

Learning Our Way:

Learning Circles for Transformative
Reconciliation in Health Professional
Education and Practice



Introduction

Partnership between Wuikinuxv,
Kwakiutl, Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k:tles7et'h',
• Huu-ay-aht and North Island College.

North Island College Bachelor of Nursing
program has partnered with First Nations
Communities to offer indigenous led field
• schools hosted by First Nations
Communities for nursing students and
others communities since 2007.





Indigenous Distinction Based Approach

- Led by Indigenous Knowledge Holders
- Learning from the land, sharing stories
- Being in ceremony together

NIC Research Team
CARTI , BSN
program, Research
assistants/students

Health
Authorities:
FNHA, VIHA,
PHSA, NTC

Community Partners
Wuikinuxv, Kwakiutl,
Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k:tles
7et'h', HUU-ay-aht

Research
Partners
BC Indigenous
Health
Research Chair



Project Goal

Leverage systems change with the goal of addressing systemic racism and promoting health equity for Indigenous People and Communities on Northern Vancouver Island.



Project Objectives



- Develop and implement Indigenous-led land based programs inclusive of Indigenous community standards and protocols
- Stimulate systemic change addressing racism in healthcare
- Create a culture of, and example of, working towards transformative reconciliation in research, education, administration and practice.
- Foster culturally safe research collaborations and mentorship opportunities between FN community members, students, faculty and health professionals.

Initiate Phase Completed

- **January 2022:** Partnerships developed and project application submitted
- **September 2022:** Funding from Community College Social Innovation Fund approved
Project Length 3 years
- **Sept 2022 to April 2023:** Community and Team gatherings to develop project proposal.
- **May 2023:** Ethics approval received by North Island College Research Ethics board



Project Timeline

Begin: Present through fall 2023

- Arrange community planning visits
- Establish formal relationships, partnership agreements and community protocols/ expectations
- Detailed planning of community hosted learning circles/ field schools

Implement; Fall 2023 through fall 2024

- Series of community-led learning opportunities
- Implement research plan, data gathering & analysis

Celebrate & Disseminate: Fall 2024 through Winter 2025

- Gather community partner input/ collaboration on research findings
- Develop dissemination materials with community
- Closing celebrations to share success & disseminate findings

