Some concerns of indigenous communities regarding ICH

- cultural appropriation
- biopiracy
- assimilation
- misinterpretation/distortion of ich (loss of ich by loss of integrity)
- use of traditional culture against community
- loss of access to land and resources makes practice of some ich impossible
- spirituality a key aspect of all traditional culture so it is an aspect of most if not all ICH; work with ICH can cause spiritual damage to practitioners or communities

- spirituality
- sacred – limited to practitioners who are properly prepared. Harm to ind and families and communities otherwise; sometimes gender specific – issue w human rights …

Important mechanisms for using ICH knowledge to support development of healthy communities:

1. Acknowledge cultural custodians as important to community health
2. Support for appropriate educational development. Educational institutions have been used to support assimilation and suppression of ICH through the world; when implementing the convention, [need to follow principles such as involve parents].
3. Linda Tehuiwei Smith’s models for indigenous research projects are ideal models for ICH based community development. I.e.
   1) They should be involved in . in order to solve own problems …
   2) Storytelling and other forms of transmitting culture which are specific to some types of ICH or some ethnic communities can be effective communications tools – for transmission of other types of knowledge …

local schools – band-run schools, and local curriculum. For some, only shared with indigenous communities; others are taught to indigenous and non-indigenous students (children) – shared with parents and others from outside of school but inside of community through children disseminating;