Engaging Place *Differently:* Affective Becomings of a Mall Parking Lot

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#### "Every sensation is a question, even if the only answer is silence" (Deleuze & Guattari, 1991/1994, p. 196).

What if we were to engage with place "*as an operation rather than a fact*" (Shields, 2013, p. 137)?

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Rather than seeing what a space or place *is* (the physicality), experiencing what that space/place *does* when in connection with it and others in that space/place.

### What *might* this mean?

To engage with 'actual' physical sites or places is to engage with the stories that surround the site - implicitly or explicitly revealed.

There are many perspectives and/or forces that converge onto a place, such as:

- the text/place/space itself
- the 'idea' and 'reality' of that particular site (e.g., a brick building or mall parking lot)
- the readings or stories shared by people (e.g., In the case of TRC document the survivors, Elders, traditional knowledge keepers, workers, and families in the community)
- the community that is attached to said text/place/space
- the political, economic, historical, and social forces that come into play
- the physical geographical location (as presented on a map)
- the multiplicities (of those engaging with place and of those who were a part of its history)

#### What happens when you enter a space or place?

To engage topologically is to *connect with* the world and others in such a way that extends beyond that which can be immediately seen, touched, or measured; that is, to "capture the multiple and conflicting spatialisations that intersect, usually remaining separate but at certain times and places breaking in on each other" (Shields, 2013, p. 102).

## Affect

Affect is "a non-conscious experience of intensity" (Clough, 2008, p. 53). These intensities are *non-reflexive* and *non-articulated*, meaning that we are often unaware that we have been affected until it is made conscious later on.



### Place *differently*

This project is a personal endeavour to *engage with* place as "operation" (Shields, 2013) —that extends beyond that which can be seen or tangibly known (at a conscious, unconscious, and *non-conscious* or affective level)— as well as an emergent "social space" of relationality, to see what *might* emerge and how we *might* become together?



#### Motel units will be moved

A motel on Kingsway is being demolished to make way for a 534 million office and retail complex, but some of the units will be saved. Richard Rolf of 10834 97th 5t. has received approval from the Developproval from the Development Appeal Board to move 36 of the 60 units from North Star Motel, 10736 Kingsway, to the Siesta Motel at 17817 Stony Plain Road.

Mr. Rolf owns the Siesta, which now has 12 units. The remaining 24 units of the North Star are expected to be demolished. Mr. Rolf said it will cost about \$20,000 to move the units. He expects to do this next month. Renovations will then be carried out. Transient spaces of consumption and production

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# What was produced for you?

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