

Cultural Safety When Building Partnerships with Indigenous Community

CHUM

November 15, 2021

Dr. Alex M. McComber

Kahnawake Schools Diabetes Prevention Program (KSDPP)

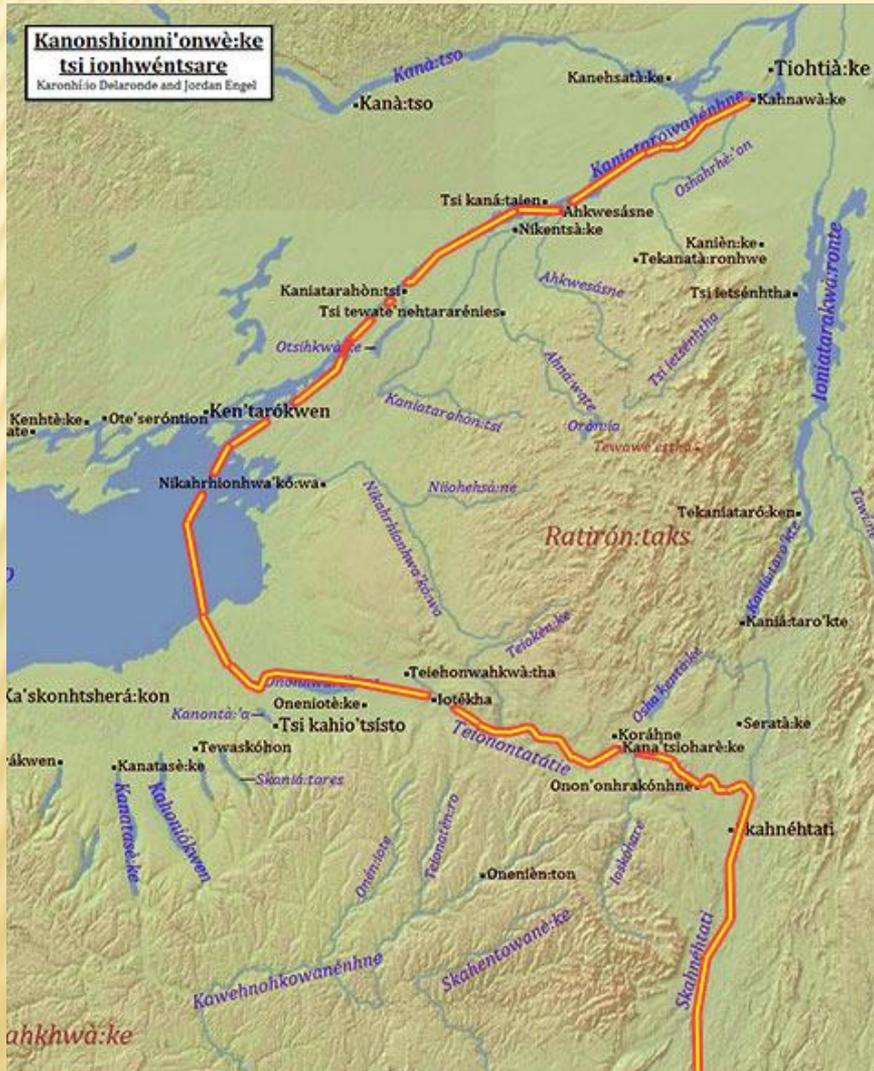
Dept. of Family Medicine, McGill University

OHEN:TON
KARIWATEHKWEN

"WORDS BEFORE ALL ELSE"



