Integrative Science &
Two-Eyed Seeing
in the spirit of
cultural humility

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Outline of Presentation

1) Introduction
   • humility as one of the Seven Sacred Gifts
   • cultural humility

2) Integrative Science
   • bringing together Indigenous and Western scientific knowledges and ways of knowing

3) Two-Eyed Seeing
   • Elders: conduits for wisdom of the Ancestors
Mi’kmaq Elders & Students & Research Team
Thank you / Wela’lioq

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Mi’kmaq Seven Sacred Gifts

Teachings of Elder Murdena Marshall
The term “cultural safety” is used in the IPAC document ... where it is said to encompass the additional skill of self-reflection.

“Self-reflection” is core in “cultural humility” ... but humility is more than that.
Cultural Humility: being able, through a process that requires humility, to engage in self-reflection and self-critique within the journey of being a lifelong learner and reflective practitioner

... seeking to understand and bring into check the power imbalances that exist in all dynamics of communication and relationship

... this must include learning to: acknowledge gap’s in one’s own knowledge, remain open to ideas and contradictory information, and see with the strengths in different cultures’ “ways of knowing, doing, and being”

... all towards developing and maintaining quality care for the patient as the individual person she or he is (while also realizing that the concept of “individual” may differ among cultures)

i.e., akin to learning and doing Integrative Science & Two-Eyed Seeing
Toqwa’tu’kl Kjijitaqnn
Integrative Science

Indigenous

“bringing our stories together”

Western
illustration by: Basma Kavanagh
Love is the main ingredient of wellness.

*Murdena Marshall*

The voice of wellness is in the land.

*Albert Marshall*
Etuaptmumk – Two-Eyed Seeing

Indigenous

Western
Two-Eyed Seeing

Hard to convey as does not fit into any particular subject area or discipline ... is about life ... what you do, what kind of responsibilities you have ... is a Guiding Principle for how one lives while on Earth that covers all aspects of our lives: social, economic, environmental, etc.

**Advantage:**
Because you are always fine tuning your mind into different places at once, you are always looking for another perspective and better way of doing things.
Two-Eyed Seeing

LEARN ... to see from one eye with the best in our Indigenous ways of knowing, and from the other eye with the best in the Western (or mainstream) ways of knowing ...  

... and learn to use both these eyes together, for the benefit of all.
It is not enough to go through life with one perspective; we must embrace all the tools we have.
Consciousness of Knowing

... our interdependence on each other and on Mother Earth

All people must learn “Two-Eyed Seeing” so that knowledge of the physical is not separated from wisdom of the spiritual.
Our language teaches us that everything alive is both physical and spiritual.

The onus is on the person to look at our natural world with two perspectives. Modern science sees objects, but our language teaches us to see subjects.

artist Basma Kavanagh
Our Mi’kmaq Language takes us on a Life Long Journey of Interconnectiveness: Life, Land, Love

Artist Basma Kavanagh
Everything that we do to our natural world …

… we also do to ourselves.
Two-Eyed Seeing teaches you awaken the spirit within you.
You become a student of life ... and you become observant of the natural world ... and realize we humans are part and parcel of the whole.
Our seasons follow the cycles of **Mother Earth** ...

... so that our children will always be reminded of the beauty of creation, and of our dependence on her.

artist Basma Kavanagh
Knowledge is spirit.
It is a gift, passed on through many people.
As Elders, we must pass it on.
As Elders in Our Time

We seek to be a conduit for wisdom of our Ancestors. We seek to see with “Two-Eyes” ... to take the accomplishments of Western Science further by enriching it with the wisdom of our Ancestors.
Wela’lioq / Thank you