

Research Impacting Indigenous Groups

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT (RESEARCH)



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Table of contents

Overview of the Research Impacting Indigenous Groups policy

Responsibilities and support

Contact information

Appendix | Indigenous groups in Canada and Atlantic Canada | Further learning

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY'S RESEARCH IMPACTING INDIGENOUS GROUPS (RIIG) **POLICY** IS DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN THE INTEGRITY AND IMPACT OF INDIGENOUS RESEARCH.

The policy is certainly not the only pathway for strengthening the integrity and impact of research impacting Indigenous groups. However, along with TCPS2 chapter 9, it is one of the only requirements for doing Indigenous research at Memorial University. This guide will outline responsibilities of Memorial University faculty, staff, and students in relationship to the policy, as well as outline some of the principles behind doing Indigenous research in a good way based on decades and even centuries of existing knowledge and practices.

The most recent version of the policy and its processes and supporting documents should always be consulted.

Supporting documents, including a link to the policy, frequently asked questions and dedicated resources for researchers, students, research staff, and community members are hosted here: <https://www.mun.ca/research/Indigenous/consent.php>.

Overview of the Research Impacting Indigenous Groups (RIIG) policy

RIIG might be considered a pathway policy—a process that starts researchers on a good path and their continuation on that path is left to them, with support. In essence, the policy's key requirement is:

IF a researcher is conducting Indigenous Research
THEN they need Agreement in Principle
AT the concept development stage
FROM the appropriate Indigenous authority

Each of these elements are defined and outlined in the policy, and researchers are accountable to those full definitions, but a simple overview is:

- **Indigenous research** is any research on Indigenous land (under title or upon which an Indigenous group has asserted rights), and/or that uses Indigeneity as a way to recruit participants, gather data or input, or interpret data and information. Under the policy it refers to primary research and secondary use of data.
- **Agreement in Principle** is a term of art that is a first step in a longer process where parties agree to the principles, concepts, and premises of research before it moves forward and takes more concrete shape.
- The **concept development stage** means at the idea stage of research, before a research design and plan is in place.

- The **appropriate Indigenous authority** is the highest authority within an Indigenous group. In many cases this will be the main governing body. See section 3.1 of the policy for details. Understanding and identifying appropriate authority is a crucial skill in Indigenous research ethics.

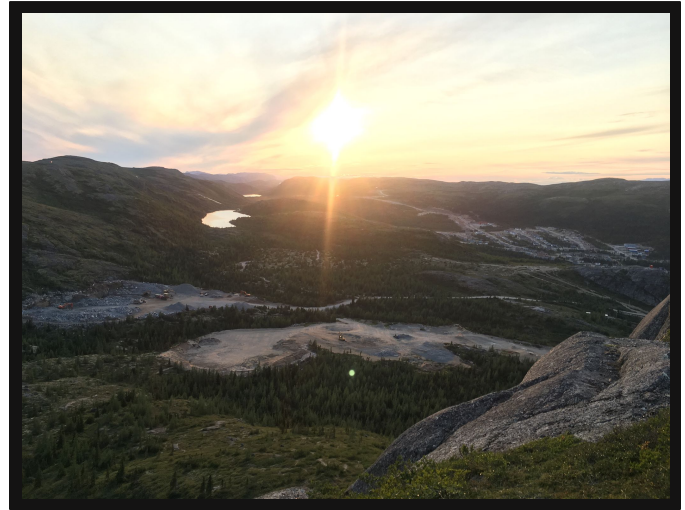
Any of Memorial's policies, and even TCPS2 Chapter 9, are required **in addition to** all Indigenous group's own requirements, permitting processes, ethics review, and other protocols. It is also in addition to existing ethics frameworks overseen by Interdisciplinary Committee on Ethics in Human Research (ICEHR), Health Research Ethics Authority (HREA), animal care, etc.