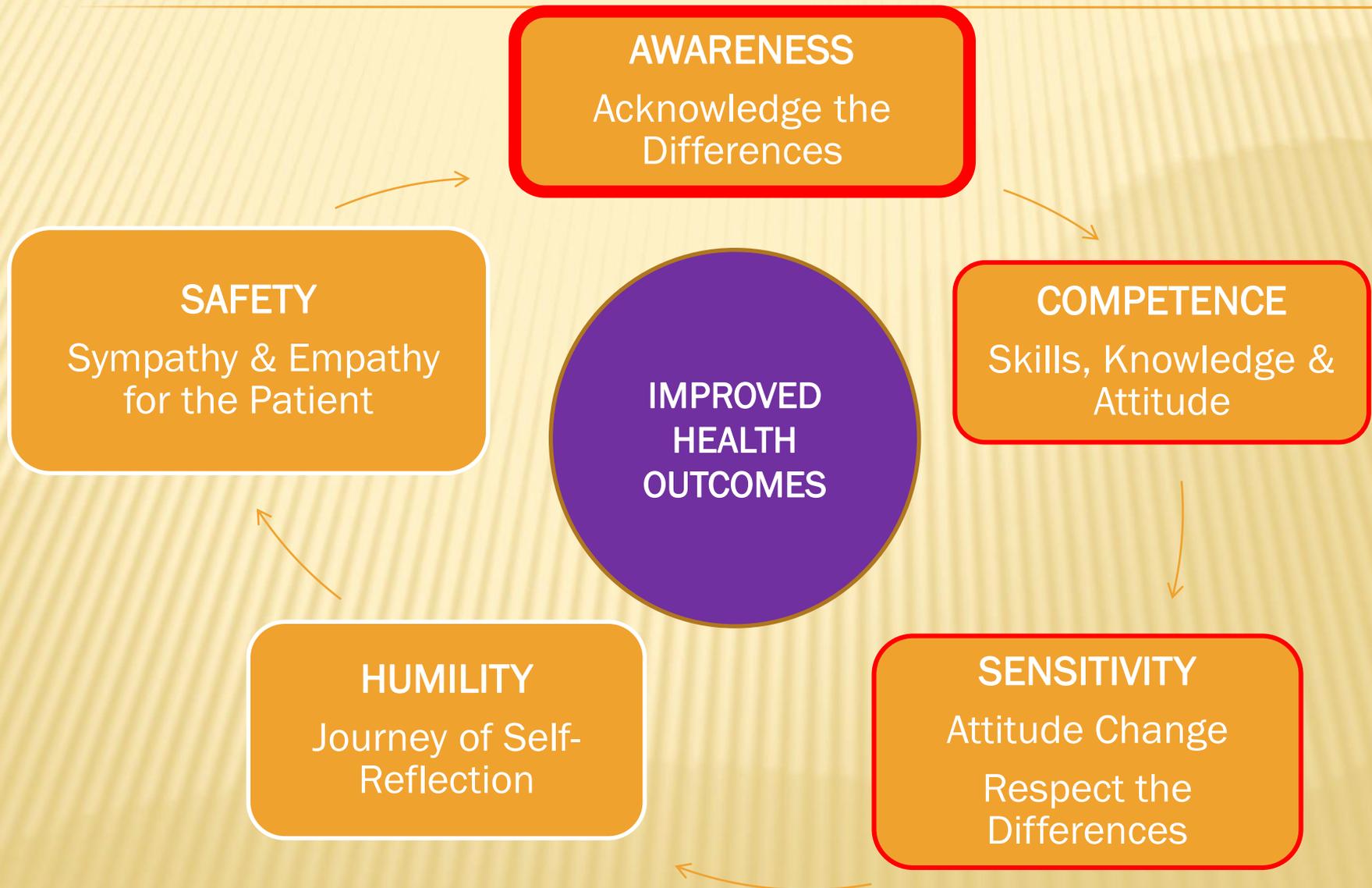
Situating Ourselves



Objectives

1. An introduction to Indigenous world view & life
2. Indigenous perspectives on Western world-view and Canadian history and its impacts on Indigenous Peoples
3. Become familiar with cultural safety and its role in research with Indigenous communities

The Cultural Safety Journey





Creation Story Teachings

Spirit Origins

Sacred Relationships

“Skennen” Peace

“Kahnikonhri:io” The Good
Mind

“Kahsestenshera” Power

“Konnoronhkwahshera”
Love

Living in Balance



Living in Balance

Relationships

Roles & Responsibilities

Ceremony & Ritual

A Joyful Existence

A Thriving Existence

7 Generations Thinking



Indigenous Ways of Knowing

Traditional Indigenous Education

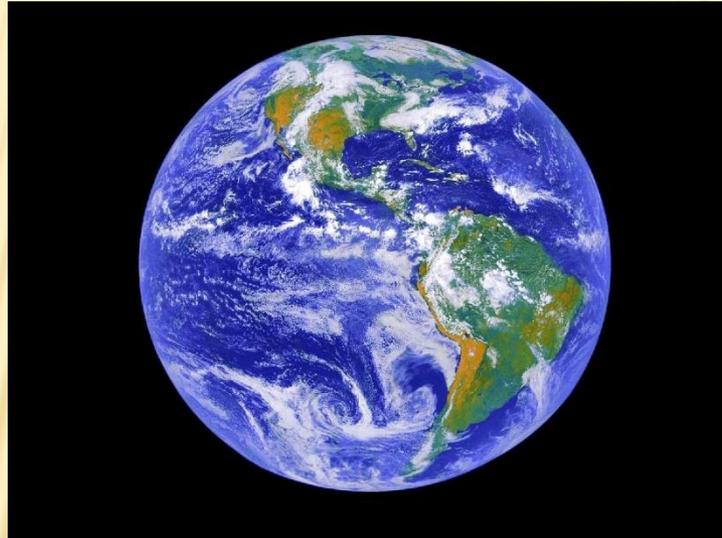


- Community & Environment Classroom
- Role Modeling, Direct Instruction, Apprenticeship

