

Including Indigenous Knowledge, Voices and Perspectives in Development Practice - Annotated Agenda (EN)

Event Introduction

- Introduction by Roheen Bhatti (English) and Eric Dupuis (French)
 - NOTE: Event notes are available in French and English to facilitate a bilingual panel.
 - Land acknowledgement and statement of solidarity
 - Integrate and include indigenous knowledge and perspectives into development practice
 - Anishinabe and Algonquin territory
- Introduction of moderator: Dr. Audrey Giles
 - School of Human Kinetics, as well as Anthropology
- Introduction of panelists
 - Mariam Wallet Mohamed Aboubakarine
 - Working on the preservation of biodiversity and global health of the environment, humans and animals
 - Jeremy Hapeta
 - From Aotearoa, New Zealand
 - Sage Lacerte
 - Member of the Bear Clan and Lake Babine Nation in what is known as Victoria, BC
 - Mirian Masaquiza
 - From Ecuador
 - Currently a staff member in the indigenous peoples and development branch of the UN
 - Madelaine McCracken
 - Métis (Red river past establishment) in what is known as Manitoba
 - Advocate for indigenous youth rights particularly in education

Panel Discussion

Question 1: What has been your experience with the UN declaration on the rights of Indigenous people?

Mariam W.M. Aboubakrine:

- Canada as a country prone to systemic racism
- Think about sustainable development within this new declaration.
- Countries have changed their perspectives on their thinking on indigenous involvement
 - Note that this declaration is only aspirational, things we aspire to achieve

- There needs to be an urgency and speed to blend laws to meet the aspirations in this declaration
 - This varies in each nation and takes time
- Notes a difference in attitudes between Canadian province
- Progress, but many obstacles still 14 years after this declaration

Madelaine McCracken

- Engaged in part of the consultation process
- Sees a hope to be able to move forward and serve the global landscapes as well as specific communities
- Move forward together and move forward together to take on this change and harness this responsibility through education

Mirian Masaquiza

- This declaration as the main document, particularly from her perspective in the UN
- Coming from many conventions at the international level
- This concept of collective rights was missing from the original declaration of human rights
- Believes that it helps countries acknowledge the voice of indigenous peoples
 - Ex, declaration became a national law in Bolivia
- Notes how many indigenous people are migrants within Latin America
 - Steady adoption of Indigenous rights laws across Latin America
- Changes of national courts and judicial systems to provide rights to indigenous people
- Believes we (Indigenous people) need to use the declaration to get change that each community requires

Question 2: How have indigenous communities been able to mobilize in COVID-19?

Sage Lacerte

- National Youth ambassador of the Moosehide campaign
- Canadians in this time have been given time to reflect on our history and our future
 - Being called upon to turn a heavy page in our history
- Indigenous people moving from surviving to thriving
- Heightened levels of violence in indigenous communities during the pandemic
- Seeing the Canadian state to finally make movements to uphold the previously mentioned UN document as well as other legislation
- We still need to walk the road of reconciliation during this pandemic
- Her work helps reduce victimization and violence, which is particularly important during this pandemic
 - Ultimately the COVID hardships are a matter of human rights

- Violence beyond the domestic space
 - Within health care systems, microaggressions and requiring safety in general community spaces

Jeremy Hapeta

- Speaking on behalf of himself and his family, but not all Maori and certainly not all Indigenous peoples
- Particular focus on sport for development
- New Zealand government introduced a recovery package to rethink sport in New Zealand.
- Maori in make up 17.5% of the population and 1 in every 5 identify as Maori
- Kaupapa Maori response plan
 - 2.5% of the funding has been allocated, thus a 15% gap if funds were distributed equitably
 - Notes differences in Canadian funding per population
- How are these gaps being addressed in culturally safe ways?
- Need the government to be culturally responsive, not just give crumbs
- Book Time Out: Global Perspectives on Sport and the Covid-19 Lockdown

Mirian Masaquiza

- Did a meeting regarding indigenous peoples and pandemics for UNDESA
- Had doctors discuss what health issues particularly affect indigenous peoples in the field
- In many parts of the world for many years it has been a matter of survival
 - Have not had access to health services, not treated the same as others in hospitals, and a slow government response
 - Using traditional medicine to help themselves, did not wait for outside help
 - Expectation for indigenous women to help with children while sick, confronted with violence
- What to do to heal? To have a better recovery?
 - Participation: Government needs participation at all levels, WITH funding.
 - Coordination of traditional and Western medicine
 - Having resources available from different entities and try to share as much as possible
- Rethink the 2030 agenda that we were supposed to achieve
 - How can we implement this development agenda? With the perspective of Indigenous peoples
- Regions with large indigenous populations need to consult with these communities and work together for change

Question 3: How can we ensure indigenous ways of Knowing are integrated into development projects?

