

Assignment: Presentation & Guidelines

You are tasked with creating a presentation about the local disturbance/development issue you selected. Use information from the case study handouts, background research using the internet and print materials, and interviews with knowledgeable people to inform the presentation.

As you create your presentation, ensure you address the following:

1. What caused the issue? What was the motivation behind the development? What are the short-term and long-term proposed benefits of the development?
2. Describe the contaminants resulting from this development, focusing specifically on the bioaccumulation of contaminants in the aquatic environment, and resulting environmental health issues.
3. How has the issue been managed in the past and how is it being addressed today?
4. How might Indigenous knowledge be beneficial in studying this issue? How might it be useful in making a decision about/managing the issue?
5. Why is it important to consult local communities before engaging in industrial development? What are the challenges and possibilities you see in consulting local communities on the issue?

The following are some suggestions to help you create your presentation:

- The first step in a presentation is always to think about “what’s the point”? Decide on 2-3 takeaways for the audience and then present content that will help you get your message across. Give your presentation a clear structure. Begin by stating the purpose of your talk and what you want the audience to take away. Then include content that helps address the topic you introduced at the beginning. Finish off with a conclusion and “takeaway” message.
- Find a way to engage with your audience. What questions can you ask your audience that will get them “hooked” at the beginning of your presentation? Think about times that you have been interested in a presentation and what the speaker did to keep your attention.
- Use software like Microsoft PowerPoint, GoogleSlides, or Prezi to guide your presentation. These tools allow you to display key points, facts, and images to help you respond to the prompt. If you do not have access to a computer, or would prefer to do a tech-free presentation, consider printing out images, writing/drawing on the board, playing a game, or distributing handouts.
- Effective presentations are not limited to a traditional presentation structure. Presenters can also use a variety of creative approaches to teach their audience about a subject. Consider creating a presentation/drawing, short film, skit, song, or poem as alternative ways of communicating your content.
- Consider learning words in the local traditional language for use in your presentation. Ask a language speaker for suggestions about words you should include. See the attached list of traditional words for some suggestions to start.
- Keep in mind these general presentation tips:
 - Be prepared with speaking notes, but do not read off a script.
 - Use hand gestures to emphasize your points.
 - Look your audience in the eye - it helps keep people engaged.