- Ensures the continuity of the people
- Ensures continuity of the society
- Ensures continuity of the culture

Indigenous Knowledge

Knowing Creator – Creation
Understanding Spirit Relationships
Ritual & Ceremony
Spirit beings on a physical journey



Creation Story
Mythology
Wisdom
Transparency
Consensus
The Medicines

Mother Earth
The Plant Life
Our Relatives
The Weather
Culture
Language
Roles &
Responsibilities
Songs & Dance

Knowing Self
Nurturing Our Gifts
Relationships
Values



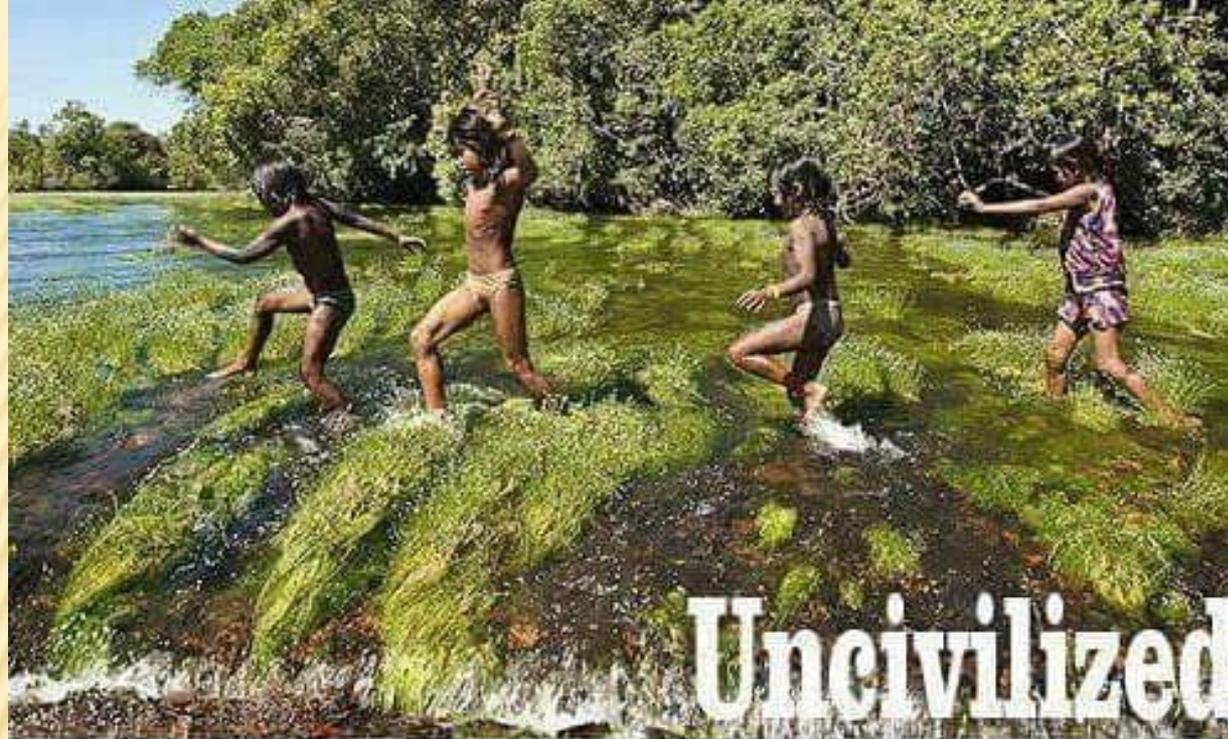
Western World View

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.”