The definition of a **researcher** includes any individual who is involved in the intellectual direction, control, and/or conduct of a research activity or gathering new information. This can be staff, faculty, students, instructors, visiting and adjunct professors among others. This includes but is not limited to classroom research, program evaluation, funded and unfunded research projects, and graduate research. See the policy definition for details. Indigenous researchers must also abide by Memorial policy and Indigenous protocol.

Responsibilities and support

Like in all research ethics ecosystems at Memorial University, researchers are responsible for understanding the policies and guidelines that apply to their own research. In short, the expectation is that being an expert in your field or a qualified staff member in your area also includes being an expert in the ethics of that field or position. In most cases, staff will not give definitive answers about whether a researcher "must" get agreement in principle or not. The best authority for that question is the Indigenous group itself. Indigenous groups can submit documentation that their group does not require Agreement in Principle if they desire. See section 1.4 of the policy for details.

In truth, the policy sets up a false dichotomy of requiring or not requiring initial conversations with Indigenous groups that will or may be impacted by or implicated in research. Researchers should always have these conversations and communities who have historically and systematically be left out of the role of knower in research, who have been harmed by research, and who have been misrepresented in research whether they are Indigenous or not, have been asking for these conversations and considerations for decades.



Materials: This is a lot of responsibility and it requires some nuanced knowledge. The appendix includes outlines of some of the basic knowledge researchers should have as they begin or continue doing Indigenous research and where to go for more knowledge. There are also dedicated packages for different audiences: faculty and staff researchers, student researchers, classroom instructors, research staff, and outside Indigenous community members.

Kits are hosted at:

<https://www.mun.ca/research/Indigenous/consent.php>

Memorial's Indigenous Research Advisory Group (MIRAG):

Whether you are a researcher, a student, a community member, or research staff, we have created a body of people who are good at this sort of thing. They have been recognized and recommended by Indigenous communities as being in a good position to teach others about Indigenous research ethics, processes, and principles. **Memorial's Indigenous Research Advisory Group (MIRAG)** is there to help answer questions, even basic ones, and to provide feedback and guidance as requested. You can contact them by emailing: IndigenousResearch@mun.ca

Contact us

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Research Impacting Indigenous Groups: Introduction to Indigenous groups in Canada and Atlantic Canada

Office of the Vice-President (Research)



www.mun.ca

There are hundreds of millions of Indigenous people in the world belonging to over 5,000 different formal communities, nations, tribes, governments, and/or societies. Each one is different, and understanding those differences is one of the first steps in doing Indigenous research in a good way. The primer below covers some of the different Indigenous groups in Canada and Atlantic Canada. The text is based on the Ocean Frontier Institute's (OFI) Indigenous Engagement Strategy, which was created by the OFI Indigenous Engagement Steering Committee comprised of non-Indigenous OFI staff and four Indigenous members with an expertise in Indigenous research and engagement (OFI 2020).

Given the diversity and constant evolution of Indigenous groups, this guide is not complete, authoritative, or the last word. Always engage with Indigenous groups for a fuller and more accurate picture.

Indigenous Peoples in Canada

In Canada, the term Indigenous (also Aboriginal) is an inclusive term that refers to the original inhabitants of North America and their descendants (CIRNAC 2020a). The term Indigenous can refer to nations, cultures, communities, and individual identities and ancestries. In Canada, the Canadian Constitution recognizes three Indigenous groups: Inuit, First Nations, and Métis. The term "Indian" is generally not used unless in a legal context relating to the Indian Act of 1985 (Government of Canada 2019b). Each of the three Indigenous groups recognized in Canada have their own unique, languages, cultures, and traditions that vary regionally and locally.

