4.7: Summary

SUMMARY

Nurse leaders need to learn to work effectively within Indigenous communities and with Indigenous leaders. The first step is to be open and willing to understand Indigenous worldviews. This understanding requires nurses to acknowledge the history of Indigenous people in Canada and how the leadership and decision-making structures in Indigenous communities are unique. Finally, with an openness to working with Indigenous leaders and community members, nurses can build respectful, ethical, and meaningful relationships that will ultimately benefit the health of all people.

After completing this chapter, you should now be able to:

1. Identify the differences between your own worldviews and Indigenous worldviews.
2. Critique how different worldviews affect leadership decisions.
4. Describe the advantages of working with Indigenous community members.

Exercises

1. Imagine yourself as a non-Indigenous leader who wants to effect a change in an Indigenous community. Read Ermine’s (2007) concept of ethical space and discuss with your classmates how you would respectfully negotiate the work that you want to do with the community leadership team.

2. Read the Executive Summary of the CIHR Guidelines for Health Research Involving Aboriginal People (2007–2010) and explore and discuss with your classmates how the 15 articles in the document can be applied to a leadership setting.
3. In the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s summary of its final report, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future*, locate the section on health (pp. 205-211) and discuss with your classmates how you can make these calls to action come alive in your future work as a nurse leader.

4. Research how many treaties exist in Canada. Which treaty had negotiated the treaty right to health?

REFERENCES


