

# Integrating Indigenous Paradigms of Community-based Research into the Western Academy

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**The Collaborative Program in Community  
Development (CUCS/UT) & the Adult Education and  
Counselling Psychology (OISE/UT)**

**Thursday, March 6, 2008, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.  
OISE/UT, 252 Bloor St. West, Room 7-162**

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Indigenous health research should reflect the needs and benefits of the participants and their community as well as academic and applied interests.

Contemporary researcher practices are constantly evolving, and despite theoretical limitations, all should seek breaks with traditional-colonial theorizing about participants and communities, particularly Indigenous communities.

The research relationship is of a co-constructed nature, but this nature often goes unrecognized because it is confined by the edges of a Western paradigm of ethical research and design practices. Alternatives and critiques of the current Western system of research could come from Indigenous community conceptualizations and philosophies, such as Indigenous ways of knowing and protocols. An Indigenous paradigm of research is based on community collaboration, with goals of community development through capacity-building and health promotion.

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