Inisoteyahk - Walking Together
The Academic Librarian’s Role In Supporting Indigenous Research

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Achimowin - A Story

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Ownership
Control
Access
Possession

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Keyannow - Our Project

What is the current academic, government, and community knowledge on the role of institutional Research Ethics Boards in advising both Indigenous and non-Indigenous academic researchers working with Indigenous individuals and communities in Central Alberta on OCAP® principles, particularly given differences in language and understanding about the concepts of research ethics?
Kiquay Ehmiskamahk - Key Findings

- The relationship between the researcher and the community is key.
- A strong disconnect exists between community practices and institutional policies and practices.
- There is a need to be flexible in how traditional ethical principles are applied and implemented.
- Thoughtful and thorough consideration of how language structures meaning and understanding needs to be a part of the research process.
- Definitions of “community” are far more complex than the current guidance documents suggest.
Tansi Isi Pakamskakweyak - Implications for Researchers

- Learn about the **community**.
- Learn the **protocols**.
- Learn the **laws**.
- Read and utilize key documents, and consider how they would be understood from an **Indigenous language** perspective.
- **Advocate** for adoption of best practices and protocols.
Tansi Isi Pakamskakweyak - Implications for Libraries

- Create **partnerships** with Indigenous researchers, organizations, and communities.
- Create a **database** of local community contact points and protocols.
- Provide **resources** on Indigenous history, languages, cultures, local communities, etc.
- Support faculty to ensure **citation** of key documents in their grant applications and research design.
- Ensure communities have **access** to key documents.
- Examine and **revise relevant policies** to better reflect communities’ practices and the realities of doing research with Indigenous communities.
Tansi Isi Pakamuskakweyak - Implications for Administrations

- Create a research strategic plan that encourages projects that **benefit** local communities, **as identified by them**
- Create an **engagement policy** that invests in and commits to maintaining consistent and ongoing relationships with communities
- Create **partnerships** with Indigenous researchers, organizations, communities
Neegan Oti - Moving Forward

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Thank You