September 23, 2010
12:00pm -2:30pm
York Research Tower, 626
A light lunch will be provided

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND INDIGENENITY: INTERNATIONAL POLICY MAKING BETWEEN NEOLIBERALISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

Finding ways of ‘protecting’ the knowledge and heritage of indigenous peoples has become a significant issue in international law and policy-making, engaging numerous United Nations bodies (the Biodiversity Convention, WIPO, UNCTAD, UNESCO, WTO as well as the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples), NGOs and indigenous activists.

Should indigenous peoples seek intellectual property protection? What are the alternatives?

Three scholars from anthropology, law, and political science will critically consider the motives, interests, agencies and politics that drive this field of international activity and explain there research work of three networks of scholars who explore this field and collaborate with indigenous peoples.

Catherine Bell
University of Alberta

Patricia Goff
Wilfrid Laurier University

Rosemary Coombe
York University

Perpetuation by Coast Salish artist lessLie