UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

ALES RESEARCH
TIP SHEET #6 updated
Indigenous Engagement
May 2024

Guidelines & recommendations:

- Chapter 9 of the Tri-Council Policy Statement (TCPS) 2 (2022) is intended to provide guidelines and *'to serve as a framework for the ethical conduct of research involving Indigenous peoples'*. This may include:
  - *research conducted on First Nations, Inuit or Métis lands;*
  - *recruitment criteria that include Indigenous identity as a factor for the entire study or for a subgroup in the study;*
  - *research that seeks input from participants regarding a community's cultural heritage, artefacts, traditional knowledge or unique characteristics;*
  - *research in which Indigenous identity or membership in an Indigenous community is used as a variable for the purpose of analysis of the research data; and*
  - *interpretation of research results that will refer to Indigenous communities, peoples, language, history or culture.*

  NOTE: Institutions eligible to administer and receive Tri-Council research funding agree to adhere to the above policy as a condition of funding.

- The First Nations principles of ownership, control, access, and possession (OCAP®) are being applied by many Indigenous communities and some funding agencies and we therefore encourage you to review them.

- Researchers planning engagement and/or collaboration with an Indigenous community or peoples, are advised to start well ahead of their application submission and become familiar with relevant and applicable customs, codes of research practices, and identify relevant representative bodies or individuals within the community. It is recommended that you obtain approval for the proposed involvement from the appropriate community representatives prior to submitting your application. Watch the Signal Fire documentary on creating just, equitable, and ethical spaces for research.

Considerations when creating new proposals:

- Planned engagement with Indigenous communities should be indicated on the New Request Form:

  Does this research involve Aboriginal/Indigenous peoples, their communities or knowledge systems? ● Yes   ○ No

- Consider any requirements for research ethics approval by the UofA's institutional Research Ethics Board (REB) (eg: social science studies). Seek out advice from the Research Ethics Office as needed.

- A data sharing, data ownership, MOU or intellectual property rights agreement may be needed, particularly when graduate students are involved or potential spin-off companies may emerge. Contact the ALES Research Team for guidance on who to contact for advice/clarification.

Resources:

- See the University of Alberta UofA [Indigenous Initiatives webpage](#) and the UofA [Indigenous Strategic Plan - Braiding Past, Present and Future](#).

- [University of Alberta Libraries Indigenous Research Guide](#) provides researchers with the tools, research methods, information, and support to conduct ethical, and reciprocal research with Indigenous communities.

- [Northern Research Leadership and Equity](#) guide on the Future of Arctic and Northern Research in Canada.

- [Indigenous Canada](#) MOOC from the Faculty of Native Studies that explores the different histories and contemporary perspectives of Indigenous peoples living in Canada.

- [Yukon First Nations 101](#) course offered by the Yukon University. The course covers history and culture of First Nations in the Yukon, the cultural values shared among Yukon First Nations today and how to communicate respectfully with First Nation individuals and communities.

Contact:

- [Ceilidh Morrissette](#), Indigenous Initiatives Strategic Officer, CNAS
- [Marek Tyler](#), Program Officer for Indigenous Initiatives and Research, Office of the VPRI
- [Jessie Loyer](#), Indigenous Engagement Librarian
- [James Doiron](#), Research Data Management Strategies Director, UofA contact person for OCAP®