Jeremy Hapeta

- Took the ideas of 3Ps from the treaty with the British Crown and discussed how to apply indigenous people's perspectives for healing
- Important to merge ideas of thinking in terms of theoretical perspectives
- Taking for granted that indigenous ways are legitimate and leaving this white privilege at the door.
- Being politically astute to understand policies
- Keep everyone culturally safe
- The most important thing in the world = the people, the people, the people
 - People of the past, present and future
- Working within a post-colonial framework and it is hard to find keywords in academic structures

Madelaine McCracken

- Framework prior to Reconciliation
 - Walk together and being able to respect relations
 - Puts this at a very level for folks to comprehend
- What morally and ethically needs to be brought into the relationship
- What does a relationship actually mean? What does it look like?
 - Family community and connectivity are important within Indigenous communities
 - Important in order for these communities to feel trust

Mariam W.M. Aboubakrine

- Must learn to listen
 - A process that requires more than living peoples
 - Indigenous perspectives include peace and reconciliation with nature
- Importance of opening discussion spaces and listening to their voices, notably the young but all intersectional groups
- Article 20 - Indigenous people have the right to conserve their economic, political, judicial and social systems
- Think about the State your representing and relations with the others you work with
 - Remember to still consult/include indigenous perspectives in these international context, especially within development projects
- Do not have the choice to ignore the existence of these peoples
- A wave of change in research and education,
 - But we can expand more, change how we do research, evaluation, curriculums and methodology

Sage Lacerte

- Many institutions are struggling with this,
- How do we engage with indigenous people without making similar mistakes? What is the value proposition for both of these groups?
 - Guilt is not a compelling argument for this
- Understand how indigenous people describe relationships
- Tangible and specific space between and connecting us
- Important to share these stories
- Conduct more policy research
- Actually read the UN declaration of the rights of Indigenous people
- Follow the protocols, acknowledge the territory, allow people the time to speak their own language and introduce themselves in ways that are important to their communities

Question Period

Question 1 : Is there a way to integrate indigenous knowledge into university education?

Madelaine McCracken:

- Newly elected for the indigenous students association at UOttawa
- Need larger representation in general, more perspectives
- Obviously there is a gap, structural restraints
 - How many First Nations, Metis and Inuit people are finishing secondary education? Are able to afford and attend university?
 - How many staff identify as Indigenous

Mariam W.M. Aboubakrine

- Encourage universities to rethink methodology and research

Question 2: Is there a lack of indigenous perspectives and analysis in sport research?

Jeremy Hapeta

- Questioning the status quo
- Students have a lot of power, fee paying students should question this
 - Where is my Maori professor? Where is my Pacifica professor?
- Think about your allyship and question course content
- No that there is not lack of indigenous analysis at the field level
 - The difficulty is getting it published and disseminated in academic journals
 - The top down approaches are not meeting with the grassroots approach

Conclusion

Final thoughts:

- Sage Lacerte: Use ceremonies and community gathering during this pandemic. Future Moose Hide Campaign Development society event (**Free and open to all, link below**)
- Mirian Masaquiza: Amplify whatever has been taken away from this conversation. Hopefully understand why it is important that indigenous people participate even in politics. Allyship and solidarity is required, especially among university students.
- Mariam W.M. Aboubakrine: There is still much to do, so come back next year with one action that you decided to do/implement from what you learned in this conference.
- Madelaine McCracken: Do not be afraid to take this on as a responsibility.

Links and other resources

Thank you everyone. On behalf of Moose Hide Campaign Development Society we invite you to join us on February 11th as we come together online for a day of action, inspiration, ceremony and fasting. To register, please visit:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/MooseHideCampaign/MooseHideCampaignDay2021>

For further information: sagelacerte@moosehidecampaign.ca

Follow the work of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues <https://www.facebook.com/unpfii>

Thank you for listening, here

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/covid-19.html>

Recommended Reading:

TRC's Calls to Action // Appels à l'action

http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf

http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls_to_Action_French.pdf

UNDRIP

https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf

https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_F_web.pdf

MMIWG Calls for Justice

https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Calls_for_Justice.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0yVRw8LNQX4nLInOcRKB7qOd1wCYMybSO6LpRpy18M_4Lp3NswEl2WEMg#:~:text=1.5%20We%20call%20upon%20all,%2C%20girls%2C%20and%20SLGBTQIA%20people