

# My Journey of Knowing

Snapshot of a Life-Long  
Process

(by Dani Lau)

# Key Points

- Who am I?
- Where am I?
- What's my role in the communities that I work in?



# Personal History

- b. 1985 –
- Chinese-Canadian (and some Cuban and Spanish)
- Divorced parents
- Sent away to Montreal at 11 yrs. old (where I got trapped in a cult from ~ 12-14 yrs. old)
- Made a series of destructive choices
- Became a Christian
- Started to pursue school at 20 years old.





## Where am I now?

- Physical location
- Mental and emotional location
- Career Location (teacher)







# Physical Location

- **Guest on unceded Musqueam territory**

- Work with Amy et al.

- Truth and Reconciliation, Indian Residential School Initiatives

- **Questions:** *Was I born as a guest? Can I call Canada my homeland?*

- **Conclusions:** Responsibility as Canadians, and as teachers

- “Good Talks: Kevin Wilson — Different Backgrounds, Same Questions”

- Alleviated anxiety



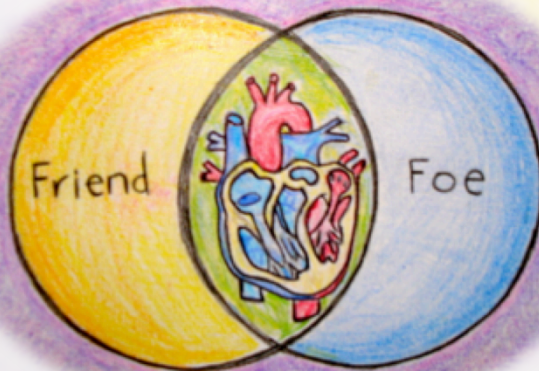


# Mental/Emotional Location (things that deepened my learning):

- **Conversation about anger and emotions in the classroom**

- Explore extremes of emotion in classroom (pain – laughter)
  - *Me Funny* by Drew Hayden Taylor
- Although everyone's opinion is welcome, it does not mean that opinions will not go unchallenged

- **Digitization of important history**  
(Berger Inquiry project, Education for Aboriginal Students at UBC: Historical Timeline)





# What's my role in the communities that I work in?

- "We **work to give**, not to accumulate wealth [...]"  
Alestine Andre

- [http://www.pwnhc.ca/research/berger/audio/BergerSpeech-AlestineAndre/berger\\_alestine\\_andre.asp](http://www.pwnhc.ca/research/berger/audio/BergerSpeech-AlestineAndre/berger_alestine_andre.asp)

- Shed **light** on the **dark side** of **Canadian history**
- If I had a superpower...



# Resources

- <http://www.pwnhc.ca/research/berger/> (Berger Inquiry)
- [http://www.nfb.ca/film/redskins\\_tricksters\\_puppy\\_stew](http://www.nfb.ca/film/redskins_tricksters_puppy_stew) (Drew Hayden Taylor documentary on humour)
- Taylor, D. H. (2005). *Me funny*. Vancouver, B.C: Douglas & McIntyre
  - “And Now, Ladies and Gentlemen, Get Ready for Some (Ab)Original Stand-up Comedy”  
Don Kelly





# Appreciation 😊



- Thank You
- 謝謝
- Merci
- Gracias
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- **hay ce:p q'ə**

