Notes, April 20 CoP

Agenda

- **Meeting opening –** Territorial acknowledgement, mentimeter check in, building out agenda, introductions
- **Quirkos, an engaging online tool for qualitative analysis** - Demonstration by Diandra Oliver
- **Space for discussion** – *In this time of COVID, as we've been shifting how we do things, what are some methods that you have used that have worked well? What has been challenging? Sharing lessons learned.*

Opening by Rick – thank you!

- Joanna had sent out Zoom link, information – in the agenda, discussion questions posed (please add if you have other questions)

Diandra's presentation

- Last November, Diandra was working for BC Parks on an accessibility survey and that is when they started working with Quirkos
- That work was quantitative but nobody had started doing quali analysis. Needed a way to approach this for folks who had not done quali analysis before.
- Resource links from Diandra:
- https://www.quirkos.com/manual.pdf
- Quirkos FAQ:
- https://www.quirkos.com/faqs.html
- Quirkos Youtube:
- https://www.youtube.com/c/Quirkos/videos
- We will do some qualitative coding today and learn to use Quirkos!
- In Diandra's experience, your data set determines which functionalities of a software you end up using.
- Quirkos is a visual and collaborative tool for qualitative coding. Quantitative coding is when we have math-based data/statistics or similar to a survey (e.g. how many people answered in a certain way – percentages). Qualitative coding is looking at a body of text – audio, photos, videos e.g. - looking for shared feelings, repeated ideas
- We call those shared pieces 'codes' - using merged into themes.
- Diandra sees this as hearing stories and following our shared intuition as to what they represent.
- Quirkos is a desktop application. You can save to a secure drive for things that should be stored there (ethics) or you can save cleaned data in the cloud if you would like.
- You can code as a team in real time.
- There's an offline license you can purchase that never expires, you can also buy short term licenses.
- We will practice using Quirkos with a song by Phoebe Bridgers! [link?]
- Diandra asks that people keep notes about things that stand out to you or ideas of themes as we listen
- List of words/ideas that stood out:

Blossoms

Japan

Free

Flying

Godzilla

Train

Escape

Laser zapping eyes

Nature, freedom

The unattentive texting dude

I don't forgive you

Train and travel

I changed my mind

Phones

Mountain

Skeleton

Distance

Zipping along a train track

- You can password protect a project – team can have password to access
- We can add 'sources'
- First source Diandra adds: lyrics from the song. One way we can do that is copying and pasting text.
- You can also add a blank source and edit the text to add in text – bold and underline text too (e.g. you can italicize a question in a transcript)
- Adding a source file – Diandra adds a Wikipedia page about the song as a source file
- In the Source Properties, you can edit the title and how the lines are ordered (e.g. ascending/descending) - you can also assign a (binary) gender
- You can add other properties and values e.g. year born
- You can add 'quirks' - Diandra creates a 'quirk' called 'Place' and adds a description
- You can drag source info (e.g. codes in a document) into the quirks
- You can also add virtual sticky note memos (keeping track of ideas, inconsistencies)
- As you add lines/source info into quirks, they grow bigger
- If you code something into more than one code, you can pan over it and see all the codes attached

- You can save the project on desktop, download it and merge it with other projects
- You can export to documents – e.g. sources with Quirks next to it – as a spreadsheet, Word doc
- You can also create a report that summarizes the Quirks, Property etc.
- Question: Diandra, would you be able to add the YouTube video itself as a source? Or the audio? A: Not yet, you can do this in NVivo but not yet in Quirkos
- Question: can you support a team to do coding together online? (without getting everyone a license) A: You can buy a few licenses and have people sign in under the licenses. If you have a party of people, you can have them tell you what to do and drag things around – but this, for Diandra was challenging and so they created a PowerPoint "mini Quirkos" and had people annotate (challenging in some different ways).
- Reach out to Diandra with questions! diandra@pacificaidsnetwork.org
- Another software: Dedoose (for Mac)
- Q: Learning curve? A: Diandra didn't find the learning curve too bad – one thing Diandra likes about Quirkos over NVivo is that looking at documents for a long time is exhausting – Quirkos' dark background, colours and images is a bit better this way.
- There is also a chatbox at the bottom that you can use to communicate with team members and leave notes for each other.
- Q: Is it possible to create sub-codes there? A: Yes
- Unlimited collaborators allowed – but you could use the memo function to add people's initials if it matters who does what
- Diandra talks about going into qualitative coding with ideas of what you are looking for – e.g. more Western approaches, looking for stories etc. - search function allows you to look for specific things. You can also export codes and see which sources were included.
- Q: In Diandra's experience – do they prefer NVivo or Quirkos? A: For secondary research (e.g. PDFs), Diandra would use NVivo because you can view the PDF. Diandra likes Quirkos for survey data e.g. copying from SPSS. Quirkos understood the line breaks so there weren't overlaps in the data. Diandra likes NVivo because you can query – but they haven't dug into Quirkos' features around that.
- Comment about challenges uploading surveys to NVivo – gave an overwhelming amount of options and you have to give it lots of data to upload – so will give Quirkos a try for this!

Discussion:

In this time of COVID, as we've been shifting how we do things,

• what are some methods that you have used that have worked well?

• What has been challenging?

• Sharing lessons learned.

- Sherri shares that WoW project has been thinking about how to do participatory analysis online.
- Challenge: having to be too flexible – now as we are on the cusp of vaccination, can we travel etc. - too much flexibility, too many failsafes to consider now. Feeling fatigued.
- Comment: project that has been as flexible as possible is now more limited in flexibility. Haven't been able to see people in CBOs and in their homes as usual. Phone interviews are going better than anticipated – but also know there are lots of people who are unsheltered who can't

participate because they don't have a private phone or space to do an interview. Quality of conversation is not the same as what it would be in person – some impacts to data. And concern about the fact that the people who *can't* be reached are probably the people with the most thoughts to share.

- It's important to think about taking care of our community – community of participants, our own personal community, our work community. There has been a lot of keeping track of public health updates, new resources – lots on top of what we are already doing.
- Comment from chat: I think you made an incredibly important point - the people we can't get in touch with are those we most need to hear from
- On phones: now we *do* have to call people – feels old school! Comment about the Rogers outage yesterday – felt weird not to be able to use phone at all.
- Having hard conversations on the phone: you can't show your face and share that emotional piece. Worrying about the emotional impact on participants when we can only offer that emotional piece via our voices. But also – those connections are really important to people right now.
- Diandra shares that if there was a shared person between the participant and Diandra via Zoom, the conversation was deeper. Diandra would add in additional interviews to allow for deepening in the future.
- Sherri shares that before lockdown, she and the Coordinator were able to meet in person. It's been strange not to be able to see people's whole bodies! Not used to seeing just shoulders and head. Seeing body language is important.
- This week is Earth Day – awareness that there are a *lot* of other things going on. COVID is teaching us about how to be innovative and creative. Maybe there are things that can help with the climate emergency that will result from COVID innovation.
- Miranda shares that community Elders in the surrounding area have really picked up on how to use Zoom – working with Elders in a project in Regina over Zoom. Not the same, but participants are still engaging. Doing analysis of qualitative data – they were able to digitalize a method that is well suited for doing Indigenous focused research. Morningstar Lodge is providing training about using this method!
- Maybe Miranda can share about this method at the next meeting? Miranda is happy mnorthwind@allnationshope.ca

Rick closes us out in a good way. Thank you, Rick!