

# Reflections for Funding Around the Engaged Space

## 1. WHY consider funding...?

Research is often constrained and ignored when conducted in isolation; this makes it insufficient (and sometimes harmful) for discovery, problem solving, and peace

Politics, values, context, and the everyday matter to how people see, hear, and use research findings

Opportunity to bring together different ways of knowing and being, skills, and experiences in service of healthier paths forward

- Deepen understanding (of most things)
- Refine, reinstate & reveal ideas, tools, practices, and policies
- Facilitate & adapt to change
- Build trust

## 2. WHAT types of projects to prioritize?

- Field-initiated

# The Who, Why, What & How Varies

Participatory  
visual methods  
(UNDERSTAND)

How do  
Indigenous  
youth  
experience the  
return of  
land?<sup>1</sup>

Randomized  
Controlled  
Trial  
(REFINE)

What features  
strengthen the  
impacts of  
summer youth  
employment  
programs?<sup>2</sup>

How can schools  
partner with  
teachers, families &  
students to co-  
design literacy  
practices that affirm  
racial identities?<sup>3</sup>

Design-Based  
Inquiry  
(CHANGE)

# Structuring Funding in the Engaged Space

- Informal forums to (i) learn from interested partners & (ii) support their applications
- Require plans for partnering
- Engage reviewers who value engagement
- Allow for flexibility in the design, scope, and timeframe for the work
- Reward power and resource distribution that values all contributors
- Invest generously to support planning periods & knowledge generation, sharing & use
- Provide supports & learning post award
- Embrace a diverse set of products & legacies
- Continually examine our own mindsets & practices

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