

Building a Conceptual Framework for Indigenized Methodology

A Personal Journey in Learning to Do Research in a Good way

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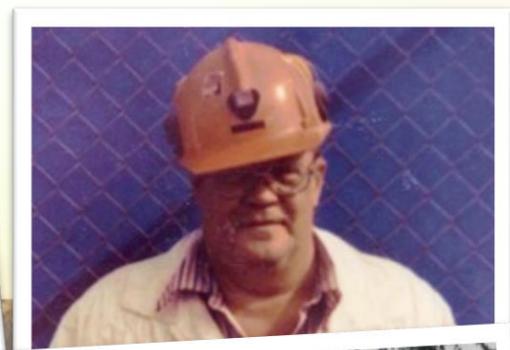
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Disclosure Statement

I have no affiliation (financial or otherwise) with a pharmaceutical, medical device or communications organization.

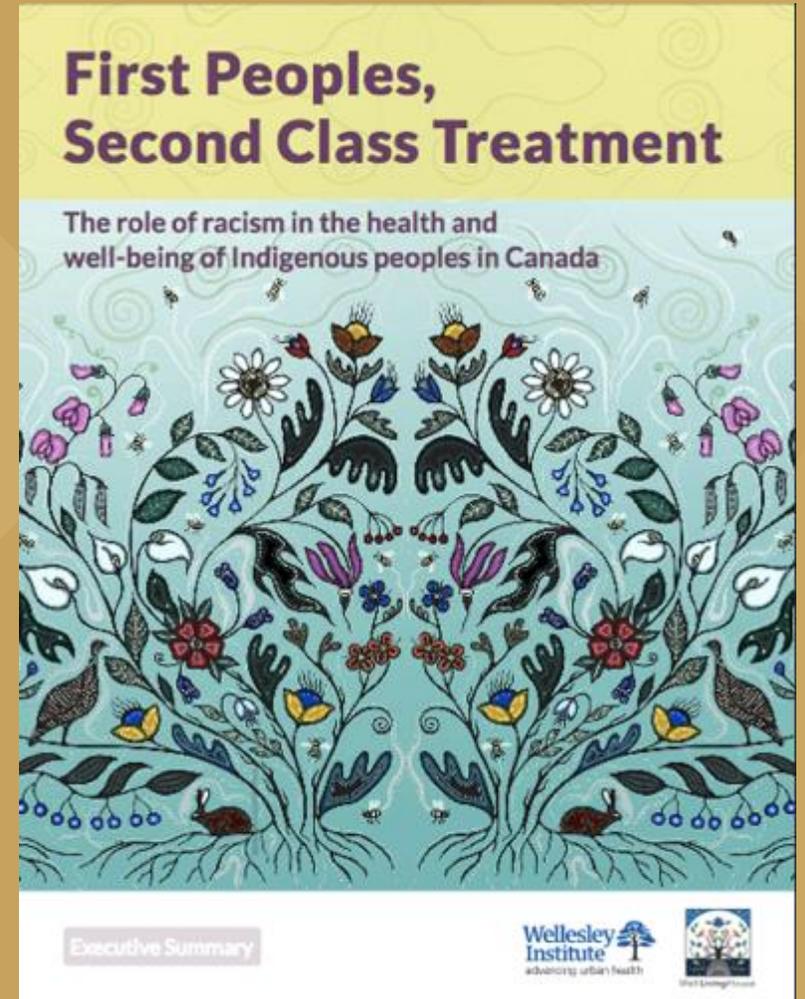
Locating Myself

- White Settler Canadian rooted at Sòmba K'è, Chief Drygeese Territory (Treaty 8)
- Cisgender woman
- PhD student and researcher



Key Structural Determinants of Indigenous Peoples' Health

- *Indian Act* (first passed in 1876)
 - First Nations and Inuit as wards of the state
- 1979 Indian Health Policy
 - Unclear direction for Indigenous health
- *1984 Canada Health Act*
 - Excludes Status Indians



Allan & Smylie, 2015



An age of reconciliation?

TRC (2015, p. 6) definition:

- Awareness of the past
- Acknowledgement of harm
- Atonement
- Action to change behaviour

Where do I fit?

Research should be done without imposing Western terms, concepts, and paradigms. This includes imposing Western views of health and wellness that may not be shared within other views.

