

# What is scheduled in the next year

- > In terms of research activity, we are currently conducting a qualitative analysis, using NVivo, on discussions that occurred during the virtual workshops as well as during the interviews. We are also conducting a spatial analysis of the interviews by creating personal maps for each interview, which we will be validated with the participants. We hope to have this process completed by winter 2022. We will form an advisory committee of participants to validate our analyses and to determine the form and content of the interactive map(s) that will be published online to inform and support the Montreal indigenous community, particularly young indigenous people who are new to Montreal.

A new workshop will be held in October in collaboration with two organizations, including a new multimedia partner of TRYSACES: Wapikoni and Hoodstock. It consists of meetings between young indigenous people of Montreal and young people from the Montreal-Nord neighborhood, with the objective of co-producing a video on their different realities in Montreal.

The other activities planned will consist of diffusing the counter-map resulting from these processes to various audiences. The dissemination will be done online, through the creation of an interactive map accessible to members of the indigenous community of Montreal who will be able to navigate and consult it to find useful resources. This online map will also be accessible to the general population, in order to make the indigenous presence more visible and to sensitize the public to urban indigenous realities. The dissemination will then be done through citizen activities involving the non-indigenous population, including cultural communities of the city of Montreal, with the objective of dialogue, awareness, and reconciliation. Our dissemination activities are composed of the following:

- > Publication of an interactive online map showing the results of the knowledge co-construction process related to the territorialities of indigenous youth in Montreal
- > An event that brings together indigenous and non-indigenous people in a city location
- > Launch of the counter-mapping project with the Chaire-réseau de recherche sur la jeunesse du Québec, Volet autochtone
- > North-South sharing of counter-mapping and urban space (re)territorialization processes by indigenous communities in Montreal and Leticia, Colombia

Finally, these activities will be complemented by more traditional knowledge dissemination activities, through the publication of articles and through presentations at academic conferences. Thus, we plan to publish an article in Recherches Amérindiennes au Québec, as well as to coordinate a special issue of the ACME journal on participatory mapping, in addition to the publication of the article that is already under review for this journal.



Coordination centrale TRYSACES  
Tryspaces@ucs.inrs.ca  
Institut national de la recherche scientifique  
Centre - Urbanisation Culture Société  
385, rue Sherbrooke Est Montréal (Québec) H2X 1E3  
514 499-4058

<https://www.facebook.com/tryspaces/>  
[https://www.instagram.com/tryspaces\\_digital/](https://www.instagram.com/tryspaces_digital/)  
<https://twitter.com/tryspaces>  
<http://tryspaces.org/>  
<https://vimeo.com/user72205844>

- > Several indigenous organizations are demanding the indigenization of Montreal; the municipal administration has itself embarked on a strategy of Reconciliation. For Joyce Green, who was among the first to use the term, indigenization implies that the place of indigenous people is reflected in processes, institutions, and spaces through the representation of "Indigenous aspirations, symbols and practices" (Green 2004: 16). The colonial division of space prevents Indigenous people from having a place in the Canadian National Project, as well as in the vast majority of its territory, by imposing a separation between "White" and "Indigenous" spaces that is maintained by identity categories separated by physical as well as symbolic boundaries (Wilson and Peters 2005, Razack 2002). Indigenous spaces have been colonized and structured by spatialized representations positioning them away from urban spaces (Tomiak 2017, Peters and Andersen 2013, Comat 2012, Kermaal and Lévesque 2010), to the extent that this marginalization is reproduced within cities (Porter and Yiftachel 2017).

