http:fn-innovation-pn.com

Colonialism, Development and the e-Community
&
The First Nations Innovation Research Project

First Nations Innovation:
Research Partnership
http://fn-innovation-pn.com
http://firstmile.ca

"No research about us without us."

+ First Nations Innovation: Overview

- Focus: First Nations innovating with broadband networks and ICT

- Funded since 2006 by SSHRC

- Partners contribute in-kind

- Four partners, four provinces, three time zones:
  - Keewaytinook Okimakanak
  - First Nations Education Council
  - Atlantic Canada's First Nation Help Desk
  - University of New Brunswick

Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources

First Nations are Innovating With ICT

e-Community

- Community-owned and controlled infrastructure

- Community-run applications
  - Online communications
  - E-health
  - Distance education
  - E-administration, e-business, e-justice
  - Videoconferencing
  - Online engagement by community members

Cell tower in North Spirit Lake

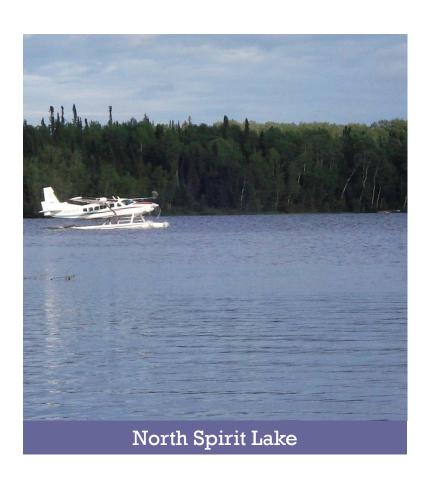# Indigenous and Western Ways of Knowing (Two-eyed seeing)

Glen S. Coulthard

Subjects of Empire: Indigenous Peoples and the 'Politics of Recognition' in Canada

"…our cultures have much to teach the Western world about the establishment of relationships within and between peoples and the natural world that are profoundly non-imperialist.."

On the land near Fort Severn First Nation

Canada's Settler Colonial Economy
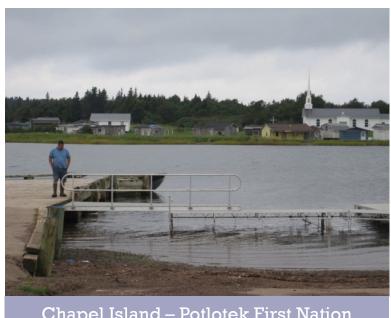

North Spirit Lake

- Resources taken from Indigenous lands are subsidizing the Canadian economy

- Indigenous peoples have oral record, the treaties and the Supreme Court's interpretation of the Constitution on their side, but they do not have the power to enforce it

- Many confrontations, litigation, etc. as a result
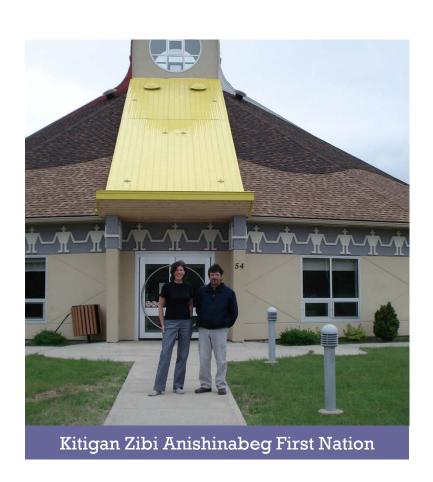
Historical progression of Indigenous rights

James Anaya (UN)

- Three eras of Indigenous rights:

1) Imperialism, colonialism (continues today)

2) Recognition of rights (UNDRIP)

3) Implementation of rights

Chapel Island – Potlotek First Nation

How Can Research Support First Nations ICT Innovation and Indigenous Rights?

Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg First Nation

- Engage community members in the design and analysis of the research

- Engage community leaders in publications and presentations

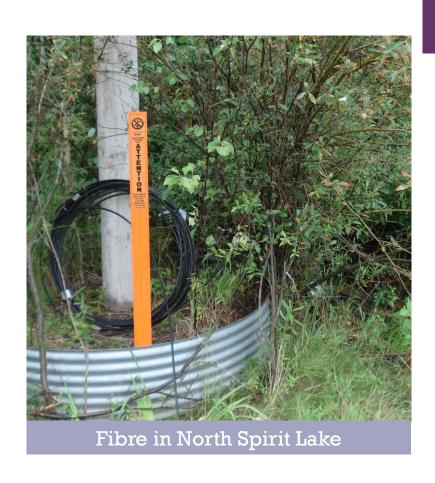- Showcase and celebrate community ICT innovation

Publications a Project Focus

- More than 50 publications online – 10 translated to French
- (handout)

- First Nation organization partners have documentation for their needs

- First Nation community members have their voices in the publications

- Publications with four First Nation communities to date

Membertou Convention Centre

Project Publication Policy

- All publication must have at least one Aboriginal author

- Every community-based publication must have at least one community member author

- Engage community leadership in presentations

- New copyright policy – license to publish

Fibre in North Spirit Lake

Future Work for This Team

Research

- Develop e-Community strategies as community research projects

- Develop First Nation policies for broadband and online services

- Study e-services with collaborating communities in Atlantic, Quebec and Ontario

Outreach

- Publish community success stories in First Nations media outlets

- More work to support community leaders to present the research

- New online UNB course – SOCI 2804

Baskets at the Wagmatcook Gift Shop

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Keewaytinook Mobile in Fort Severn