Inuit

Inuit are the people of the Arctic coastal regions in Canada. The word "Inuit" means "the people" and their language is Inuktitut (CIRNAC 2020b). The Inuit call the 53 Inuit communities across northern Canada Inuit Nunangat, "the place where Inuit live." Inuit Nunangat is currently divided into regions that each have their own variation on Inuktitut:

- The **Inuvialuit Settlement Region** refers to northern portions of the Northwest and Yukon Territories, with local Inuvialuktun dialects;
- **Nunavut** refers to the northeast portion of the former Northwest Territories, with local dialects of Inuinnaqtun (to the west) and Inuktitut (remaining portions);
- **Nunavik** refers to the northern portions of Quebec, including portions of the Hudson Bay, with local dialects of Inuktitut; and,
- **Nunatsiavut** refers to portions of northern Labrador where local dialects of Inuktitut are spoken (CIRNAC 2020b; Piruvik Centre 2018).

In addition, the Inuit of the NunatuKavut Community Council (NCC) live in southern portions of Labrador (NCC 2020). Note that all Inuit regions, except for NunatuKavut, lacked historical treaty

relations with Canada (except for a small portion of Treaty 11 in Nunavut) and have now settled comprehensive land claims agreements. Finally, the Inuit Circumpolar Council holds that the term “Eskimo” is not an Inuit term, and not one that Inuit have themselves adopted. They call on researchers, scientists, and other communities to use the term “Inuit” instead of “Eskimo”, and “paleo-Inuit” instead of “paleo-Eskimo”, in publications of research findings and other documents.

First Nations

In Canada, over 630 individual First Nations represent a wide variety of language and cultural backgrounds and histories. Prior to colonization, these Indigenous Nations lived throughout what we now know as Canada. Today, the term “First Nation” describes these Indigenous Nations and their lands and waters, which in many cases have been reduced to small parcels of land and territory called “Reserves”. However, for many First Nations these reserves do not reflect the full extent of their ancestral or traditional territories, which were much larger. In addition, some First Nations have successfully established and strengthened their Aboriginal and treaty rights through legal litigation, case law, land claim agreements, or historical treaties.

The Indian Act 1985 further divides First Nation peoples into two administrative groupings (Government of Canada, 2019b). The Indian Act 1985 is Canadian legislation that defines Indigenous people in Canadian law and defines persons with First Nation ancestry as either “status” or “non-status” Indians (First Nations). This Act recognizes status First Nation individuals as those members of a “registered” Indian Band or Reservation in Canada. A status First Nation person can live on or off-reserve in relation to their membership community. Status First Nations individuals are entitled to exercise their membership in their community’s collective Aboriginal and treaty rights. Non-status First Nations can include people who identify themselves as First Nation but who are not entitled to registration on the Indian Register pursuant to the Indian Act but some may be a member of a First Nation band (CIRNAC 2020a). Status and non-status are terms based in the settler state and different First Nations groups have different relationships to it—it should not be regarded as a sole or even a key determinant of identity or belonging.

Métis

The Métis people are a unique nation that emerged after colonization and during the fur trade (The Métis Nation, 2019). The Métis Nation has its own citizenship criteria, culture, traditions, language (Michif), and way of life that was and remains distinct from First Nations and Europeans (The Métis Nation, 2019). The Métis Aboriginal right to hunt for food was recognized and affirmed under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 by the Powley Decision of 2003 (CIRNAC 2016). While the Powley Decision was primarily focused on Métis communities near Sault St. Marie, Ontario, it did establish a legal test to determine the rights of other Métis communities. Recently, the Daniels Decision of 2016 affirmed that Métis (and non-Status Indians) fall under federal jurisdiction and recognized them as Aboriginal Peoples under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982. There may be Métis citizens who live in the Atlantic Provinces that are part of a Métis diaspora. However, The Métis Nation does not recognize any Métis settlements or Métis treaties east of Ontario.

Newfoundland and Labrador

This section provides a short overview of the Indigenous communities, governments, tribal councils, and other Indigenous organizations in Newfoundland and Labrador, framed for researchers. The information below focuses on each Indigenous group's own research and permitting process. These processes are in addition to receiving Agreement in Principle at the concept development stage to satisfy Memorial's Research Impacting Indigenous Groups policy. While formal approval from an Indigenous research review group such as the ones described below serves as Agreement in Principle, so too does earlier forms of conversation that are less formal. See section 1.7 of the policy for details.