- Genesis 1:26

The Doctrine of Discovery: Terra Nullius





Uncivilized

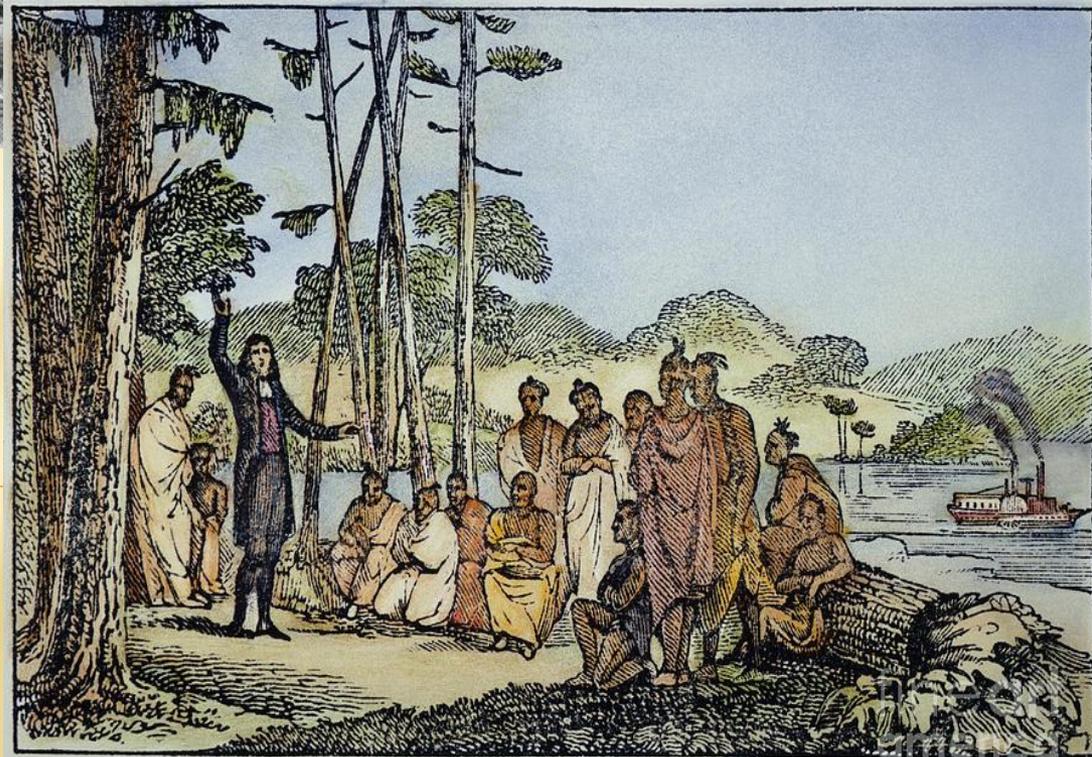


Civilization

A
CLASH OF
WORLD
VIEWS



FIRST CONTACT TRAUMA



Missionary preaching to the Indians.



Advancing Civilization

a.k.a.
Colonization





OFFICE CONSOLIDATION

CODIFICATION ADMINISTRATIVE

Indian Act

Loi sur les Indiens

R.S., 1985, c. 1-5

amended by

R.S., 1985, c. 32 (1st Suppl.)

R.S., 1985, c. 27 (2nd Suppl.)

R.S., 1985, c. 12, 43, 48 (4th Suppl.)

L.R. (1985), ch. 1-5

modifiée par

L.R. (1985), ch. 32 (1^{er} suppl.)

L.R. (1985), ch. 27 (2^e suppl.)

L.R. (1985), ch. 12, 43 et 48 (4^e suppl.)

September, 1989

Septembre 1989

1867
Confederation

1876
The Indian Act

1969 - Policy Paper to end the Indian Act

We have this...paper.

It's white.



2021 – Nothing Changes



Ethnostress

The label for the confusion & disruption a people with common identity experience in their world from the negative realities of the larger imposing society.

