

Midis du CIEQ

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Pavillon Charles-De Koninck
Local 3244

Une conférence d'Anna Stanley

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en géographie du Nord

ciéq Centre
interuniversitaire
d'études québécoises



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Interpreting the Knowledges of Aboriginal Peoples

« Rhetoric », « presence » and « absence »
in Canadian nuclear fuel waste management

Aboriginal peoples and their knowledges have recently become politically significant for the management of nuclear fuel waste in Canada. Recent initiatives under the aegis of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) frequently emphasize the importance of Aboriginal peoples and their knowledges⁰ for the management of nuclear fuel waste. Despite this recent trend, many Aboriginal organizations remain critical of the ways in which the knowledges of Aboriginal peoples have been portrayed by the NWMO. Drawing insights from

the work of Iris Marion Young on the politics of difference, I critically examine the NWMO's representations of the knowledges and roles of Aboriginal peoples in relation to NFW management. I suggest that these knowledges appear in the NWMO's work as rhetorical incorporations, as re-contextualized presences, and as absences. I argue that such representations are deliberate attempts on the part on the NWMO to obscure Aboriginal experiences of the fuel chain and to make Aboriginal knowledges appear consistent with industry claims.

Entrée libre.
Bienvenue à toutes et à tous !

Groupe d'Algonquins à Winnewai, 2006. Photographie : Émilie Ruffin, doctorante en géographie de l'Université Laval