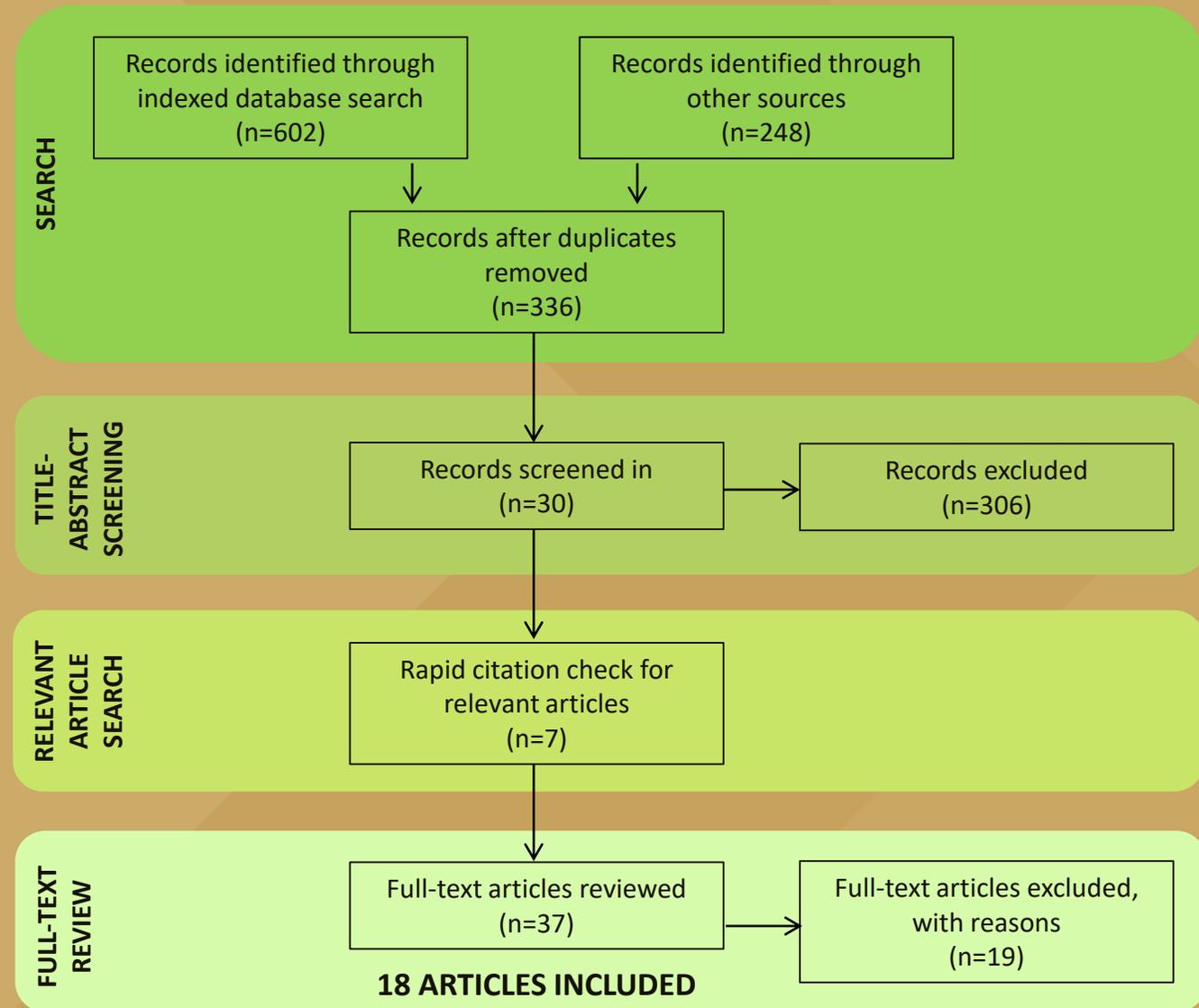
“*...the term ‘research’ is inextricably linked to European imperialism and colonialism. The word itself, ‘research,’ is probably one of the dirtiest words in the [I]ndigenous world’s vocabulary.*”

