COLLABORATIVE INDIGENOUS RESEARCH DIGITAL GARDEN

Research projects led by Indigenous scholars, communities, and research practitioners have grown immensely across the globe and in diverse research fields. Over the past five years, Unangax̂ scholar and Canada Research Chair Dr. Eve Tuck has been researching the practice she calls collaborative Indigenous research, an intersection of Indigenous and participatory research methodologies. Tuck assembled a team of Indigenous graduate students, Black graduate students, and graduate students of colour to work on this project. "Many of us know that research has done harm, but don't have access to the inspiring ways we can be doing research more ethically with Indigenous communities. The Collaborative Indigenous Research Digital Garden seeks to remedy this," Tuck says.

Dr. Eve Tuck is an Associate Professor in the Department of Social Justice Education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), University of Toronto. She is Canada Research Chair of Indigenous Methodologies with Youth and Communities and the founding director of the Tkaronto Collaborative Research for Communities, Land, and Education (CIRCLE) Lab, located at the Ontario Institutes for Studies in Education, at the University of Toronto.

On November 15, Dr. Eve Tuck and the Tkaronto CIRCLE Lab will launch the Collaborative Indigenous Research Digital Garden, which is a digital repository of examples of two streams of research methodologies: Indigenous methodologies and participatory methodologies. These examples come from studies done *with* rather *than* on Indigenous communities across the globe. As the practice of collaborative Indigenous research grows, emerging Indigenous researchers are constantly seeking for new ways to do their work, and new connections with other researchers. The Collaborative Indigenous Research Digital Garden brings both inspiration and connection to both new and experienced researchers seeking to work with Indigenous communities. It provides newcomer practitioners with realistic examples of mutually beneficial and ethical Indigenous studies done in collaboration with Indigenous communities, often with Indigenous communities, and/or with Indigenous researchers taking the lead. Most importantly, practitioners around the globe can add their own studies, in order to enliven the field and our knowledge of one another. Having a central, open-access, and virtual location for researchers in and outside of the university is an invaluable contribution that reflects the ideals of moving the tools of research that are usually held by the university into the hands of community members.

The Tkaronto CIRCLE Lab research team worked with an international advisory board of 15 scholars, among whom are the most respected researchers in participatory and Indigenous methodologies. The huge OISE-based team supporting this project includes Black, Indigenous, and racialized graduate students and Education Commons staff. They have worked for five years to build the site, which began with a literature review of nearly 1000 studies, the preparation of nearly 200 research project profiles, and the intuitive design of the digital platform itself. But, this is only the beginning. Over the next few years, the site will grow to include hundreds of other examples, especially those that are not represented in academic publications.

The repository is referred to as *Digital Garden*, because it was created as a seed, a starting point itself, to grow the practice of collaborative Indigenous research. The best part is, the repository itself is participatory, and researchers around the world will be able to add their own studies. In this way, emerging scholars and scholars from around the world are welcomed to contribute to the growth of the Digital Garden.

THE DIGITAL GARDEN

This digital garden is hosted on the website of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, at the University of Toronto. It can most easily be accessed at www.collaborativeindigenousresearch.com (available as of November 15 2022)

The site compiles examples of research studies from around the globe including Canada, the US, New Zealand, Australia, amongst other regions. Most of the examples are presented in English there are also examples in Spanish.

Each research project was compiled into a profile (called 'cards' on the website), that details research information about each project such as,

- How the researchers conduct the study in an ethical way?
- Methods used in the study, such as surveys, interviews, archival work, focus groups, interviews or mixed methods.
- Theories of change of the study, how the studies facilitate the change Indigenous communities desire
- How study findings are in alignment with community knowledge, understanding, belief systems and values.
- The kinds of evidence the study generates, and how knowledge gained from the study will be used and distributed

Dr. Tuck has published on the theories of change in social science research for more than 15 years, and this is an especially exciting feature of the profiles on the site.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Eve Tuck is Associate Professor of Critical Race and Indigenous Studies at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), University of Toronto. She is Canada Research Chair of Indigenous Methodologies with Youth and Communities. Tuck is the founding director of the Tkaronto CIRCLE Lab.

Tuck is Unangax̂ and is an enrolled member of the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island, Alaska. She grew up outside of her community, living in Pennsylvania as a child, and New York City as a young adult. She earned a PhD in Urban Education from The Graduate Center, The City University of New York in 2008. Tuck's work is on urban education and Indigenous studies. As a whole, her research focuses on how Indigenous social thought can be engaged to create more fair and just social policy, more meaningful social movements, and robust approaches to decolonization.

QUOTES FROM OTHER SCHOLARS

"*It's simply invaluable to have this living archive of Indigenous-led projects, especially in terms of being able to search by truly meaningful relations such as Indigenous Science, gender, and intergenerational methods, to name just a few. This will be a core source of inspiration, citation, and learning in our lab for certain.*" Dr. Max Liboiron

Dr. Max Liboiron is an Associate Professor in Geography and is formerly the Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Research) at Memorial University in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada. Liboiron is Red River Métis/Michif raised in Lac la Biche, Treaty 6 territory. Author of the book *"Pollution is Colonialism"*.