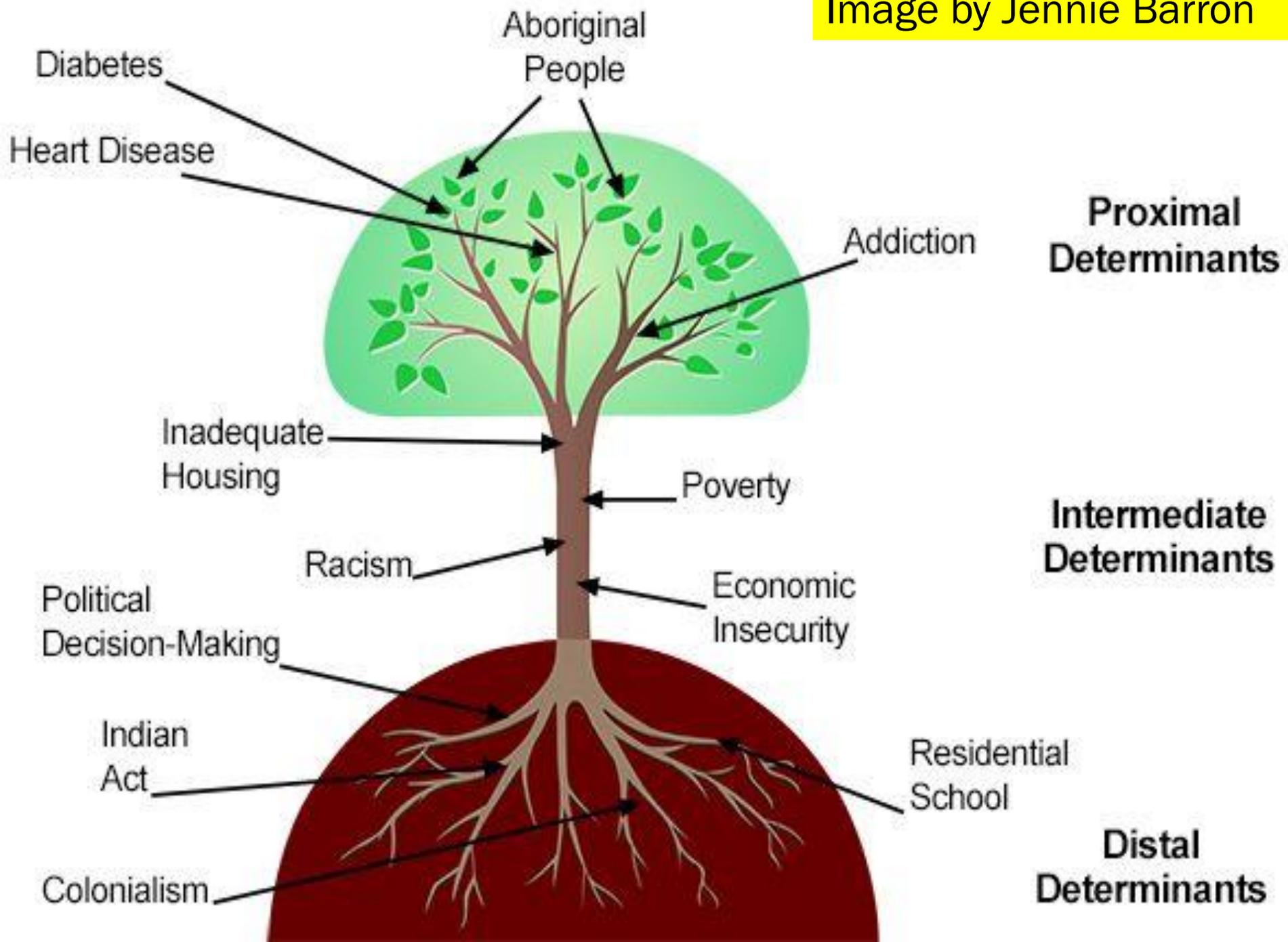
Adapted from "Ethnostress: The Disruption of the Aboriginal Spirit" by Bob Antone & Diane Hill, Tribal Sovereignty Associates, Hagersville, Ontario NOA1HO (August 1992) Copyright



Powerlessness & Hopelessness

- Disruption of cultural beliefs that support joyful identity
- Oppressive conditions forced on People in their home
- People learn to accept low self-confidence & self-esteem
- Reinforced with racism, negative messaging & symbolism
- ✘ Early Childhood, Education, Religion Economy, Sex, etc.





Reflective Discussion

How have these lecture topics impacted on your professional perspectives as a researcher ?

Breakout Groups:

1. Select chairperson, timekeeper, recorder & reporter
2. Each person has 1 minute to respond to the question
3. Each person opts for 2nd response (up to 1 minute)
4. Open discussion to develop summary notes
5. Oral and written reporting

Awakenings

Civil Rights Movement



Vietnam War Protests



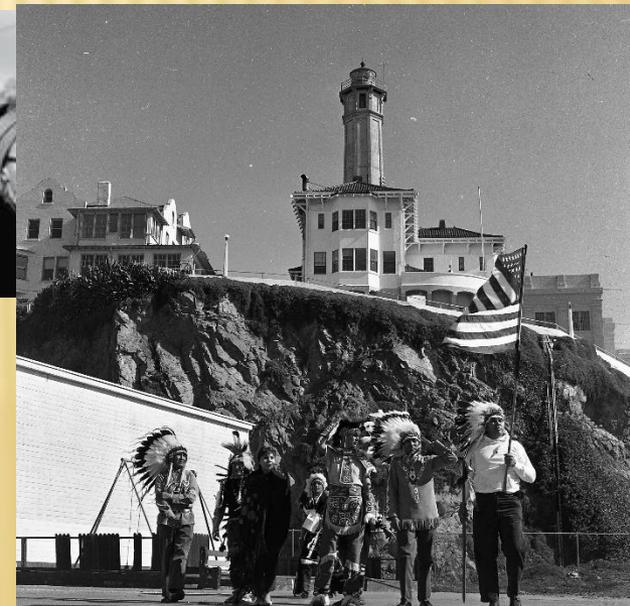
Student Protests



Women's Liberation



American Indian Movement



Response to the White Paper (1969)

“In spite of all government attempts to convince Indians to accept the white paper, their efforts will fail, because Indians understand that the path outlined by the Department of Indian Affairs through its mouthpiece, the Honourable Mr. Chrétien, leads directly to cultural genocide. We will not walk this path.”

