Memorial’s Peer Advisory Group on Indigenous Research Relationships (PAIRR)

Terms of Relationship

Authority
Established under the authority of the Vice-President (Research), Memorial’s Peer Advisory Group on Indigenous Research Relationships (PAIRR), is a central advisory body related to Indigenous Research at Memorial University. It provides peer-to-peer advice and guidance on a broad range of Researcher and instructor needs, including inquiries at all stages of research, from planning, to design and delivery, to analysis and results-sharing.

Mandate
1. Provide peer advice to researchers on best practices and principles in Indigenous research relationships, generally.
2. Provide internal peer review/support on research proposals and contracts before submission to external review groups or Memorial’s Committee on Ethical Research Impacting Indigenous Groups, if appropriate and as needed, and if in alignment with already-present Indigenous research approval processes.
3. Provide peer advice to researchers on the appropriate Indigenous body, group or Research Review process(es) to be used for Agreement in Principle (CDP) in alignment with the Research Impacting Indigenous Groups policy.
4. Provide forms of support to researchers and administrators on issues related to Indigenous research relationships and Indigenous research training materials, as deemed appropriate and necessary.
5. Provide advice and support, as appropriate and requested, to the Office of Research, Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Research), institutional ethics boards, and/or other related bodies, on issues related to Indigenous Research relationships.

Membership
Members must be recommended to the Vice-President (Research) and Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Research) or delegate by Indigenous community/ies or partners and have expertise in Indigenous research relationship. Members may be from within or outside of Memorial University and may be faculty, graduate students, staff, alumni, or independent scholars, and must include at least:
- one member from Grenfell Campus
- one member from the Labrador Institute
- one member from the Marine Institute
- one member from the St. John’s campus
- two members from each of the tri-agency disciplinary areas: SSHRC, CIHR, and NSERC

There is no maximum size of the Committee.

The term of office is normally two years. There is no maximum number of terms a member may serve.

The names of members will be published online, with their consent.
Operations

- Support is provided by a staff person in the Office of the Vice-President (Research), who is the custodian of records related to the Group’s work. Inquiries must be channelled through this staff person, and all correspondence also needs to include IndigenousResearch@mun.ca.
- Inquiries for peer support are matched to members with aligned expertise. Members are welcome to respond to inquiries received directly and should make the support staff member aware they have done so for record keeping by always cc’ing IndigenousResearch@mun.ca on all PAIRR correspondence.
- Every inquiry will be matched with at least one member. Members are welcome to solicit advice from other members and those outside of the group, if desired.
- Inquiries are addressed normally within one month of receipt, although faster response times are encouraged.
- Members, in consultation with the Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Research), may refuse to review inquiries from the same researcher(s) if they continue to fail to meet parameters of advisement.
- Members may have the opportunity to create and share support materials with the broader university, if requested and approved by the Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Research).
- Memorial’s Peer Advisory Group on Indigenous Research Relationships shall normally meet at a minimum of twice annually as a group.
- Annual reports shall be compiled by the staff person in the Office of the Vice President (Research) and reported to the Associate Vice President (Indigenous Research). The report will be made public and shared on the Office of the Vice President (Research) website.
- Members will be guided by the principles, requirements, and mandates of:
  - Best practices and principles in ethical conduct of Indigenous research
  - Research Impacting Indigenous Groups Policy
  - TCPS2 Chapter 9
  - CHIR Guidelines for Research with Aboriginal Peoples
  - The UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples