

Guidelines for Ethical Research in Manitoba First Nations

2014

Principles, practices, and templates

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Acknowledgments

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Message from the Executive

On behalf of Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre Inc. (MFNERC), it is with pride I present *Guidelines for Ethical Research in Manitoba First Nations*. This principles and practices framework will provide direction to people, organizations, and communities for research on Manitoba First Nations.

The document provides awareness about appropriate and sensitive research methods. At times, researchers have offended First Nations because they did not know the traditions of the community. First Nations have an inherent right to be agents of research when the topic involves their community, culture, or indigenous knowledge.

A need exists for a community-based research framework in order to create stronger, more informed First Nations. I hope that this guide will be of assistance as you develop useful research for, and with, First Nations citizens and communities.

Ekosi, Lorne C. Keeper

Abstract

This document provides a framework for First Nations and/or researchers contemplating research in First Nation communities in Manitoba. There is a need for First Nations to develop research protocols to protect and preserve their indigenous intellectual property, culture, and traditional knowledge. By using this document as a guide, First Nations can create their own ethical research regulations.

This document explores some key issues in the research process to help First Nations and researchers contend with aspects of research that can create discontent. This document also includes adaptations of *Considerations and Templates for Ethical Research Practices* by the First Nations Centre (2007). The appendices contain the templates and sample text for a Code of Research Ethics, a Collaborative Research Agreement, and a Data-Sharing Protocol.

Introduction

Historically, research in First Nations has been conducted by external researchers, without involving the researched community. First Nations have an inherent right to be agents of research when the research topic involves their community or culture, thus ensuring that ethical research practices are observed. Since the release of *Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans*, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit are asserting a more active role in directing research that involves their communities (AREI 2008, 4).

First Nations recognize the need to protect and preserve their indigenous intellectual property, culture, and traditional knowledge and have started to establish their own regulations for research in their communities. The scientific community has also come to realize that First Nations have much to offer in terms of sustainability and stewardship of the environment.

The misalignment of cultures and lack of knowledge, skills, and experience often causes confusion and frustration for the researcher and the researched community. Researchers can benefit from partnerships with communities and can gain exposure to the customary values and teachings of the community. Understanding and respecting First Nations' ways and traditions is an excellent starting point for working together in the research process.

Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre Inc. (MFNERC) is in a position to provide guidance in developing the research capacity of First Nations. MFNERC believes that promoting *mino-pimatisiwin* (a good life) involves protecting and preserving our indigenous knowledge, culture, and traditional practices. The vision statement for MFNERC is as follows:

Support First Nations to develop and implement a comprehensive holistic educational system inclusive of First Nations languages, worldviews, values, beliefs, and traditions with exemplary academic standards under First Nations jurisdiction. (MFNERC 2008, 4)

To help achieve its vision, this MFNERC document provides a framework for First Nations to ensure ethical research involving their communities. Through developing community-based research practices, guidelines, and research committees, communities can develop and employ their own research agendas to build stronger and more informed First Nations.

Framework

This document provides a framework for conducting research in First Nations. The framework gives an overview of research ethics for communities planning to conduct research and/or for communities presently engaged in research with external groups.

This document provides information on the emerging issues surrounding ethical research practices in First Nations. The goal of having research protocols is to develop good working relationships between the community and the researcher. Understanding and respecting First Nations peoples' and collective rights is an important step in working together.

First Nations can use the document to establish their own ethical research practices. This framework will assist in community capacity building and strengthen the overall research process. The framework also brings forward information to help communities negotiate with outside organizations.

The sharing of power by both First Nations communities and researchers will result in a respectful research agreement (ATFE 1996). Empowering both parties should promote collaboration within a framework of mutual trust and co-operation. Ethical research processes promote respect for the rights and dignity of the people being researched (First Nations Centre 2003, 1).

The templates and sample text found in this document are adapted from the 2007 First Nations Centre's *Considerations and Templates for Ethical Research Practices*. The appendices in these guidelines contain the templates and sample texts for a Code of Research Ethics, a Collaborative Research Agreement, and a Data-Sharing Protocol.

A Code of Research Ethics is a framework of principles and protocols to guide research in the community and holds all of the partners responsible for respecting and observing the code. A Collaborative Research Agreement formally outlines all of the responsibilities and expectations of the researcher and the researched. A Data-Sharing Protocol is a formal agreement between the research partners and the community that sets out the obligations of both parties in terms of information sharing.

