NEXUS Spring Institute 2008
April 24-25, 2008
The Future of Diversity and Health Research in Canada:
Current Debates & New Frontiers.
Thank You!

To the organizing committee and NEXUS for inviting me.
Halifax Harbour
Halifax at Night
The Bluenose on the Halifax Harbourfront
Presenter

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Sir Charles Tupper Medical School
Clinical Research Centre Today
Recognizing the land on which we do our work today
Moving Beyond the Celebration of Diversity: Taking Difference into Account in Health Education and Research

St. John College- UBC-Point Grey Campus
Friday, April 25th, 2008
3:15pm – 4:15pm
Two Main Areas

Education

Research
Current Debates

New Frontiers
You don't get harmony when everybody sings the same note

-Doug Floyd
Framing

*my* Presentation

and *our* Discussion
3 Levels

- Individual
  - Attitudes / Beliefs
  - Practice
- Institutional and Professional
  - Cultural Competence
  - Cultural Safety
- Social
  - Health Disparities
Individual

Location! Location! Location! Location!
We all Come from Somewhere as Educators as Learners
The Greatest Research Project is:

OURSSELVES!
“Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and inhumane.”

-Martin Luther King Jr.

Health Disparities
The Ordinary

The Everyday

The Routine
Istanbul, Turkey
Moving from…
The 5 D’s of Multiculturalism

- Dress
- Diet
- Dance
- Dialect
- Drumming
And Beyond…

A Celebration of Diversity
To...

Taking Difference into Account
Taking Difference into Account in Education
Taking Difference into Account in Research in Health
Not a talk about Diverse Populations
Aim:

- To interrogate the research process

- To think about ways of infiltrating that process with “taking difference in account”
Hauling complex lives into text

Texting is a social process
Research

Attitudes

Knowledge

Skills
What is needed is rigorous scrutiny of our assumptions that shape the meaning of research itself.
Raises intensely personal questions about ourselves as raced, classed gendered actors in the research process.
Current Debates

New Frontiers

Working Together
(Partnerships)

Social Accountability

Deliverables (KT)

To the Research Culture

To the community
Partnerships

Cross Pillars

On the team (multidisciplinary)

KT

Throughout the process

Knowledge

Skills

Attitudes

Capacity Building
Two Stories:

- Cole Harbour- team
- A large grant- team
Rather, the focus is on:

- Language we use
- Pedagogy of method- how? (women on the street)
- Curriculum of methods (what is included)
- Policy (knowledge translation, knowledge transfer, knowledge exchange)
Essentially asks:

“How literate are we as researchers about the research process at many levels with regard to difference”
Explodes…. 

Creates a perch….
Knowledge is…

- Socially constructed…
- Temporal
- Contextual
Always 2 major concerns for me:

The Gatherer

The Method
Method

The Mechanics

The How To
Methodology

- Theory
- Politics
- Philosophy
How we know what we know?
Who’s knowledge?
In Conclusion:

…..and before I fly back to Halifax
Culturally Competent Research
Cultural Safety in Research and Culturally Safe Research
Moving to Cultural Competency and on to Cultural Safety
Social Accountability
For us as Educators and Researchers
Research is messy, complex and full of pitfalls, and our challenge is surely to not collapse difference, but to hold it central in our work.
Thank You!
Consider

- Challenges
- Questions
- Concerns
PowerPoint Production and Animation

By Charles Hsuen