

## **“Turning Points”**

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March 16, 2018, 12:00-1:00 pm

SPPH 308B

Maya's dissertation research project will pilot and assess an original method for "empowerment journalism" to co-create a series of digital short stories in Yellowknife. This approach centres on key principles of local ownership, reciprocity, and respectful collaboration. Inspiration for this work comes from ideas and values in Indigenous and decolonizing research, arts-based research, and citizen or participatory journalism. The goals of this project are to: 1) use digital stories as a platform to challenge misinformation, stigma, and stereotypes related to alcohol use in First Nations communities; 2) challenge the colonial legacy of "storytaking" in research and reporting; and 3) reflect on power, positionality, accountability, and collaboration in projects with Indigenous and non-Indigenous "ally" researchers.

Despite good intentions, this project encompasses numerous ethical dilemmas and shortcomings. In this talk, Maya will explore some early lessons learned - and unlearned - and lingering questions related to the ethics of collaboration, reflexive practice, positionality, and interdisciplinary arts-based research.