The templates and sample texts provided are models that will help ensure ethical practices in research on First Nations. These examples can be modified to fit the needs of the community. We are not recommending one approach over another but rather want to provide some examples to use when developing ethical research practices appropriate for a particular First Nation. The framework will increase the awareness of researchers who intend to engage in research in Manitoba First Nations.

Research Principles

Research protocols have to honour the principles of protection, preservation, partnership, and participation of First Nations (Brascoupe and Mann 2001, 2).

Researchers should make the protection of First Nations and resources a priority, including protection from any negative effects as a result of findings being made public knowledge (e.g., types of cancers, alcoholism). As part of the collaboration process, First Nations should inform the researcher of what needs protection and how this protection can be achieved (Brascoupe and Mann 2001, 9).

Preservation of traditional knowledge, language, and practices should play a major role in the research process. Also consider the significance of cultural identity in research. The researcher may draw upon the traditional teaching roles and practices in the community to enhance the experiences of all participants involved in the research process (Brascoupe and Mann 2001, 9).

Develop partnerships and collegial working relationships between researchers and participants based on collaboration and co-operation; this may include the mutual sharing of research skills and outcomes. Be sure to respect and acknowledge mutual expertise and competence in the research process (Smith 1999, 100).

First Nations participation and involvement in the research process is an entitlement and should be respected by the researcher. Participation by the community will be empowering, so steps should be taken to ensure appropriate inclusion (First Nations Centre 2003, 4).

The First Nations principles of ownership, control, access, and possession (OCAP) should be respected (First Nations Centre 2004, 1). The concept and principles of OCAP should guide research conducted in First Nation communities.

The ownership principle states that a community or group owns information collectively in the same way individuals own their own personal information. It is the relationship of a First Nation community to its cultural knowledge, language, and practices.

The control principle advocates that First Nation members, their communities, and the groups that represent them are entitled to retain control over all aspects of research management and of the information and data that has an effect on their community.

The access principle recognizes information and data acquired through research conducted in First Nations communities must be made available. First Nations have the right to manage and make decisions regarding access to their individual and collective information.

The possession principle states First Nations have the right to protect and maintain research information. Possession of data and information helps ensure ownership is asserted and protected.

The principles will guide research practices in order to protect and preserve intellectual property of First Nation peoples (First Nations Centre 2004, 2).

Research Practices

Based on ethical research principles, First Nations can develop useful research practices.

1. Researchers are advised to submit a Summary of Research Proposal to the Chief and Council for review, and, if the Chief and Council are willing to consider it further, they will refer the project to a Research Committee. At times, the Chief and Council may assume the role of the Research Committee. The summary should include a general overview of the proposed research, the rationale, the intent of the research, and an outline of the benefits for the community.

2. The Research Committee should be composed of members who have previous experience with research, or have an interest in the research subject and are willing to participate as a committee member. Decisions about forming the Research Committee remain with the local authority. Researchers should provide the Chief and Council information on the role of a Research Committee to assist them as they form the committee.
3. The Research Committee establishes a community Code of Research Ethics and makes it available to researchers.
4. The Research Committee develops a list of requirements for the researchers to complete. The requirements could include research company/group/organization; names, titles, affiliations, contact information, and credentials of researchers; and a summary of the proposed research to include the following:
 - a) Rationale of the project
 - b) Intent of the research
 - c) Time frame (from initiation to completion)
 - d) Research methodologies and consent
 - e) Reporting process
 - f) Financial implications
5. The Research Committee conducts a preliminary evaluation of the research proposal to ensure they have a clear understanding of the project and have identified any areas that may require revision. The committee will inform the researchers of their decision to proceed or request revisions to the research process; they may also decide to decline the offer.
6. The proposed research project must clearly identify how informed consent will be secured with the local authority, individual participants, families, and/or groups. Before the research begins, the Research Committee ensures they have received the necessary approvals from the local authority and participants involved. As well, the Research Committee sees that the informed consent process is followed throughout the life of the project.
7. Once a research proposal is accepted, the Research Committee presents the proposal to the community and organizes a consultation process (i.e., focus group). The Research Committee establishes a time frame for the community consultation process.

The purpose for hosting community consultations is to provide direct information regarding the research, answer questions, and explain the importance of the research and any benefits it can bring to the community. The community will be

more receptive to the research once given the opportunity to become informed and after having any concerns addressed. A community consultation process also assures the local authority that the research process is transparent and open to community review. Once the community consultation process has been conducted and the Research Committee is content with the outcome, the committee will inform the researchers of the result.

