

Reviewer-1

The manuscript is important for the scientific community as it addresses critical gaps in understanding the experiences and wellness of Indigenous students in Canadian

Citation formatting is consistent and includes DOIs or stable URLs, ensuring traceability and academic rigor.

universities, particularly highlighting underexplored areas such as intersectionality and STEM disciplines. This contributes valuable knowledge for advancing equity, inclusion, and culturally relevant practices in higher education, ultimately supporting Indigenous student success and wellbeing.

The title is clear, impactful, and appropriate for academic audiences interested in Indigenous studies, higher education, and social justice. If desired, a subtitle could be added to further emphasize aspects such as intersectionality or inclusion of Indigenous knowledge systems, but the current title is strong and concise.

Example of a title that includes a subtitle: “Intersecting Identities and Wellness: Indigenous Students’ Journey in Canadian Higher Education”

The abstract provides a clear overview of the manuscript’s purpose, findings, and significance. Suggestion: Perhaps including a sentence summarizing the broader implications for universities, policymakers, and Indigenous communities could enhance the abstract’s comprehensiveness.

The flow between sections is smooth, and the structure is logical for a literature review. The manuscript grounds empirical findings well within Indigenous knowledge frameworks, which is essential for relevance and respect.

The comprehensive coverage of both structural challenges and student strengths offers depth.

Suggestions: Consider separating Results and Discussion into distinct sections in future revisions for clarity.

The references include a mix of peer-reviewed journal articles, doctoral theses, government reports (Statistics Canada), and key Indigenous-related policy documents (e.g., the Truth and Reconciliation Commission).

Suggestion: Including references from related fields such as Indigenous psychology, education policy, or critical race theory might enrich theoretical frameworks.

Specific Comments:

The article is strong and aligns with TRC Calls to Action; consider ending with a succinct, memorable takeaway or call to action. You might want to include any suggestions for next steps for universities or policymakers and briefly acknowledge study limitations.