Information in this section on these Indigenous groups has been grouped by their location either in Labrador or on the island of Newfoundland.

Labrador

In Labrador, NL three primary Indigenous organizations represent the Inuit and First Nation communities. These include:

- The Nunatsiavut Government (Inuit, Northern Labrador);
- The NunatuKavut Community Council (Inuit, Southern Labrador); and
- The Innu Nation (First Nation, communities of Mushuau (Natuashish) and Sheshatshiu).

The Nunatsiavut Government (NG; www.nunatsiavut.com/) represents the Inuit of Nunatsiavut (North coast of Labrador). Over 7,000 people are beneficiaries of Nunatsiavut, with ~2,500 living in the land claim area. The land claim and self-governing Nunatsiavut Government was established in 2005. Nunatsiavut is part of Inuit Nunangat, the Inuit homelands across all of Canada. The traditional language is Inutittut.

The Nunatsiavut Research Centre (www.nunatsiavutresearchcentre.com) is the primary contact for researchers whose work will be conducted in Nunatsiavut. The Nunatsiavut Research Centre requires that researchers complete an application form submitted to the NG Research Advisory Council before conducting their research within their territory. This application form and application guide can be found at www.nunatsiavutresearchcentre.com/ngrac/. Applicants are encouraged to contact the Nunatsiavut Inuit Research Advisor before completing your application. The NG suggests that this application be completed at least three months before the proposed start of any research.

The Innu Nation represents the two Innu communities of Nitassinan that are in Labrador: Natuashish and Sheshatshiu, which have a combined population of ~2,200 people. There are 11 Innu communities within all of Nitassinan, which includes areas of Quebec. The traditional language is Innu-aimum.

The Innu Nation has a formal research application process. Its office should be contacted depending on the location of research. Researchers are encouraged to contact the Innu Nation

office located in Sheshatshiu First Nation and contact its environmental programs department to seek proper guidance in obtaining appropriate formal approvals for your research program.

The southern Inuit of NunatuKavut (South Coast of Labrador) are represented by the [Nunatsiavut Community Council \(NCC\)](#) in central and southern Labrador. Around 6,000 beneficiaries are represented by NCC. The Canadian federal government announced the beginning of land claim negotiations in August 2018.

The [NunatuKavut Community Council](#) has a formal research ethics and permissions process, as well as a Research Manager. It is currently updating their processes. Applicants are encouraged to contact the NunatuKavut Research, Education and Culture Department when seeking application to conduct research in its territory. Its website (www.nunatukavut.ca/departments/research-education-culture/) provides guidance in applying for research to the NunatuKavut Community Council Research Advisory Committee.

It is critically important for researchers to understand the complex nature of ongoing land claim negotiations that are taking place in southern Labrador. The NunatuKavut Community Council and the Innu Nation both have competing and overlapping territorial claims to this area. This has created social and political conflict between these two Indigenous communities. This will create complexity and challenges for engagement, and it is recommended that both communities are engaged as equally as possible.

[Newfoundland](#)

On the island of Newfoundland, the Indigenous communities and Indigenous organizations are primarily First Nations. These include:

- Miawpukek Mi'kamawey Mawi'omi Nation (www.mfngov.ca/) near Conne River, NL; Qalipu First Nation (www.qalipu.ca/) near Corner Brook, NL; and
- Several smaller local Indigenous and Mi'kmaw communities and bands.

[Miawpukek First Nation](#) is a First Nation Reserve located at the mouth of the Conne River on the south coast of the island of Newfoundland (MFN 2020). Around 950 people live on reserve at Miawpukek Mi'kamawey Mawi'omi, and ~2,000 live off reserve. Their traditional language is Mi'kmaq. Since being established as a “reserve in 1987, Miawpukek has gone from a poor, isolated community with almost 90% unemployment to a strong vibrant community with nearly 100% full time/part-time employment. We are one of two of the fastest growing communities in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. We are often pointed to by Indian and Northern Affairs as a model community for other First Nations” (MFN 2020). Miawpukek First Nation has a Chief and Council that oversee research through a formal application and review process.