8. The Research Committee will provide written approval to the researchers before the start of the research. If the researchers wish to make significant changes to the proposal after getting approval, they will have to go through the process again.
9. For the protection of First Nations' intellectual property, prior approval or consent is required for any research that may involve cultural knowledge, practices, or traditions—even when it is not a subject of the research. It is the researcher's obligation to learn and apply the protocols of the community (Gay, Mills, and Airasian 2009, 23).
10. Researchers ensure that consent and protection regarding the privacy of participants complies with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements (Canadian Institutes of Health Research et al. 2010, 27). The law sets standards for the conduct of research involving humans in a variety of areas such as privacy, confidentiality, intellectual property, and the capacity of participants. According to the 2010 *Tri-Council Policy Statement*, researchers have to respect the spirit of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, especially the sections pertaining to life, liberty, and security of the person, as well as equality and freedom (Canadian Institutes of Health Research et al. 2010, 12).

Code of Research Ethics

A Code of Research Ethics is used to regulate research activities in the community, whether it is research by the First Nation, by external researchers, or in partnership. The code provides standards of conduct to ensure that neither individuals nor the community is harmed or exploited as a result of research.

1. Researchers have to acknowledge and respect the unique constitutional rights and distinct legal status of First Nations in Canada. Research should not demean the status of First Nations people.
2. Researchers have to respect the sovereignty, jurisdiction, and rights of First Nations.
3. Researchers must respect the privacy, protocols, and dignity of the individual as well as the collective rights of First Nations.

4. Research should support the First Nation to move toward self-determination, which will help them ensure the preservation of their culture, language, and traditional knowledge.
5. First Nations must be actively involved in the research process, maintain authority over the research, and control the information collected as a result of the research.
6. Research must be culturally relevant to the local community and meet the expected norms of this community. Researchers will provide a clear and consistent explanation of the research process to the community, ensuring that they are informed of all aspects of the research process.
7. Research should enhance the capacity and skills of the First Nations people involved in the project.
8. To host a successful research project, the research must respect the strengths, cultures, languages, and traditional norms of First Nations and involve them whenever possible.
9. To ensure that the research is conducted in a transparent and accountable manner, researchers will allow the First Nation access to the collected data and will explain the data findings.
10. Researchers will provide communities with a Research Report and Summary of Research Proposal written at an appropriate language level and formatted so that the community clearly understands the research project, its processes, and the final outcome from the research. First Nations will retain all data from the research.

A Code of Research Ethics outlines principles and practices to regulate and guide all research in a First Nation community. A code typically applies to the community, community-based researchers, and to external researchers. It is the responsibility of all the partners to respect the code and to observe its principles and practices.

A community's code should be referenced in, or appended to, all research contracts between the community and all parties engaged in the research. It is important to establish a process for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on the code's implementation and use.

Establishing a Research Committee will ensure the code gets developed and followed. It may be worthwhile to give the code to the First Nation's legal counsel for an opinion. Community authorities should adopt the code formally.

Appendix A includes a template for a Code of Research Ethics and sample text, which individual communities can modify according to their needs. The template is organized with the following sections:

1. Introduction
2. Purpose
3. Policy statement
4. Guiding principles
5. Definitions
6. Obligations of the partners
7. Operational procedures
8. Evaluation of new research applications

(First Nations Centre 2007, 4-5; adapted with permission)

For another example of a Code of Research Ethics see the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs' *First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey (2007)*.

Collaborative Research Agreement

A Collaborative Research Agreement includes a formal summary of rights, responsibilities, and expectations between the research parties. Documentation is important when dealing with external researchers and useful for avoiding misunderstanding or potential conflicts. The agreement is generally co-written by the researchers and the First Nation community to ensure an equal research partnership. It should be done in languages appropriate to the First Nation community.

Appendix B includes a template for a Collaborative Research Agreement and sample text and has the following sections:

1. Purpose of the research project
2. Scope of the project
3. Methods and procedures
4. Expected outcomes, benefits, and risks
5. Obligations and responsibilities
6. Funding
7. Dissemination of results
8. Data ownership and intellectual property rights
9. Communication
10. Dispute resolution
11. Term and termination (First Nations Centre 2007, 5-6; adapted with permission)

Data-Sharing Protocol

A Data-Sharing Protocol is a formal agreement between the community and research partners that summarizes the conditions and arrangements for sharing the community's information or data. The agreement sets out the fundamental principles and obligations that the research partners must follow when collecting, using, storing, and disclosing individual and aggregated data. It will describe why information or data is being shared, and when and how information can be shared.