—Harold Cardinal, The Unjust Society

Awakenings



National Indian Brotherhood



The Oka Crisis



Idle No More



Water Protectors



Helicopter Research



“Outside research teams swooped down from the skies, swarmed all over town, asked nosy questions that were none of their business and then disappeared never to be heard of again”

- Louis Montour MD , 1987

Community-based Participatory Research

- Participatory & cooperative
- Engaging community members & researchers in a joint process
- Equal contributions *“all heads are the same level”*
- A co-learning process
- Building consensus respectfully
- Local community capacity-building
- An empowering process through which participants can increase control over their lives
- Achieves a balance between research & action

- *Barbara Israel (1998)*

KSDPP: Kahnawake Schools Diabetes Prevention Program (1994)

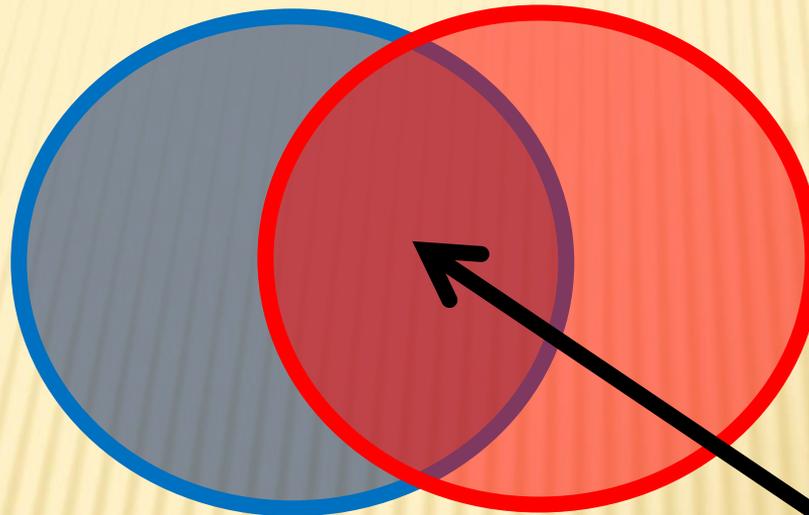


Prevent Type 2 diabetes in future generations of Kahnawakero:non through the promotion of healthy eating habits, daily physical activity & positive attitude.

KSDPP Partnership

COMMUNITY

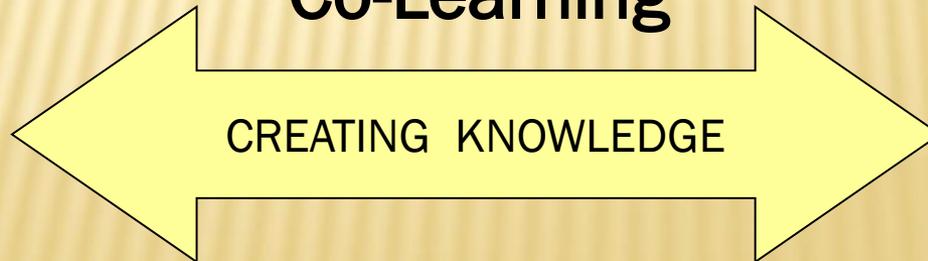
Community
Advisory Board
Intervention Staff



