Fostering Epistemological Diversity Through Place-based Approaches To Research & Teaching

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Confronting epistemic violence

“Western concepts of time and space include a perception of distance which is fundamental to rational and impersonal systems of power and governance.”

-- Linda Tuhiwai Smith, 1999, Decolonizing Methodologies.

-- Emily Carr, Kitwancool 1928
When we forget, our places remember. And our places will remind us.
-- Dr. Naomi Simmonds (Maori), U of Waikato
Dechinta, Dene territories
Coastal shorelines: Kwakwaka’wakw, Nuu-Chah-Nulth & Coast Salish
“Being-in-place is continually an act of engaged/active learning”

Implications of place-based approaches

1. Fostering academic success among marginalized & disadvantaged students
2. Supporting the self-determination & resurgence of Indigenous peoples
3. Contributing to reconciliation efforts in countries coming to terms with colonialism, genocide & historic violence
4. Providing tools for local responses to climate change

“I used to think I would never amount to anything, but I feel I can do almost anything now.”
- Indigenous student, LE, NONET Research, UVic.
Gilakas’la!

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