Some situations when a data-sharing agreement might be useful follow:

- A community has collected and analyzed data for a research project and a researcher approaches the community with a request to further analyze the data, possibly linking it with another data set.
- The provincial government requires demographic information in order to identify First Nations individuals in the general database so is interested in looking at the data.
- A community has been approached by a provincial authority to share common problems.
- A community wishes to compare data with similar data from another community.

Appendix C includes a template for a Data-Sharing Protocol and sample text, which may be altered to meet the specific needs of the situation. A legal review may be required. The template has the following sections:

1. Purpose
2. Information to be shared
3. Mechanism for information sharing
4. Definitions
5. Data ownership
6. Intellectual property
7. Data security and confidentiality
8. Publication and distribution
9. Retention and disposition of information
10. Duration and renewal
11. Expiration or retraction of the agreement
12. Signing authorities

(First Nations Centre 2007, 6-7; adapted with permission)

Summary

These guidelines will help First Nation communities become aware of the issues surrounding research practices. The guide outlines principles that should be honoured during research and explores ethical research practices. This document is for the most part an adaptation of the 2007 First Nations Centre's *Considerations and Templates for Ethical Research Practices*.

Communities can develop their own research practices by following this guide. Useful features include the three templates and sample texts, which will help First Nations develop research policies and agreements. The templates include Code of Research Ethics, Collaborative Research Agreement, and Data-Sharing Protocol, and they can be modified to suit the needs of the communities.

Guidelines for Ethical Research in Manitoba First Nations provides the knowledge and tools for a research process that empowers First Nations.

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Appendix A

Template for a Code of Research Ethics

(First Nations Centre 2007, 11-20; adapted with permission)

1. Introduction

The introduction identifies the First Nation community or organization and the types of activities (i.e., research) affected by the code. It summarizes the obligations and responsibilities of those undertaking research within the community. The introduction also provides background information about the development of the code, including the reason it was developed and who was involved; the underlying principles; and intended uses. The Research Committee identified in the introduction may also be given the responsibility to fully oversee the community-based research, including documenting approved projects.

2. Purpose

Under this heading, the purpose of the code is established. This may include information on what the code will address as well as identifying the objectives of the code.

3. Policy Statement

The policy statement identifies the rationale for the code and the expected research policy goals. Goals should benefit the community and individuals and strive to empower communities through capacity development (research expertise), cultural development and preservation, and other community interests. It also informs the public of the communities' policies for the regulation of research. It should reflect the attitudes, beliefs, values, principles, and cultural traditions of the First Nation towards research.

4. Guiding Principles

The guiding principles include the fundamental values of First Nations. The principles express the standards, rights, and values of the First Nation with respect to research activities. They should reflect the aspirations of the community to help create awareness among researchers and community members. The principles can be used to help contextualize, or if necessary, interpret other sections of the code. The principles provided in the template are general in nature and, as with other sections, will likely need to be revised to reflect local realities and perspectives.

5. Definitions

Definitions are useful in clarifying the meaning of certain terms to avoid any misunderstandings.

6. Obligations of the Partners

The obligations of the partners (community, community-based researchers, and external researchers) are established. The First Nation or organization would be the community partner. Community-based researchers are people within the community. They can also be referred to as co-investigators. External researchers typically include consultants and people working at research institutions or other organizations involved in research (e.g., universities, federal or provincial governments, health authorities, non-profit organizations, and for-profit companies).

7. Operational Procedures

Operational procedures include the roles of the partners and create ground rules and formal expectations for all aspects of the research process. The community should consider creating an addendum to the code, or an agreement with specific researchers for specific projects, to address issues such as the selection of a data storage site, determination of target audiences for reports, data analysis procedures, publication of results, communications strategy and release policies, authorship on publications, and activities to improve community capacity in research.

8. Evaluation of New Research Applications

Communities may wish to develop processes for the handling and evaluation of external applications for research that may be received without solicitation. These processes can be tailored to the specifics of each community. Communities should consider establishing a mechanism to make the community's Code of Research Ethics available to interested research partners. Communities should also set up a screening body that can conduct a preliminary evaluation of the research proposal prior to a wider community consultation or committee review. Communities should consider developing a list of written requirements or a standardized form(s) to be completed by the researchers submitting the proposal. If appropriate, they can arrange a meeting between the researchers and the screening body to present the proposal verbally. Consider establishing a series of considerations or a formal review or scoring tool to aid in the evaluation of the proposal and establishing a time frame to provide the final decision to the researcher as a result of the community consultation.