ACADEMY

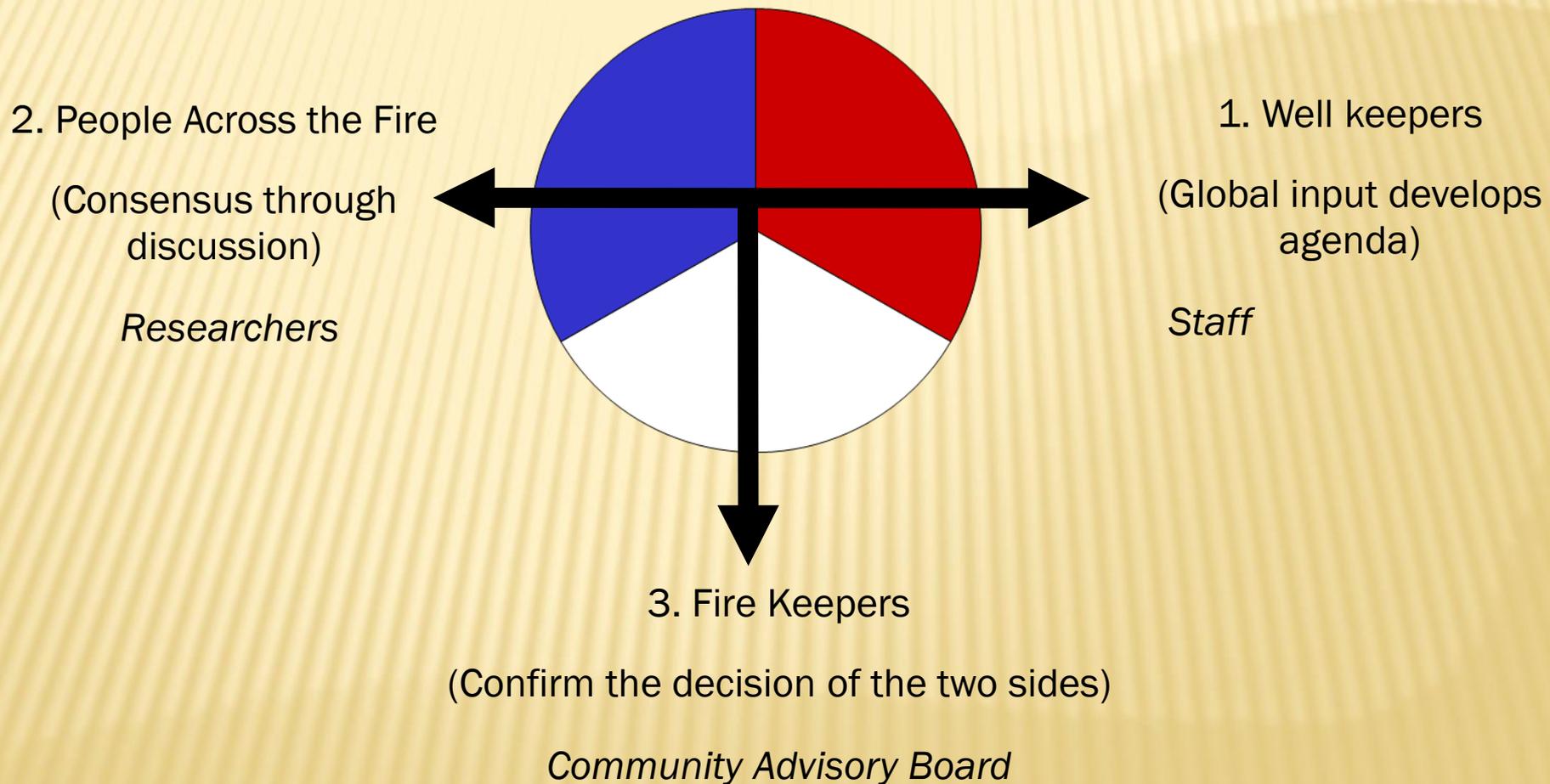
Researchers
Students

Co-Learning



**Ethical
space
(W Ermine)**

Kanien'kehá:ka Decision-Making Building Consensus



KSDPP Code of Research Ethics

“The self-determination of the Kanien’kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke to make decisions about research is recognized and respected. The academic researchers’ obligation to contribute to knowledge creation in their discipline is recognized and respected.

Research should support the empowerment of Kahnawà:ke to promote healthy lifestyles, wellness, self-esteem, and the Kanien'kehá:ka responsibility of caring for the Seven Generations.” 1995





FNIGC | CGIPN

First Nations Information Governance Centre

Le Centre de gouvernance de l'information des Premières Nations

OCAP™ Guidelines (1998)

- Ownership, Control, Access, Possession of data by communities
- Self-determination in research
- Forward-looking and pro-active
- New avenues for expression of self-determination & self-governance
- A measure of hope for positive change

Indigenous Methodologies: Tricksters



Indigenous Methods: Kitchen Table Conversations



Indigenous Methods: On the Land Teachings



KAHNAWAKE GOAL OF EDUCATION

- ✘ To produce young people who
 - + know who they are by knowing their culture, language and values
 - + are able to successfully live in the modern world, knowing whatever skills they need

“Feasibility Study on Indian Control of Indian Education” National Indian Brotherhood (1972)

- ✘ Local Authority - Parental Control
- ✘ Local Authors

“INDIAN CONTROL...”

