communities make informed decisions about developing and managing health research in their communities. It was developed by members of the Aboriginal Health Research Review Committee in collaboration with Manitoulin First Nations leadership and community agencies.

- [Guidelines for Ethical Aboriginal Research](#) (PDF)

Igniting Change

This document, released in 2021, reflects six months of independent research and consultations by the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences' Congress Advisory Committee on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Decolonization (ACEDID). It is also a call-to-action and a valuable resource for scholars, universities, and the social science and humanities communities.

- [Igniting Change: Final Report and Recommendations](#)
- [FAQ about the report](#)

Culturally Responsive and Equity-Focused Evaluation Philosophies and Approaches

This web resource, developed by Strategic Learning Partners for Innovation (SLP4i), presents an evaluation matrix based on seven philosophies and approaches that centre cultural responsiveness and equity.

- [The Eval Matrix by Bledsoe, Gonzales, and Guillen-Woods](#)

Articles

Working Across Contexts: Practical Considerations of Doing Indigenist/Anti-Colonial Research

In this article, Michael Anthony Hart, Silvia Straka, and Gladys Rowe address the practical considerations of doing research across Indigenous and settler contexts and creating a space where deep learning and knowledge co-creation can occur. They also provide lessons learned based on their individual perspectives and experiences.

- ["Working Across Contexts" by Hart, Straka, and Rowe](#) (ResearchGate)

Thought Ritual: An Indigenous Data Analysis Method for Research

This piece by Tyson Yunkaporta and Donna Moodie proposes a standalone Indigenous data analysis tool referred to by the authors as a “hybridisation of ancient oral culture practice and contemporary thought experiment.” The tool, a major departure from western academic approaches, promotes a high level of intellectual rigor. This article appeared as Chapter 6 in *Indigenous Knowledges: Privileging Our Voices*, published by Brill in 2021.

- [“Thought Ritual” by Yunkaporta and Moodie](#) (publisher)
- [Access Indigenous Knowledges](#) (publisher)

Social-Relational Understandings of Health and Well-Being from an Indigenous Perspective

In this article, Treena Delormier presents the findings of a research project examining understandings of well-being within the Kahnawà:ke community, located near Montreal, especially in regards to diabetes prevention.

- [“Social-Relational Understandings of Health and Well-Being from an Indigenous Perspective” by Treena Delormier](#) (Academia.edu)

Blog posts

Beyond Do No Harm to Being Responsible Relatives: Celebrating and Valuing Indigenous Scholarship Through Peer-Reviewed Publications and Processes

In this blog post, Larry Bremner (Métis) and Nicole Bowman (Lunaape/Mohican) discuss their process as co-editors of the new Roots and Relations section of the *Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation* (CJPE). The inaugural issue will appear in the June 2023 edition of CJPE.

- [“Beyond Do No Harm to Being Responsible Relatives” by Bremner and Bowman](#)

Respect, reciprocity, and relationship: Lessons I have learned as a non-Indigenous person working primarily with Indigenous people and communities

In this blog post, Nathanael O’Connor reflects on his experience as a non-Indigenous person living and working on the traditional lands of the Dena’ina peoples, located in the area now called Alaska.

- [“Respect, reciprocity, and relationship” by Nathanael O’Connor](#)



Books

***Research is Ceremony: Indigenous Research Methods* by Shawn Wilson**

This book, released in 2020 by Fernwood Publishing, describes a research paradigm shared by Indigenous scholars in the areas now known as Canada and Australia and demonstrates how to put this paradigm into practice.

- [Buy *Research is Ceremony* from the publisher](#)
- [Access *Research is Ceremony* through University of Alberta libraries](#)

***Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples* by Linda Tuhiwai Smith**

This book, first released in 1999, is considered a foundational text in decolonization and research methodologies. It provides a powerful critique of research in the context of colonialism and European imperialism. A third edition was released in 2021 by Zed Book, an imprint of Bloomsburg Publishing.

- [Buy *Decolonizing Methodologies* from the publisher](#)
- [Access *Decolonizing Methodologies* through University of Alberta libraries](#)

Podcasts

Indigenous Insights

In this podcast, scholar Gladys Rowe (Muskego Inniniw/Swampy Cree) talks to Indigenous evaluation practitioners, leaders, and scholars working in the Indigenous evaluation space. There are 11 episodes available.

- [Listen to Indigenous Insights](#)

Note: this podcast is available wherever podcasts are streamed.

Further reading

Indigenous Approaches to Data and Evaluation Reading List

This reading list was compiled by the creators of the Data Governance and Management Toolkit for Self-Governing Indigenous Governments, which aims to support Indigenous governments with data sovereignty and management.

- [Access the reading list](#)
- [Learn more about the Data Governance and Management Toolkit for Self-Governing Indigenous Governments](#)