**Bridging Two Worlds: The Power of Technology**

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*“We stand apart, living together in an increasingly hostile and distrustful social reality in which land, sovereignty and self-determination are ever more urgent in the lived experience of native people. We stand opposed, unaware that we are all rooted to each other in the construction and the appropriation of the contradictory Indian social imaginaries which make native sovereignty and self-determination so important to understand and so difficult to achieve” (Valaskakis, G. G., 1993, p.167).*

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Over the last few weeks I have been thinking about how technology can benefit the aboriginal communities in positive ways for: self-determination, collaboration, and to promote sovereignty. For a culture that is so grounded through spatial, social, spiritual, and experiential dimensions, and a mainstream society with completely different values and perspective on life, can there be a balance between their traditional way of life and all the benefits the technological world has to offer? Indigenous values and beliefs are so connected to their natural world, while “mainstream” communities are so caught up in a virtual world, and the reality is that these “two worlds” are so far apart. Technology has changed the “western way of life” and I can only imagine the battle these communities are having against such a powerful force, especially the elders.  But does it have to be a battle? In this paper (or website), I want to analyze the possibilities for Indigenous communities to still preserve their culture while embracing technology to promote it.

**Possible issues to be addressed:**

Colonization period

Technology: Issues and Perspectives

Education Goals - Schools are a critical place to implement change

1. Building positive relationships and developing mutual respect

2. Curriculum - accessing the right resources for students

Promoting culture through technology - successful examples

**Possible literature to be consulted:**

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