

INDIGENOUS and EUROPEAN WORLDVIEWS

Adapted from *The True Spirit and Original Intent of Treaty 7*

Treaty 7 Elders and Tribal Council with Walter Hildebrandt, Dorothy First Rider and Sarah Carter

INDIGENOUS WORLDVIEWS	EUROPEAN WORLDVIEWS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature as 'capital' • Qualitative • Living with nature • Decentralization • Individual creativity is encouraged • Consensus decision making • Active participation in the process of government • Power shared between many people. • Strong ethic of collective leadership • 'Economics' inseparable from other aspects of daily life • Humanization of work • Workers work close to home and family • Work emphasizes spiritual gain • Collective ownership • Concern with services • Work is evident, not provided • Work is selected • Work is task allocated • Flexible time • Seasons; cyclical time • Work and leisure as part of the same process • Ethic of cooperation • Resources close at hand • Willingness to accommodate to changes in economic circumstances • Land/means of production are held collectively • Lands are demarcated by natural features • Land is the source of life • 'We' belong to the land • Many models of economic organization • Economic success is measured by quality of life • Informal education at home • 'Teachers' are family members at home • Ethic of communalism • Fluidity of institutions • Deviance is punished by exile from society • Problems are dealt with at a community level • Inter-tribal hostilities are difficult to overcome • Oral traditions • Preservation of concepts • Pantheism • Unstructured and fluid animism • Male and female deities • Concepts of 'god' as 'in' and inherently part of the earth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money as 'capital' • Quantitative • Domination of nature • Centralization • Individual creativity is often subverted • Democratic or autocratic decision making • Alienation from the process of government • Power concentrated in the hands of a few • Strong ethic of direct leadership • 'Economics' a separate and specialized area left to 'experts' • Dehumanization of work • Workers leave home and family to travel to a work site • Work emphasizes material gain • Individual ownership • Concern with goods • Work is provided by an external provider • Work is assigned • Work is time allocated • Strict control of time • Hours, minutes, days; linear time • Leisure as an alternative to work (rest time) • Ethic of competition • Resources at a distance • Elimination of perceived obstacles to economic 'progress' • Land/means of production can be owned individually • Territories are demarcated by manmade borders • Land is an economic resource • Land belongs to 'us' • One large model of economic organization • Economic success is measured by accumulation • Formal education away from home • 'Teachers' are outsiders away from home • Ethic of individualism • Permanent institutions • Deviance is punished by confinement within society • Problems are isolated away from society in general • Ability to form large and coherent interest groups • Literate traditions • Preservation of details • Monotheism, atheism • Structured religious dogma • Primarily male or non-gendered deities • Concepts of 'god' as above 'earth'