This context questions the place that indigenous people occupy in Montreal today, in spite of perceptible openings in the public space, both at the media and political levels. This case study adopts a decolonial posture to take a critical look at the current socio-spatial and political reconstructions. It questions the relationship of young indigenous people to the Montreal space, a relationship that will be captured through the apprehension of their social spaces and the territories they create and inhabit. It aims to bring out the narrative cartographies of the different spaces (social, political, cultural, digital, physical, etc.) that are part of the Montreal/Tiohtià:ke indigenous community. We seek to understand how youth appropriate Montreal space and how they perceive, live, practice, and transform it by creating both physical and symbolic territories. This research will identify the places, practices, relationships, discourses, and representations related to the urban experiences of indigenous youth. We will ask where indigenous youth are in Montreal, whether they have a place, and if so, what that place is. To have a place means to have one's own space and to participate in social and political activities that recognize this space (Lussault 2009). This research will thus inform us about processes of inclusion/exclusion and territorialization. We will see how indigenous youth participate daily in the narrative of the city and its transformation.

This study uses ethical and methodological approaches known as "indigenous", and participatory methods, as well as a knowledge mobilization that situates the participants at the center of co-creating new knowledge about them. Through counter-mapping workshops, narrative interviews, mind maps, and sharing circles, we will develop a relational narrative mapping of the social spaces of Montreal's indigenous youth. The narrative maps created by the youth from their individual and collective stories and experiences will contribute to the decolonization of Indigenous research and spaces. It will support youth in their reclamation of places and territories while creating a space for collective co-creation of knowledge. Participants will be involved in all stages of the research. We are also working in collaboration with local Indigenous organizations to ensure that the results serve the Indigenous community and are shared and disseminated within the community.



## Indigenous Youth in Montreal/Tiohtià:ke: Social Spaces and the Indigenization of the City

### MONTREAL

#### Researchers:

Stéphane Guimont Marceau, INRS UCS  
Marie-Ève Drouin Gagné, INRS UCS

#### Students:

Kelly Vu, INRS UCS  
Coralie Niquay, INRS UCS

**THIS CASE STUDY AIMS TO HIGHLIGHT THE NARRATIVE CARTOGRAPHIES OF THE DIFFERENT SPACES (SOCIAL, POLITICAL, CULTURAL, DIGITAL, PHYSICAL, ETC.) OF THE YOUTH THAT IS PART OF INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES IN MONTREAL/TIOHTIÀ:KE. THESE SPACES ARE UNDERSTOOD AS BEING PRIMARILY RELATIONAL. THE OBJECTIVE IS TO UNDERSTAND HOW YOUNG PEOPLE APPROPRIATE THE MONTREAL SPACE AND HOW THEY PERCEIVE IT, LIVE IT, PRACTICE IT AND TRANSFORM IT BY CREATING TERRITORIES THAT ARE BOTH PHYSICAL AND SYMBOLIC. THROUGH THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S STORIES AND THEIR ANALYSES, WE WILL CONSTRUCT A NARRATIVE RELATIONAL CARTOGRAPHY ILLUSTRATING THE CULTURAL, SOCIAL, AND POLITICAL MEANINGS OF THE PLACES AND SPACES THEY USE. THIS WORK WILL HELP TO REVEAL A MORE COMPLETE PICTURE OF THE TOPOGRAPHY OF THE TERRITORIES OF INDIGENOUS YOUTH IN MONTREAL/TIOHTIÀ:KE AND TO POSE A CRITICAL LOOK AT THE CURRENT PROCESSES OF SOCIO-SPATIAL AND POLITICAL RECONSTRUCTION. THIS RESEARCH IS BASED ON THE USE OF INDIGENOUS AND DECOLONIZING APPROACHES TO RESEARCH AND PRIORITIZES A RELATIONAL AND FLEXIBLE PROCESS IN ORDER TO MAKE THE RESEARCH REFLEXIVE AND ACCOUNTABLE TO THE RELATIONSHIPS BEING STUDIED. THE OBJECTIVE IS TO INVOLVE YOUTH IN ALL STAGES OF THE RESEARCH, FROM ITS DEVELOPMENT TO ITS DISSEMINATION AND ANALYSIS. WE ALSO WORK CLOSELY WITH LOCAL INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS IN THE CITY.**

