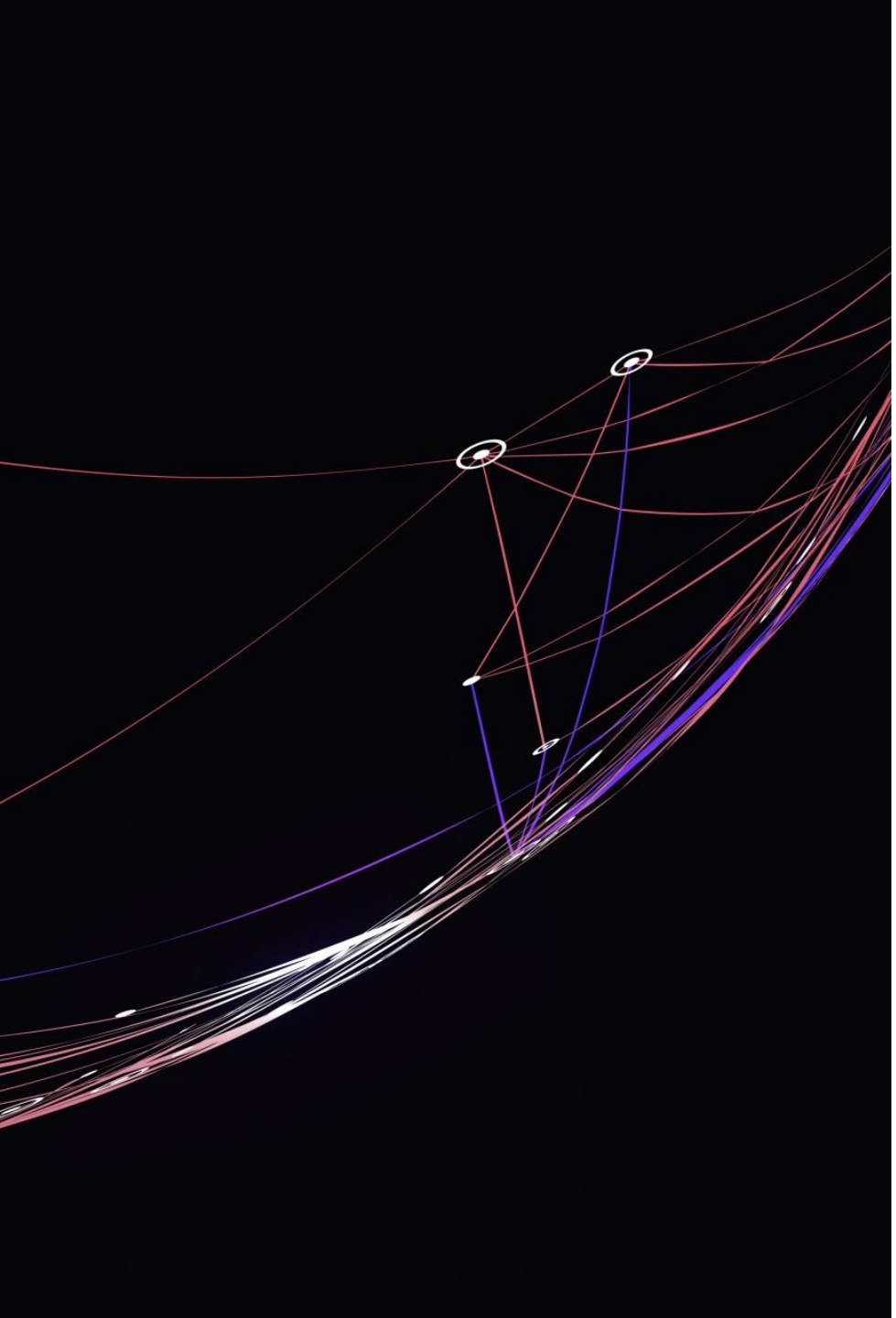

Machine Learning and Assessment Practice in BC Post-Secondary

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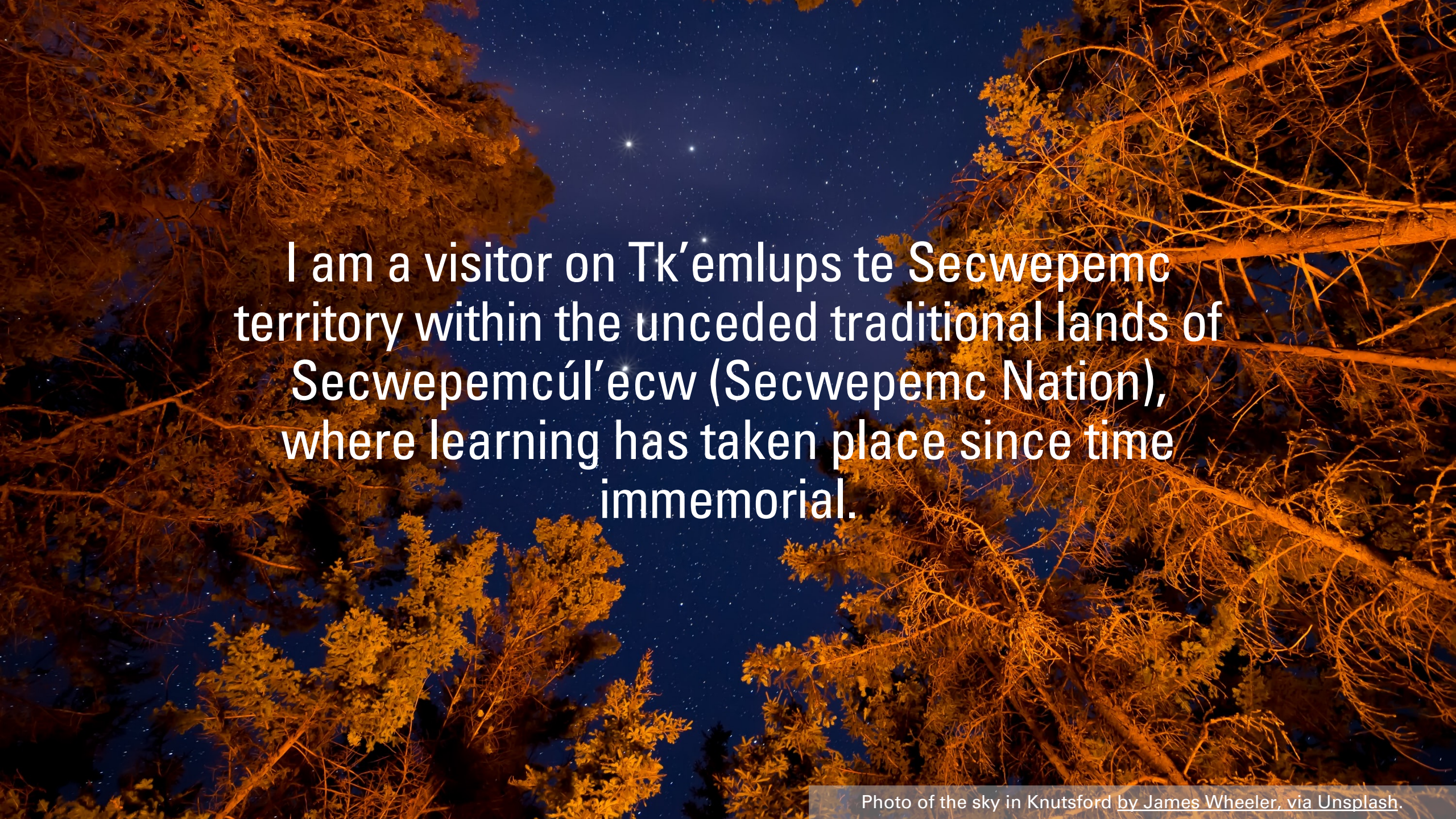
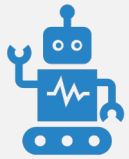


Photo of the sky in Knutsford by James Wheeler, via Unsplash.

Digital Detox: "The Robots Are Coming"



TRU's eight-week program of thinking about artificial intelligence in education.

Archived at http://digitaldetox.trubox.ca

Bias and Accountability

Algorithmic bias: the idea that datasets already include the same biases as exist in society.

Automation bias: the tech utopian imaginary that machine-led decisions are inherently less biased than human-led decisions.

Accountability gap: the distance between the entity making the decision and the human (hopefully) responsible for it.

How do we use Generative AI?

All users (students, researchers, writers) need more education about what generative AI can and cannot do.

Remember that when it doesn't "know," it fabricates.

Potential for misinformation is very high.

Traditional Definitions of Academic Integrity Are Troubled

ML data sets are built on scraped data used either non-consensually or with a limited understanding of informed consent.

Generative AI does not “cite” its sources (indeed, it actively suppresses them).

Dr. Sarah Eaton calls this the “postplagiarism” moment.

Who does the difficult work of making AI palatable?

I beg you not to pursue an arms race.

Just as Turnitin begat contract cheating, there is no detector tool that will resolve these questions or enable us to ignore Generative AI in our teaching, learning, and research practice.

Academic Integrity vs. Assessment Integrity

Centre	Consider	Examine
Centre process over product in the evaluation of learning.	Consider the value of writing and the purpose of essays.	Examine what can actually be done at scale.

Policy Perspectives: Disclosures, Not Bans

Radical transparency, not fear.

What does a “culture of academic integrity” look like now?

Will we hold faculty, staff, policy writers, and in-house communications to the same standard as we hold students?

Outline expectations of faculty, staff, and students re: disclosing use of AI.

Thank you for your time today.