"*Carving a space of radical joy, epistemic justice, scholarly love and public provocations, the Collaborative Indigenous Research Digital Garden offers researchers, students, elders, advocates, teachers, youth and ancestors a community where ancestral knowledge lives and is passed on; where critique is vibrant and generativity flourishes; where Dr. Eve Tuck and colleagues invite and archive critical inquiry that animates silenced knowledges and carves paths for indigenous research not yet. A treasure, a gift, a chosen family of delicious projects and indeed a garden -- THANK YOU to those who designed, contributed, visit and will plant seeds yet to come.*" Dr. Michelle Fine

Dr. Michelle Fine is a Distinguished Professor of Critical Psychology, Women's Studies, Social Welfare, American Studies and Urban Education at the Graduate Center, CUNY and founding faculty member of The Public Science Project, a university-community research space designed in collaboration with movements for racial and educational justice.

RESEARCH TEAM

The research team includes graduate students from the Tkaronto Collaborative Research for Communities, Land, and Education, (CIRCLE) CIRCLE Lab.

The Tkaronto CIRCLE Lab was created in 2017 with funding from the Canada Fund for Innovation John R. Evans Leadership Fund. When it is at full capacity, our lab includes students, faculty, staff, and community researchers. We are a group of Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour graduate students committed to social change, supportive openness, and collaboration and collaborative writing. As emerging scholars and researchers, we grow with intention and in good relation to each other, to communities, and with lands and waters.

QUOTES FROM GRADUATE STUDENTS

"*As an Indigenous graduate student, I think the Digital Garden is a generous resource that contributes greatly to Indigenous studies and qualitative research. The database provides a tool for community researchers, students, learners and communities to learn from and contribute to a wide array of collaborative Indigenous research methods.*" Diane Hill

"*As an emerging Indigenous scholar, I am thrilled to have access to an Indigenous digital database but also also a space; a space where I can engage with the work of future colleagues, whose work I admire or I don't know about yet. I want my research work to be in conversation with them on how to conduct research with communities in ways that are collaborative. Sometimes, we need to look at examples of ethical research. I want to learn, how did they do it? What can I learn from them? What was their theory of change?*"Fernanda Yanchapaxi
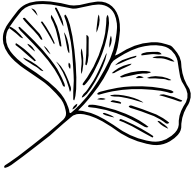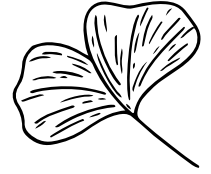
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Tkaronto CIRCLE Lab Members and Colleagues, January 2020
[Image Description: Photo of colleagues and members of the Tkaronto]

HOW THE DIGITAL GARDEN WORKS

When users first enter the site, there is a tab titled 'research' where they will find all the examples in the Digital Garden.

Filters can be applied to refine a user's search, ranging from categories, areas of study, regions, and tags that cover various research topics.

HOW THE DIGITAL GARDEN WORKS

Regions

☐ Africa

☐ Arctic

☐ Asia

☐ Europe

☐ North America

☐ Oceania

☐ South America

Filters include searching by region, tags that are relevant to research topics, and categories.

Tags

☐ Art-making

☐ Centering Indigenous scholars in the academy

☐ Children and families

☐ Climate justice

☐ Community-based design research

☐ Cultural Health Practices

☐ Ecology & environment

☐ Economics

☐ Elders

☐ Food

☐ Indigenous epistemologies and ontologies

☐ Indigenous Interventions in social work

☐ Indigenous interview methods

☐ Indigenous knowledge in curriculum

Project George: An Indigenous Land-Based Approach to Resilience for Youth
By: Janice Cindy Gaudet

Category: Indigenous Education, Indigenous Science, Land

This article discusses how land-based learning initiatives can provide a better understanding of Indigenous resilience within the context of Indigenous resilience to colonial violence.

Land Education -   PAR +

MORE INFO

On all of the cards that come up in a refined search, filters can be removed or added by using the +/ - signs on the bottom of the cards.

HOW TO BECOME A CONTRIBUTOR TO THE DIGITAL GARDEN

Becoming a contributor is a user-friendly process which can start by clicking on the 'contribute' tab on the home page.

Contribute

We invite you to add to the collection of profiles to further contribute to understandings, writings and theories concerning Collaborative Indigenous Research.

Contribute To The Project

Contributors will be asked about their project, what categories it falls under, description of the project, citation, regions, places, and the communities you worked with, methods, significant quotes, ethical framework, and more. Once user's have submitted their projects, our team will review their submission to ensure we have all the necessary information. From there, it will be published in the Digital Garden.

Collaborative Indigenous Research

Home   About   Research   Contribute   Contact

Contribute

We invite you to contribute research profiles to be included in the Collaborative Indigenous Research Digital Garden! Each profile represents one research project.

We aim to highlight the methods, ethics, theories of change, and forms of knowledge mobilization present in Collaborative Indigenous Research methodologies. The turn towards collaborative and participatory research methodologies uplifted thr[...] these projects rejects exploitative, extractive and damage-centred research that is all too pervasive in research that inter[...] with Indigenous communities.

Fill out the submission form below to generate a profile to be included in the project. The submissions will be reviewed [...] someone at the Tkaronto CIRCLE Lab.

If you have questions or need assistance in filling out this form, please reach out to us at TkarontoCIRCLElab@utoron[...]

Your Name *

Your Email *

What is the title of this project? *

To see the website and its functions, please see this screen recording of the website:

https://watch.screencastify.com/v/XBBafIgsrEr7qOORYnqB

Tkaronto Collaborative Research for Communities, Land, and Education (CIRCLE) Lab