- Curriculum
- Nursery School & Kindergarten
- Junior & Senior High School
- Vocational Training
- Adult Education
- Post-Secondary Education
- Alcohol & Drug Education
- Language of Instruction



Eagle Spirit Science Futures
is a health and science camp
for Indigenous youth

Camp dates: JULY 15-21, 2018

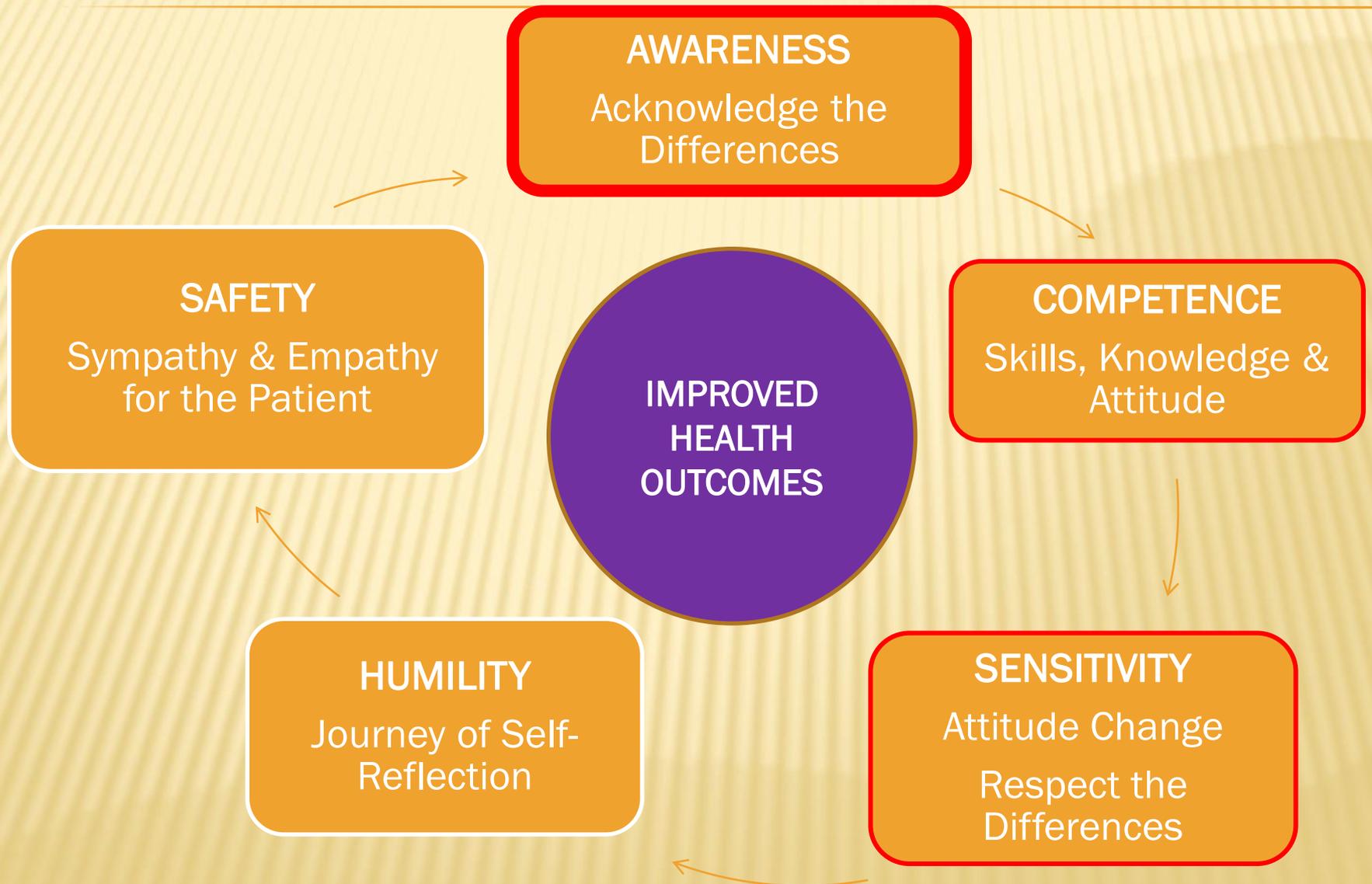
For information contact us
at indigenous.health@mcgill.ca



McGill

Indigenous Health
Professions Program
Eniethi'nikonhraiéntho'

Cultural Safety



Cultural Safety Indicators

PROTOCOL	Respect for cultural forms of engagement
PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE	Understand one's own cultural identity and share self-information to create a sense of equity and trust
PROCESS	Engage in mutual learning, check on cultural safety of the service recipient
POSITIVE PURPOSE	Ensure the process yields the right outcome for the service recipient according to that recipient's values, preferences and lifestyle
PARTNERSHIP	Promote collaborative practice (Adapted from Ball, 2007b, p. 1)

Reflective Discussion

As a researcher, what do I need to know & understand before embarking on a research idea, proposal and relationship?

How can my Department, Faculty of Medicine and University support my journey?

NIA:WEN * THANK YOU * MERCI