[Qalipu First Nation](#) is a Mi'kmaq First Nation in southern and western Newfoundland established in 2011 as an Indigenous Band under the Indian Act (Qalipu 2020). “Qalipu has no reserve land; it is made up of 67 traditional Mi'kmaq communities, spread out over 9 Electoral Wards. An elected Chief and Council govern the Qalipu First Nation. Ward Councilors are elected to represent each of the nine Wards. Additionally, two Vice-Chiefs represent western and central Newfoundland and the Chief is the official spokesperson and leader of the Qalipu First Nation as a whole” (Qalipu 2020). Qalipu First Nation conducts its own research and is involved in many research projects. Research review is required but the process is less formalized.

There are many small [Mi'kmaw bands](#) in western Newfoundland that have band councils. Some are part of Qalipu First Nation but many are not. These groups do not have land claims but have asserted rights to their territories. Most have existing yet informal processes for research permissions. The Flat Bay Band, for example, is an extremely research-active band with its own research review process and research priorities.

[Beothuk](#) occupied most of the island of Newfoundland. The Beothuk language is an Algonquin language. The most recent record of a member of the Beothuk people was before 1900.

[Urban centres](#) in the province, such as St. John's and Corner Brook, have diverse Indigenous populations. In the [2016 census](#), 6,690 people in St. John's identified as having Aboriginal identity. The 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey showed that about one in eight (13%) Aboriginal people in Newfoundland and Labrador resided in Corner Brook, representing 18% of the total population living there. In 2011, 55% of Aboriginal people aged 25 to 64 in Newfoundland and Labrador had a certificate, diploma or degree from a trade school, college or university.

Table 1. An overview of areas claimed as Indigenous communities* located in Newfoundland and Labrador

Indigenous communities	Indigenous culture or Nation	Location
Rigolet	Nunatsiavut Inuit	Labrador, NL
Makkovik	Nunatsiavut Inuit	Labrador, NL
Postville	Nunatsiavut Inuit	Labrador, NL
Hopedale	Nunatsiavut Inuit	Labrador, NL
Nain	Nunatsiavut Inuit	Labrador, NL
L'anse au Loup	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 1)	Labrador, NL
L'anse au Clair	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 1)	Labrador, NL
Forteau	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 1)	Labrador, NL
Red Bay	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 1)	Labrador, NL
West St. Modeste	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 1)	Labrador, NL
Capstan Island	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 1)	Labrador, NL
Pinware	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 1)	Labrador, NL
L'Anse Amour	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 1)	Labrador, NL
Lodge Bay	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 2)	Labrador, NL
Mary's Harbour	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 2)	Labrador, NL
St. Lewis	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 2)	Labrador, NL
Port Hope Simpson	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 3)	Labrador, NL
Charlottetown	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 3)	Labrador, NL
Norman Bay	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 3)	Labrador, NL
Pinsent's Arm	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 3)	Labrador, NL
William's Harbour	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 3)	Labrador, NL
Cartwright	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 4)	Labrador, NL
Paradise River	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 4)	Labrador, NL
Black Tickle/Domino	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 4)	Labrador, NL
Happy Valley-Goose Bay*	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 5)	Labrador, NL
Northwest River*	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 5)	Labrador, NL
Mud Lake*	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 5)	Labrador, NL
Labrador City*	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 6)	Labrador, NL
Wabush*	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 6)	Labrador, NL
Churchill Falls*	NunatuKavut Inuit (Area 6)	Labrador, NL
Mushuau (Natuashish) First Nation	Innu	Labrador, NL
Sheshatshiu First Nation	Innu	Labrador, NL
Qalipu First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Newfoundland, NL
Benoit First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Newfoundland, NL
St. George's Band	Mi'kmaq	Newfoundland, NL
Burgeo Mi'kmaq Band of Indians	Mi'kmaq	Newfoundland, NL
Northern Peninsula (Mekap'sk) Mi'kmaq Band	Mi'kmaq	Newfoundland, NL
Miawpukek Mi'kamaway Mawi'omi Nation	Mi'kmaq	Newfoundland, NL