A Code of Research Ethics

On this _____ day of the month of _____, in the year of _____ the _____ Band and Council appointed a Research Committee (community leaders, Elders, educators, and other professionals) to develop a draft of principles and guidelines to protect individual and community data and information, as well as intellectual and cultural knowledge.

All members of the Research Committee share an understanding that research on community issues affects local policy and planning, and it should contribute to the well-being of the community in which research is being conducted. These factors contribute to First Nation control of information and surveillance as tools for effective health planning and advocacy.

The Research Committee members include

The Research Committee's work resulted in a draft Code of Research Ethics to protect their people's rights and assert the ownership, control, access, and possession principles.

The draft Code of Research Ethics was reviewed and ratified by the Band and Council on _____.

Researchers are expected to respect and follow the principles and protocols set out in the Code of Research Ethics to ensure the highest standards of research appropriate to the _____ (First Nation).

Research must acknowledge and respect the beliefs, culture, traditions and practices of the _____ (First Nation).

The Code of Research Ethics seeks to ensure that the right of ownership of the community's knowledge and heritage rests with the _____ (First Nation).

The purpose of this code is to establish the framework for principles and procedures that will govern all research and data collection activities involving the _____ (First Nation), whether involving human subjects or not, and all research regarding materials, wherever located, of which the _____ (First Nation) has a claim of intellectual, cultural, or other ownership, legal or equitable.

This code outlines the obligations and responsibilities of each partner in a research project (community, external researchers, and community-based researchers) through all phases

including research design, implementation, data collection and analysis, and the dissemination of information.

The _____ (First Nation) has designed this code as a tool to assist in the protection and well-being of its members and the community in research activities, and to facilitate cultural self-determination and preservation.

It is recognized and respected that the right of self-determination of the _____ (First Nation) includes the authority and jurisdiction to make decisions about research in their community. It also assumes ownership, control, access, and possession over information in the course of, and resulting from, research activities.

The community and individual community members should be strengthened by the benefits of the research. Research should assist the community in learning about the well-being of their people, in taking control and management of their information, and in the promotion of ethical practices and effective program planning.

The _____ (First Nation) promotes strengthening the social, cultural, physical, and spiritual well-being of its community and fulfilling its traditional responsibility of caring for its members.

The following guiding principles will be observed throughout the research process:

- The _____ (First Nation) recognizes the highest standards of research practice and will ensure the principles of ownership, control, access, and possession (OCAP) be respected.
- The _____ (First Nation) must be involved as a full partner in all aspects of the research. Feedback, input, consultation, and participation in the analysis, interpretation, and communications should always characterize the research partnership.
- Research should support the transfer of skills to members of the _____ (First Nation) and increase the capacity of the community to manage its own research.
- Mutual respect is important for successful partnerships.
- All research must respect _____ (First Nation) local laws, regulations, and protocols.
- All research partners must show respect for the language, traditions and standards of the _____ (First Nation) on which they seek to conduct research to ensure ethical research practices. All

researchers are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the cultures and traditions of local communities.

- The research must respect the privacy and dignity of the people in the community.
- The _____ (First Nation) authorities must approve data collection in their communities through written permission.
- Informed consent must be obtained from each individual and the community participating in the research prior to collecting personal information.
- Researchers must provide information about the purpose and nature of the research activities to the individuals and/or community participating in the research. They should also explain the potential beneficial and harmful effects of the research on individuals, the community, and the environment.
- Confidentiality of information must be respected and assured. Participant information will remain anonymous whenever possible when the results are reported.
- All data collected belongs to the _____ (First Nation) and must be returned as grouped (aggregate) results.
- The First Nation will participate, as much as possible, in fact-finding and data analysis, allowing the community to determine which issues should be addressed and how.
- All research results, analysis, and interpretations must be reported to the First Nation to ensure accuracy and avoid misunderstanding.
- The strengths, culture, expertise, language, and traditional norms of the community must be respected and drawn upon wherever possible. The incorporation of relevant traditional knowledge into all stages of research is encouraged.

Definitions

Access: First Nations people must have access to information and data about themselves and their communities, regardless of where the information and data are currently held. The principle also refers to the right of First Nations communities and organizations to manage and make decisions regarding access to their collective information.