## What was accomplished this year

➤ Based on the work initiated the previous year, which included the development of a participatory counter-mapping methodology with Montreal's indigenous youth, we had scheduled workshops for spring 2020. In the context of the pandemic, we had to revise our methodology in order to adapt it to virtual workshops using new platforms: Miro, MyMaps. The series of virtual participatory counter-mapping workshops took place with 7 young people during Fall 2020. The participants were introduced to mapping tools and collaborated to create an initial interactive map of their own representations of the city using the MyMap platform. At the end of the process, the group expressed a desire to continue the counter-mapping process by collecting the stories and experiences of other youth. Therefore, during winter and spring 2021, we conducted narrative interviews with 8 indigenous young people in Montreal. These interviews and the virtual workshop meetings were transcribed during the spring and summer of 2021 for analysis. We are currently analyzing this data using NVivo.

In terms of dissemination, in the previous year, we first wrote and submitted an article on the participatory counter-mapping methodology developed with urban indigenous youth. This article was submitted in winter 2021 for the ACME journal. We received feedback from the editor, revised the article, and resubmitted it in spring 2021. We also produced an open-access virtual narrative map (<https://arcp.is/110m9L0>), which presents the research process with the indigenous youth group in fall 2020 and preliminary results from that process. The youth who participated in the workshops were able to review the narrative map, provide feedback, and give us permission to publish it. We then participated in an Indigenous mapping seminar at the Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue (UQAT) on May 13, 2021, where we presented our research process and preliminary results using the narrative map mentioned. This presentation is expected to be part of a special issue of Recherches Amérindiennes au Québec that will showcase the communications related to the seminar. The map was also presented at the Colloque Interuniversitaire sur la Jeunesse in June 2021. We also presented it at a panel of the Participatory Geography Congress 2021 titled "Art and practice of participatory research at the science-policy interface". We also presented at a lunchtime talk at the Chaire Réseau Jeunesse on Dec 4, 2020, and during a virtual conference organized within the framework of the INRS Knowledge Mobilization course, but that was also made available to the general public on March 30, 2021.

## Preliminary results

At this stage of our research, several methodological lines of reflection are emerging. First, in terms of participatory research with indigenous youth, certain fundamental principles stand out. For example, and perhaps even more in the context of a pandemic, the establishment of a space that is culturally safe. The decisions about what to map, how and why, were made as a group. Participants also collectively defined the goals of the project: to create a useful and interactive mapping that serves to decolonize urban spaces and appropriate new territoriality. Some of them continue to be involved in the process, which is still ongoing, in terms of analysis and decision making. Finally, in methodological but also theoretical terms, we observe the importance of a cartographic process that gives free rein to the expression of young people in their own symbolic languages and their own ontologies and epistemologies. The maps become a support for the sharing of diverse knowledge, in a "polylogue" that allows the co-construction of knowledge.

In terms of analysis, certain lines of questioning are already emerging in the form of themes addressed by young people. For

example, the mapping of spaces, knowledge, and experiences of young people in the city raises multiple identity issues that these young people face. Some mentioned their difficulty in living their indigenous identity in the urban environment, while others said they had (re)found their identity(ies) within the urban environment. In both cases, gathering places were important catalysts for identity (re)appropriation, in addition to providing an often crucial community space. Another important theme that emerged from our workshops and interviews was the concept of the urban indigenous community and the sense of community that young people develop or not, through their relationships with and within the urban space. The importance of making the indigenous presence in the city visible was also raised repeatedly, as well as the colonial nature of the urban space, prejudices, and the difficulties of accessing culturally safe spaces. We initiate these lines of questioning in relation to a conceptual framework that includes the colonial nature of urban spaces, the indigenization of the city, and the right to the city.



## Type of products planned for the next year

- Multimedia co-production
- Event
- Scientific publication
- Symposium presentation
- Online interactive map