* Many of these communities are multicultural. They are listed here as locations that Indigenous governing bodies have indicated that they be contacted should research be proposed.

Nova Scotia

This section provides an overview of Indigenous communities, tribal councils, and other Indigenous organizations in Nova Scotia. This information is provided in two summary tables: **Table 3**, which provides an overview of the Indigenous communities by region and **Table 4**, which provides an overview of Indigenous tribal councils and other Indigenous organizations in Nova Scotia.

In Nova Scotia, there are eight Mi'kmaq First Nations on mainland Nova Scotia and five on Cape Breton. There are three Indigenous organizations which provide services and programs for member communities. The [Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq](http://www.cmmns.com/) (CMM; www.cmmns.com/) represents eight Mi'kmaq First Nations on the mainland of Nova Scotia and the [Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq](http://www.unsm.org/) (www.unsm.org/) represents the five Mi'kmaq First Nations in Cape Breton. In addition, the [Native Council of Nova Scotia](http://www.ncns.ca/) (www.ncns.ca/) represents Indigenous peoples who live off-reserve in Nova Scotia.

Consultation matters are addressed by [Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative](http://www.mikmaqrighs.com/) (KMK; www.mikmaqrighs.com/). This organization is responsible for ensuring that Mi'kmaq Aboriginal and Treaty rights are protected and implemented appropriately. KMK handles all negotiations and consultations for member First Nation communities in Nova Scotia except for Millbrook First Nation (www.millbrookband.com/) and Sipekne'katik (Indian Brook) First Nation (www.sipeknekatik.ca/). Millbrook and Sipekne'katik First Nations each have their own consultation process and should be contacted directly.

For research that involves Mi'kmaw culture, knowledge, or traditions, researchers should consult with Mi'kmaw Ethics Watch (MEW; www.cbu.ca/indigenous-affairs/mikmaw-ethics-watch/). The MEW website provides details on the application process and provides a list of research topics and studies that are exempt from MEW purview. MEW is hosted by Cape Breton University's Unama'ki College, but MEW is an autonomous organization and separate from the University.

Table 1. An overview of Indigenous communities in Nova Scotia

Indigenous communities	Indigenous culture or Nation	Location
Acadia First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Mainland Nova Scotia
Annapolis Valley First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Mainland Nova Scotia
Bear River First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Mainland Nova Scotia
Glooscap First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Mainland Nova Scotia
Millbrook First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Mainland Nova Scotia
Paqtnkek First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Mainland Nova Scotia
Pictou Landing First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Mainland Nova Scotia
Sipekne'katik (Indian Brook) First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Mainland Nova Scotia
Eskasoni First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Cape Breton Nova Scotia
Membertou First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Cape Breton Nova Scotia
Potlotek First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Cape Breton Nova Scotia
Wagmatcook First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Cape Breton Nova Scotia
We'koqma'q First Nation	Mi'kmaq	Cape Breton Nova Scotia

Table 2. An overview of Indigenous tribal councils and organizations in Nova Scotia

Indigenous Tribal Councils & organizations	Comments and notes
Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq (CMM)	Tribal Council representing Mi'kmaq First Nations on the mainland of Nova Scotia.
Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq	Tribal council representing Mi'kmaq First Nations in Cape Breton Nova Scotia.
Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative (KMK)	This Mi'kmaq organization is responsible for consultation matters for 11 of 13 Mi'kmaq First Nations in Nova Scotia. <i>*Please note: Millbrook First Nation and Sipekne'katik First Nation are not part of KMK and will need to be contacted directly.</i>
Mi'kmaw Ethics Watch	This organization works to ensure the ethics of research and data collected on Mi'kmaq people, culture, and communities within Mi'kmaw territory. <i>*Please Note: This organization is administered from the Cape Breton University and should be contacted directly about your research program.</i>
Native Council of Nova Scotia	Tribal council representing all off-reserve Indigenous people who are in Mi'kmaw territory (NS).

