Pathways to Indigenous Equity: 
An Indigenous Lens on Health Systems Transformation & Research

Speakers: Leslie Bonshor, Lindsay Farrell & Brittany Bingham

April 27th, 2021 at 10am
We acknowledge and honour with gratitude, that we are privileged to reside and do our work on the traditional, ancestral and unceded homelands of xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səl̓ílwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh).
Pathways to Indigenous Equity: Health Systems Transformation & Research

Leslie Bonshor
Brittany Bingham
Lindsay Farrell
Our conversation today

• Format: “Auntie Virtual Circle”.
• Our stories and perspectives are from our lived/living experience as Indigenous women.
• Knowledge is always to be shared.
• However, it is not “a consumable” (Indigenous perspective).
Part I.
How can we apply a *decolonizing* lens to health research?
Indigenous Research Approaches: Paradigm Shifts

From individual

To collective
Research is personal with a Capital “P”

(Image: All Our Relations, by Tanya Talaga, House of Anansi. 2018)
The Academic and Healthcare “System”
Translation Exhaustion (is real)

“The idea that Indigenous people (or any marginalized person/group) engaging with the larger population on a given subject must first set the stage in terms of historical context all the way to current day state of affairs, before even addressing said topic of bias – over and over again – due to lack of education/background the listener has. A direct impact of erasure of true Indigenous history beyond the cursory mention in our school systems.

- Dr. Twyla Baker
Questions & Discussion
5 mins
Part II.
How can we challenge the systems and structures to transform?
Systems Transformation: Paradigm Shifts for Indigenous Equity

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)

Cultural Safety & Humility (ICS)

Anti-Racism
System Transformation: Equitable Systems for Indigenous Peoples in Healthcare

“IN PLAIN SIGHT”
REPORT ON SYSTEMIC RACISM IN B.C HEALTHCARE
“Decolonize (a verb) and decolonization (a noun) cannot easily be grated onto pre-existing discourses/frameworks, even if they are critical even if they are anti-racist, even if they are justice frameworks. The easy absorption, adoption, and transposing of decolonization is yet another form of settler appropriation. When we write about decolonization we are not offering it as a metaphor; it is not an approximation of other experiences of oppression. Decolonization is not a swappable term for other things we want to do to improve our societies and schools. Decolonization does not have a synonym.”

- Tuck & Yang 2012
Questions & Discussion
5 mins
Part III.
How can we ensure that systemic change is informed by Indigenous Knowledge, Voices and Traditions?
Etuaptmumk by Mi’kmaq Elder Albert Marshall from Eskasoni First Nation or “Two-eyed seeing” Research

(Photo of Elder Albert Marshall)
“Ancestor Approved” Research and Research Practices
What we leave with you
Key Takeaways:

• Indigenous leadership is more than a seat at the table or “sprinkles”;
• Consider cultural safety and decolonizing as separate and companion pieces to DEI efforts;
• *Decolonizing* research is everyone’s work.
With gratitude and generosity,

Leslie Bonshor
Brittany Bingham
Lindsay Farrell