

ICGC COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Development in a "Developed" World: An Indigenous Approach

Julie Pelletier

Associate Professor, Anthropology, University of Winnipeg &
Visiting Scholar, ICGC.

Friday, January 26, 12 -1 pm CT

537 Heller Hall (ICGC)

Live Stream Available @ www.icgc.umn.edu

Development models and projects focus primarily, if not entirely, on 'other' societies and countries and not on conditions in developed countries such as Canada and the U.S. Encounters between those identified as needing help and those who position themselves as helpers often play out the dynamics of 'otherness,' especially when aid workers go from their developed countries to underdeveloped countries. Sustainable Development Goals are conceived as relevant outside of the borders of the developed world. The MPD in Indigenous Development challenges the standard approach to development by identifying and addressing development challenges in the developed world for Indigenous communities, by rejecting the one-size-fits-all solutions to development often touted by NGOs and national governments, by addressing the colonial foundation of inequality and oppression, and through a strengths-based approach to collaborative Indigenous community engagement. This paper provides an analysis of the MDP in Indigenous Development approach as well as a brief discussion of projects undertaken by MDP student development practitioners, offering a different look at development and development practitioners.



Photo credit: MDP Orientation in Fisher River Cree Nation, [Home | MDP | The University of Winnipeg \(uwinnipeg.ca\)](#)

Interdisciplinary Center
for the Study of **Global Change**

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA