

EPTC/TCEP Panel: Indigenous Phenomenology: Body Sovereignty, Land Sovereignty

The 2020 meeting of the Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture (EPTC) will be held at Western University in London, Ontario, in conjunction with the annual Congress of the Canadian Federation for the Social Sciences and Humanities. This panel will interrogate what it means to formulate a phenomenology of Indigeneity in a world made white through colonialism. Following Sarah Ahmed's "A Phenomenology of Whiteness," this panel looks to theorize a resurgence of Indigenous peoples in the face of the white, settler colonial state, and to understand this through a 'phenomenology of Indigeneity'. As Ahmed says, "If whiteness is inherited, then it is also reproduced," and the settler-colonial state plays a major part in reproducing and passing on this normalized whiteness, while othering Indigenous bodies through invisibility and hypervisibility. Thus, the focus on the lived experience and orientation of Indigenous peoples is necessary to understand the ways in which Indigenous resurgence is possible, and how it is inherently tied to bodily sovereignty and land sovereignty.

Papers accepted for this panel will engage with the tradition of critical phenomenology, while considering ways in which we can understand Indigenous philosophies and critical thought through this lens.

Topics might include, but are not limited to, discussion of the phenomenology of Indigeneity in:

- testimonials: autobiography, testimonials at official inquiries, autobiographical poetry, etc.
- Indigenous resurgence through languages, culture, governance, etc.
- critique of the emergence/creation of Eastern Métis (and other instances of settler practices of self-Indigenizing)
- bodily autonomy, including: body positivity movement, tattooing, fat movement, expressions of sexuality, gender, and two-spirit
- land-based practices, pedagogy, food independence, cities, land protection
- environmental protection, protest, environmental racism
- legislative issues, contemporary treaty making
- the experience of Indigenous women within the settler colonial state (MMIWG, human trafficking)
- urbanization, urban reserves, on-reserve innovation

Interested authors should submit the following electronically via email to

Indigenous.phenomenology@gmail.com in .doc, .dox, or .rtf format:

1. A copy of your paper, maximum 4000 words, prepared for **anonymous** review. (longer abstracts of 1000 words plus bibliography will also be considered, and, if accepted, the full paper will be due by April 1, 2020.)
2. A separate abstract, maximum 100 words, listing the paper's title, the author's name, complete mailing address, institutional affiliation, and email address.

Submissions will be subject to double-blind review, and accepted panelists will have 30 minutes to present a paper of approximately 4000 words, followed by a discussion period.