

Engaging with Aboriginal Communities

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**Public
Engagement**
at Memorial



Aboriginal Communities

- Same as other communities – but also different
- Communities – both of a physical nature but also groups of interested parties who come a common background or, in the case of Aboriginal communities, from an Indigenous background
- So – you may be engaging Aboriginal economic development officers in Canada as a community but also a specific, geographical community such as Membertou in Cape Breton

Aboriginal Communities

- Same as other communities
 - Issues
 - Risks
 - Affected by external and socio-economic trends
 - Enablers and barriers
 - Challenges and Risks
 - Failures and success

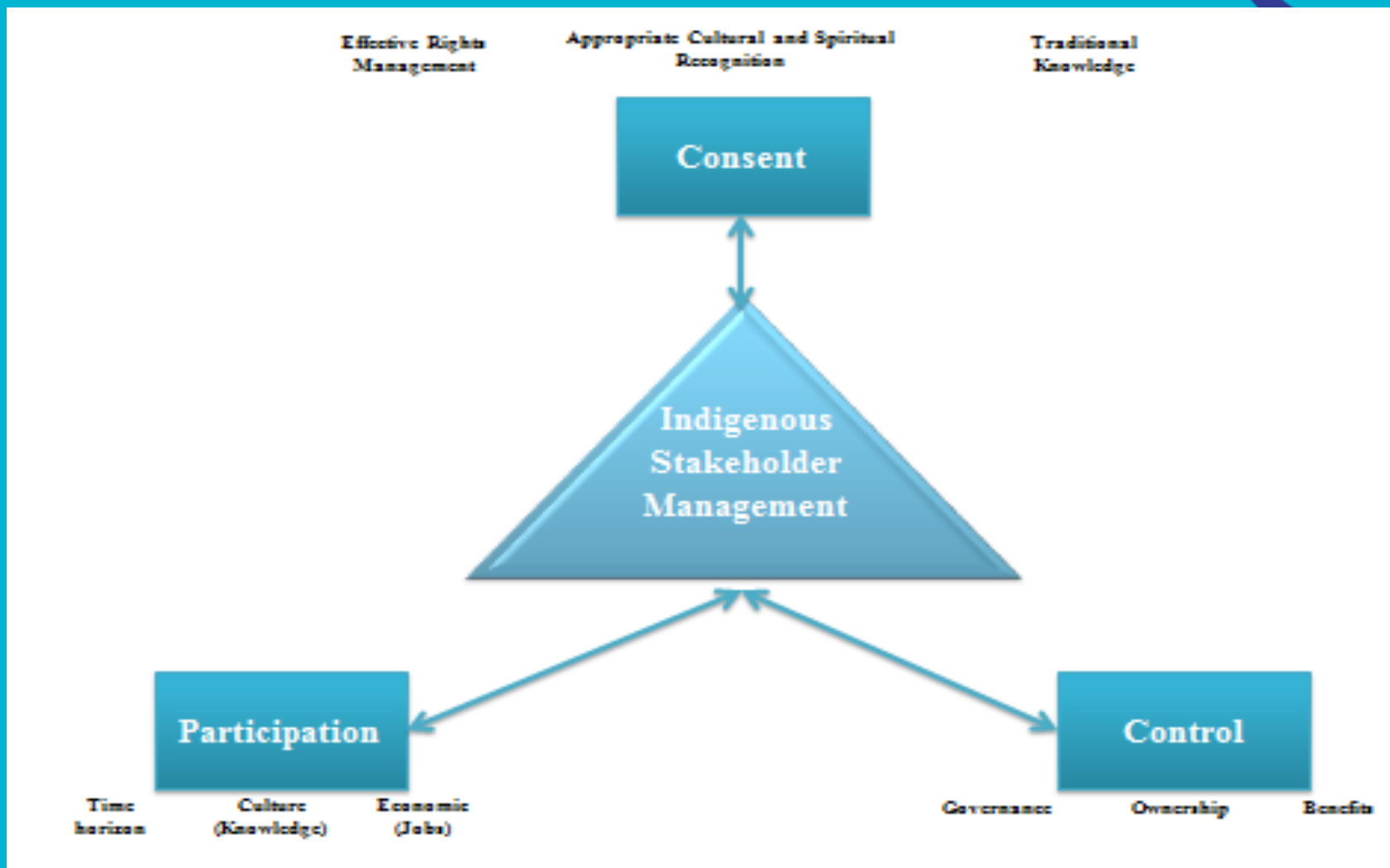
Aboriginal Communities

- Different
 - Treat as a separate Nation – they were here first!
 - Importance of politics
 - Spiritual and cultural knowledge
 - Indigenous Elders Knowledge
 - Consent not consult
 - Sense of distrust of authority figures