Smith, 2012



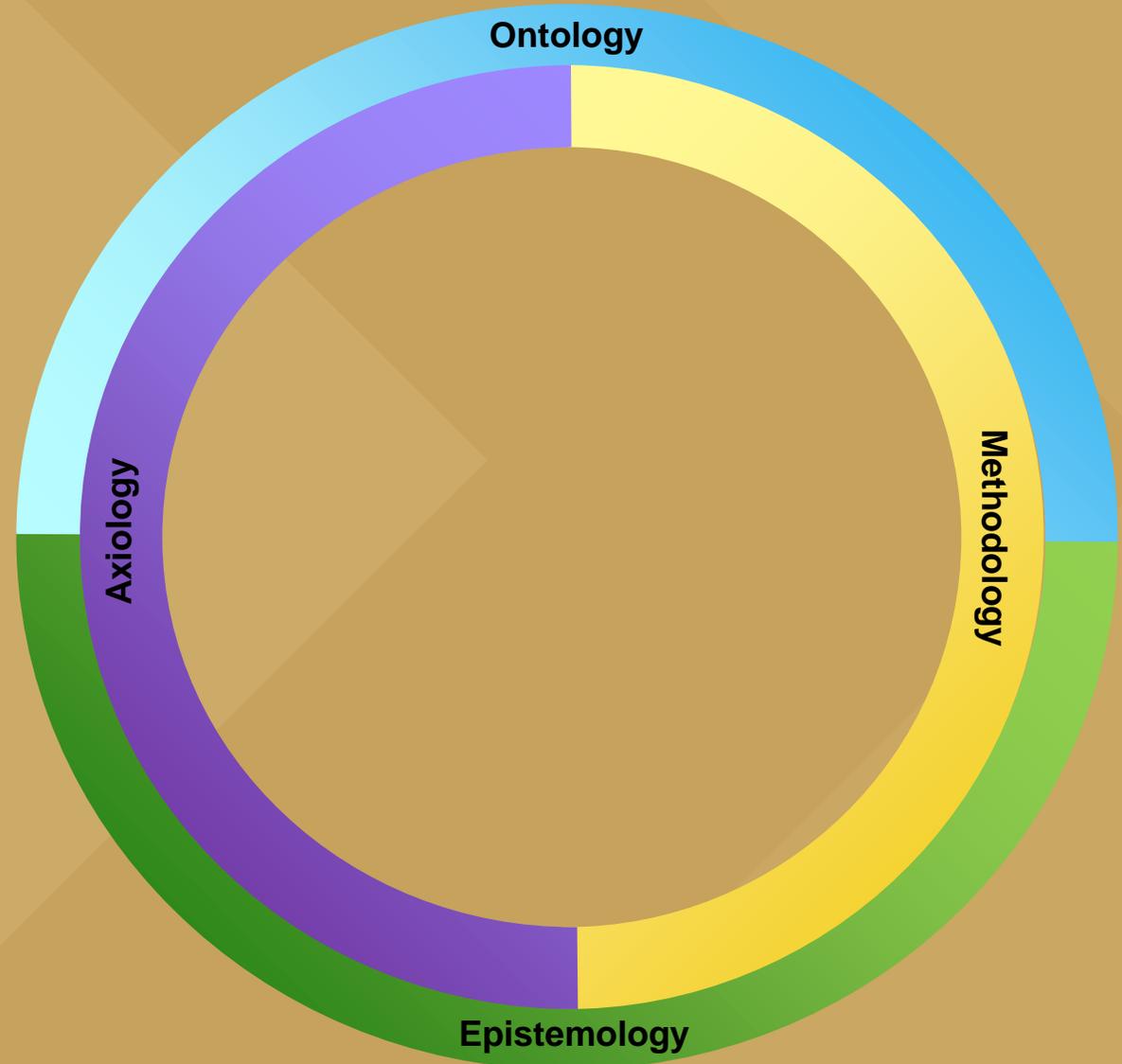
Scoping Review

- To summarize the research and identify gaps related to *how* to implement culturally appropriate frameworks and methodologies for Indigenous health in Canada
- Methodology described by Arksey & O'Malley, 2005
- Search terms included “culturally appropriate,” “research methodology,” “Indigenous health,” and “community research” and relevant synonyms



Knowledge in Relationship

- Recognition of multiple realities, where reality is in the relationship that one has with truth and knowledge
- Indigenous methodology must adhere to relational accountability



Adapted from Wilson, 2008

Indigenized methodologies

- Favour collective, process-oriented methods that address the four R's
- Qualitative, community-based participatory methods are great, but not the only way
- Situate the research in relationship





**Knowledge and research are the sum of
respectful relationships**



Thank you!

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