

6B—PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND VALUES 2: INFORMATION ACCESS & INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM #2

Libraries and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples: Missed Connections?

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Library engagement and library and information science (LIS) education are key areas where powerful change may be enacted in terms of social responsibility and intellectual freedom as they pertain to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples (FNMI) in North America. However, the research indicates, especially in regards to LIS education, that FNMI individuals are underrepresented in the field. This study, a review of current research, literature, materials, and policy regarding FNMI peoples, libraries, and education, troubles the relationship by asking why the disproportionate representation exists and how libraries and educational institutions may position themselves to correct this inconsistency. The intention of this study is to provide suggestions and resources gleaned in the research that may illuminate a way forward for future investigation into the topic and ideas to promote change in the relationship between the field of LIS and FNMI individuals.