Prince Edward Island

The Indigenous communities, tribal councils, and other Indigenous organizations on Prince Edward Island (PEI) are provided in this section. This information is provided in two summary tables: **Table 5**, which provides an overview of the Indigenous communities, and **Table 6**, which provides an overview of Indigenous tribal councils and other Indigenous organizations in PEI.

On PEI there are two Mi'kmaq communities: [Abegweit First Nation](http://www.abegweit.ca/) (www.abegweit.ca/) and [Lennox Island First Nation](http://www.lennoxisland.com/) (www.lennoxisland.com/). There are two Indigenous organisations: The Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI (www.mcpei.ca/) and The Native Council of PEI (www.ncpei.com/), which represents all off-reserve Indigenous people on PEI.

For initial engagement, researchers can connect with Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI and the Native Council of PEI.

Table 5. An overview of Indigenous communities on Prince Edward Island

Indigenous communities	Indigenous culture or Nation
Abegweit First Nation	Mi'kmaq
Lennox Island First Nation	Mi'kmaq

Table 3. An overview of Indigenous tribal councils and organizations on Prince Edward Island

Indigenous Tribal Councils & organizations	Comments and notes
Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI	Tribal council representing the two Mi'kmaq First Nations on PEI.
The Native Council of PEI	Tribal council representing all off-reserve Indigenous people who are in Mi'kmaw territory (PEI).

New Brunswick

The Indigenous communities, governments, tribal councils, and other Indigenous organizations in New Brunswick are provided in this section. This information is provided in two summary tables: **Table 7**, which provides an overview of the Indigenous communities, and **Table 8**, which provides an overview of Indigenous tribal councils and other Indigenous organizations in New Brunswick.

In New Brunswick, there are 16 First Nation communities: nine Mi'kmaq communities, six Wolastoqey (previously known as Maliseet, which is no longer in use) communities, and one Peskotomuhkati community. In general, the Mi'kmaq communities are located in the eastern and coastal areas of the province, the Wolastoqey are located inland and to the west of the province along the Wolastoq (Saint John River). At present, the [Peskotomuhkati Nation](http://www.qonaskamkuk.com/) (www.qonaskamkuk.com/) is a unique case because the nation has no formal state recognition in Canada and it is in the process of negotiating with Canada for this recognition. The Peskotomuhkati Nation traditional territory is generally located in the southwest corner of New Brunswick and into the United States (Maine). There are a number of Indigenous organizations that support these communities.

For Mi'kmaw communities, The [North Shore Micmac District Council](http://www.nsmdc.ca) (www.nsmdc.ca) and [Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn](http://www.migmawel.org) (www.migmawel.org) represent the majority of Mi'kmaw communities with exception of [Elsipogtog First Nation](http://www.elsipogtog.ca/) (www.elsipogtog.ca/) and [Esgenoôpetitj First Nations](#) (no website listed), which are not part of these Indigenous organizations. Esgenoôpetitj First Nation should be contacted directly for inquiries relating to research engagement and consultation. For Elsipogtog First Nation, Kopit Lodge (www.kopitlodge.org/) is the consultation and the Mi'kmaq rights department for the First Nation and should be contacted directly for guidance on research consultation and engagement protocols.

For off-reserve First Nations community connections in New Brunswick, [The New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council](http://www.nbapc.org/) (www.nbapc.org/) should be contacted. This group represents off-reserve First Nations and other Indigenous people who are living in the province.