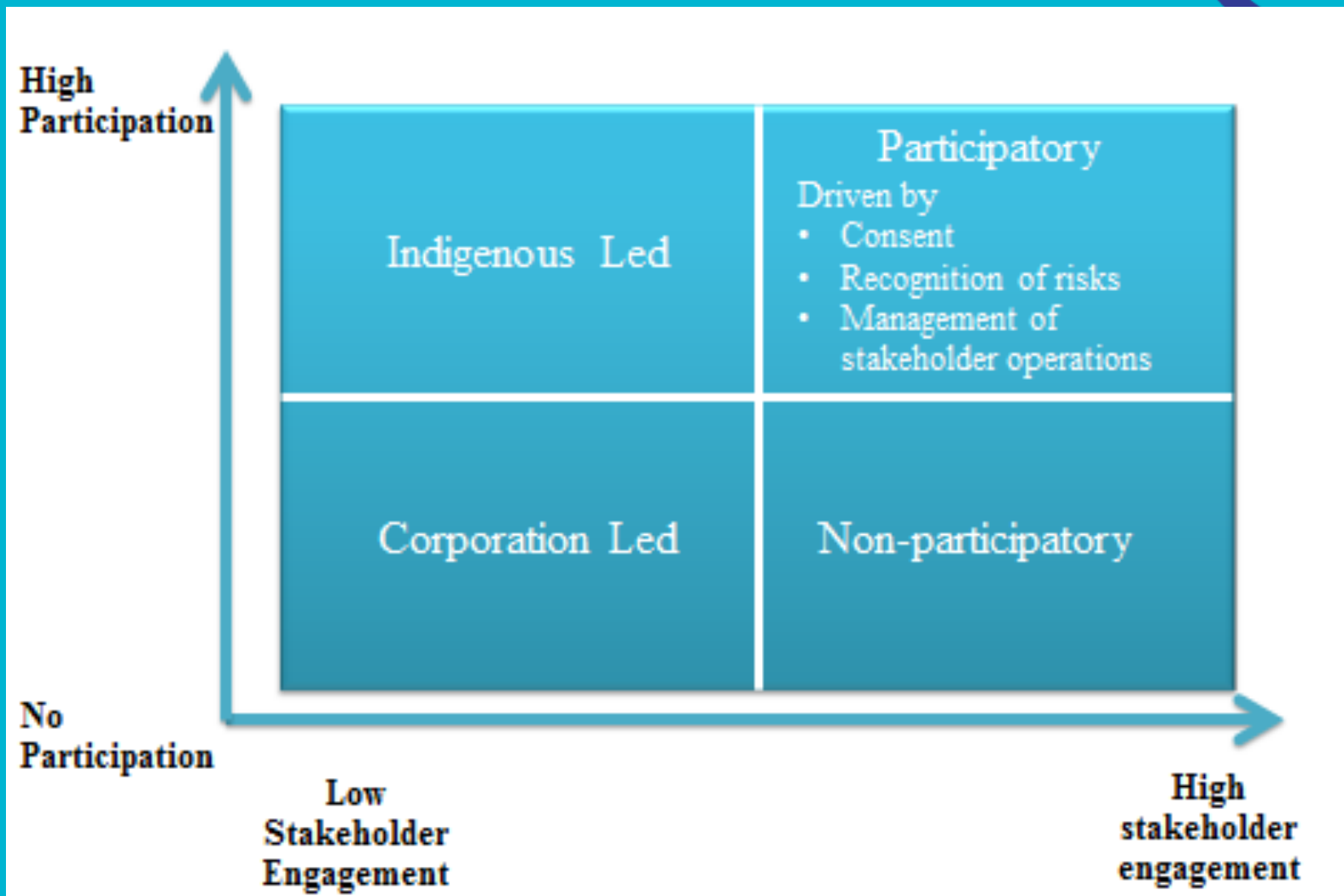
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Aboriginal Communities

- Engagement with Aboriginal Communities – good practices
 - Focus on mutual benefits
 - Use trusted third-parties
 - It takes time – and there are risks
 - ‘Relationship’ based engagement
 - Recognize the cultural and spiritual
 - Participatory – with rather than on