

## GOING BEYOND DEFICIT JOURNALISM IN THE DTES

Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES) is frequently portrayed negatively in the press. This project was inspired by the residents of the DTES who authored *A Manifesto for Ethical Research in the Downtown Eastside* in response to negative experiences with academic researchers.

The primary goal of this TLEF is to create a comprehensive guide that fosters trauma-informed journalistic practices. This guide aims to serve as a crucial resource for journalism students and educators, encouraging a more respectful and accurate representation of the DTES and similarly stereotyped communities.

**The aim of the project is to develop a resource that engages journalism students, practitioners and educators in developing trauma informed and community based journalism practices when reporting on the DTES and other groups that are often stereotyped in media coverage.**

.The guide will also be useful for knowledge exchange programs that are focused on training researchers to talk about their research to media and others.

## Collaboration

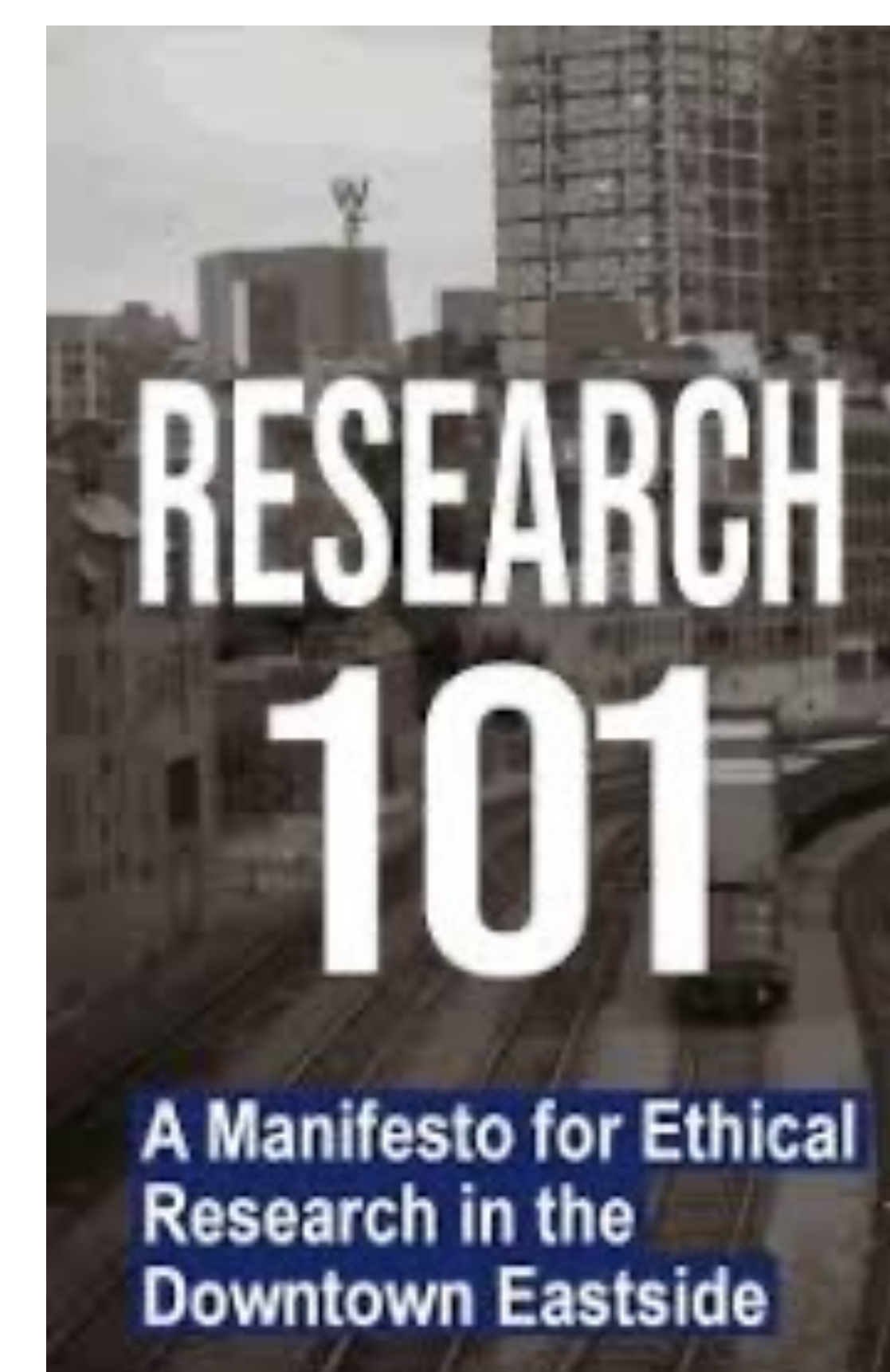
The Megaphone is highly respected in the DTES for providing training and job opportunities for DTES residents. They distribute a monthly magazine.

UBC JWAM, UBC Learning Exchange.

- 8 sessions with DTES Shift Newsroom participants
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year journalism student present at all sessions.
- 6 journalism students present at 4 session sessions
- Guest Speakers (Indigenous journalism and trauma informed)
- Session covered basics of media literacy , ethical journalism in vulnerable communities ethics, trauma informed, reporting Indigenous storytelling ...
- Based on structured conversations the Shift Newsroom participants drafted Manifesto.

## What we have learned

- Power imbalance is an important issue when reporting on the DTES
- DTES is made up of various communities with different relationships with journalists
- Spending more time on building relationships is crucial
- Journalists need trauma informed training to report on such communities
- Journalism schools should reflect a paradigm shift in their curriculum involving more community based approaches to reporting
- Who we call an expert matters



## Next Steps

- Piloting with journalism schools
- Piloting with journalists
- Finalize, distribution
- Applying model to other communities
- Evaluation
- Writing Article aimed at Journalism educators
- Presenting at journalism conferences and classes

## Reference / Bibliography

*A Manifesto for Ethical Research in the Downtown Eastside* by Boilevin, Louise; Chapman, Jules; Deane, Lindsay; Doerksen, Caroline; Fresz, Greg; Joe, DJ; Leech-Crier, Nicolas; Marsh, Samona; McLeod, Jim; Neufeld, Scott; et al.

## Acknowledgement

*The Shift Newsroom*

*The Megaphone*

*The UBC Learning Exchange*

*The UBC School of Journalism*

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