For Wolastoqey communities, The [Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick](http://www.wnnb.wolastoqey.ca/) (WNNB, www.wnnb.wolastoqey.ca/) represents the six Wolastoqey (Maliseet) First Nations in New Brunswick. For engagement and consultation, please connect with the WNNB and anticipate that you may have to connect with communities individually as well.

Table 7. An overview of Indigenous communities located in New Brunswick

Indigenous communities	Indigenous culture or Nation
Buctouche First Nation	Mi'kmaq
Eel Ground First Nation	Mi'kmaq
Eel River Bar First Nation	Mi'kmaq
Fort Folly First Nation	Mi'kmaq
Indian Island First Nation	Mi'kmaq
Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation	Mi'kmaq
Pabineau First Nation	Mi'kmaq
Elsipogtog First Nation*	Mi'kmaq
Esgenoôpetitj First Nation†	Mi'kmaq
Peskotomuhkati Nation at Skutik	Peskotomuhkati
Kingsclear First Nation	Wolastoqey (Maliseet)
Madawaska Maliseet First Nation	Wolastoqey (Maliseet)
Oromocto First Nation	Wolastoqey (Maliseet)
Saint Mary's First Nation	Wolastoqey (Maliseet)
Tobique First Nation	Wolastoqey (Maliseet)
Woodstock First Nation‡	Wolastoqey (Maliseet)

* Esgenoôpetitj First Nations should be contacted directly to inquire about interest in your research program.

†Elsipogtog First Nation and their consultation department, Kopit Lodge, should be contacted directly to inquire about interest in your research program.

‡Woodstock First Nation should be contacted directly to inquire about interest in your research program.

Table 8. An overview of Indigenous tribal councils and organizations in New Brunswick

Indigenous Tribal Councils & organizations	Comments and notes
North Shore Micmac District Council	Tribal Council representing Mi'kmaq First Nations in New Brunswick.
Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn	Mi'kmaq organization in New Brunswick.
Kopit Lodge	Community Consultation Department for Elsipogtog First Nation and should be contacted directly when seeking engagement with this First Nation.
Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick (WNNB)	Wolastoqey Tribal Council representing the six Wolastoqey communities in New Brunswick.
New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council	Tribal Council representing all off-reserve Indigenous people in New Brunswick.
Union of New Brunswick Indians (UNBI)	Includes: Kingsclear, Oromocto, and St. Mary's First Nations.

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Research Impacting Indigenous Groups: Further learning



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One of the hallmarks of doing Indigenous research in a good way is to “do your homework” and be fluent in key terms, definitions, histories, challenges, and conversations that are already occurring. This is an ongoing process, but here are some recommendations to get you started, chosen for their accessible writing, generosity to diverse audiences, and excellence.

1. Vowel, Chelsea. (2016). *Indigenous writes: A guide to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit issues in Canada*. Portage and Main Press.
An excellent introductory guide to Canadian Indigenous priorities, politics, and histories, written from the perspective of an Indigenous thinker who responds to questions about Indigenous research and issues regularly. It begins with the different terms for Indigenous people in Canada and their histories and politics, but it moves through complex histories about treaties, blood quantum, appropriation, and more.
2. Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Nunavut Research Institute. (2017). “Negotiating Research Relationships with Inuit Communities: A Guide for Researchers.” Scot Nickels, Jamal Shirley, and Gita Laidler (eds). Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Nunavut Research Institute: Ottawa and Iqaluit. https://www.itk.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Negotiating-Research-Relationships-Researchers-Guide_0.pdf
Many of the issues and recommendations in the text, while firmly based in Inuit community experiences and values, resonate across Indigenous groups. The guide is written to provide practical advice to assist researchers who plan to work with, or in the vicinity of, Indigenous people and specifically Inuit.

These texts lay foundations for doing Indigenous research in a good way. To dive deeper, here is a list of other texts and resources. It is not exhaustive by any means.

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