OCEAN AS PEDAGOGY:
FOSTERING RECONCILIATION THROUGH A CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE CANADIAN PERSPECTIVE ON OCEAN LITERACY

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Ocean Literacy (OL)
• Western socio-ecological concept
• Aims at fostering a sustainable use of the seas
• Current common definition:
  “An understanding of the ocean’s influence on you and your influence on the ocean”

OL is about:
• Knowledge, understanding, behavioural changes
• Teaching and learning
→ Whose knowledge?
Whose teaching?²

A decolonized version of OL
• Localized approaches that account for regional and cultural differences
• Inclusive of Indigenous OLs
• Because knowledge is socially, culturally, historically mediated
• To advance decolonization of knowledge and education

Western scientific knowledge

Indigenous knowledge (systems)

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FOOTNOTES & REFERENCES


2 Just like research, teaching is always already political; teaching and learning do not happen in a politically neutral space.