Community: A community is a population that may share cultural, social, political, health, or economic interests but is not limited to a particular geographic location.

Control: The aspirations and rights of First Nations to maintain and regain control of all aspects of their lives and institutions including research and information. The principle of *control* declares that First Nations, their communities, and representative bodies are within

their rights in seeking to control research and information management processes that affect them. This includes all aspects of research projects such as research policy, resources, review processes, the formulation of conceptual frameworks, and data management.

Ownership: The notion of ownership that refers to the relationship of a First Nation community to its cultural knowledge, data, and information. The principle states that a community or group owns information collectively in the same way that an individual owns his or her personal information. It is distinct from stewardship or possession (see Possession).

Possession: Possession and safekeeping of data also implies guardianship. While *ownership* identifies the relationship between a people and their data in principle, the idea of *possession* or *stewardship* is more literal. Although not a condition of ownership, possession (of data) is a mechanism by which ownership can be asserted and protected. When data owned by one party is in the possession of another, there is a risk of breach or misuse. This is particularly important when trust is lacking between the owner and possessor.

Research institution: A research institution is a recognized institution or organization (academic, government, non-profit), whose primary objective is to undertake research for the purposes of advancing knowledge, facilitating policy-making, or creating strategies and solutions to problems and conditions relevant to the study population.

Research: Research is the use of systematic methods to investigate, gather, and analyze information for the purposes of discovering or interpreting phenomena, proving or disproving a hypothesis, critically evaluating concepts or practices, or otherwise adding to knowledge and insight in a particular discipline or field of knowledge.

Obligations of the Partners

Community Partner

The First Nation community partner has the following obligations:

- First and foremost, to represent the interests, perspectives, and concerns of community members and of the community as a whole.
- To ensure that research is conducted in accordance with the highest standards, both methodologically and from a First Nations cultural perspective.
- To communicate the results of the research to other communities, and to share ideas as well as program and service development for mutual benefit and involvement.

- To serve as the guardian of the research data during and/or after completion of the project.
- To offer the external and community researchers the opportunity to continue data analyses before the data is offered to new researchers.

Community-Based Researcher

Community-based researchers are people employed within the community.

In addition to the obligations listed for the external research partners, the community researcher is obliged

- To provide a link between the research project team and other community members, and provide relevant, timely information on the project.
- To place the needs of the community as a first priority in any decision where the community researcher's dual roles of community member and researcher may be in conflict.
- In situations where a research project is promoting healthy lifestyles or practices, to promote the intervention objectives of the project by working closely with community health, social, and/or education professionals.
- To be stewards of the data until the end of the project if requested or appropriate.

External Research Partner

External researchers usually include consultants, people working at research institutions, or other organizations involved in research (e.g., universities, federal or provincial governments, non-profit organizations, or for-profit companies).

External researchers should strive to

- Do no harm to the community.
- Ensure active participation by the community in the research process and to promote it as a community-owned activity.
- Ensure the research's design, implementation, analysis, interpretation, reporting, publication, and distribution of its results are culturally relevant and in compliance with the standards of competent research.
- Undertake research that will contribute something of value to the community.
- Ensure that new skills are acquired by community members, such as research design, planning, data collection, storage, analysis, interpretation, and so on.
- Be stewards of the data until the end of the project if requested or appropriate.

- Promote the dissemination of information to society at large, if desired and appropriate, through both written publications and oral presentations.
- Be involved in any future analysis of the data after the data is returned to the community, if requested.
- Abide by any local laws, regulations, and protocols in effect in the community or region, and to become familiar with the culture and traditions of the community.
- Advocate and address health, social, or other issues that may emerge as a result of the research, as part of their respective roles as researchers and community representatives.
- Ensure that the community is fully informed in all parts of the research process including its outcomes through publications and presentations, and to promptly answer questions that may emerge regarding the project and its findings.
- Communicate equally with the other partners in all issues arising in the project.
- Ensure that research carried out is done in accordance with the highest standards, both methodologically and from a First Nations cultural perspective.
- Support the community by providing resources as a matter of priority (e.g., research funding to support community research coordinator).
- Abide by their own professional standards, their institution's guidelines for ethical research, and general standards of ethical research.

Operational Procedures

Partnership

Full and Equal Participation: The community, external researchers, and community-based researchers are full and equal partners in all aspects of the research process.

Accountability: The principal investigators representing all partners are fully accountable for all decisions in the research project, including the decisions of subordinates.

Community at Large

Expertise and Knowledge: The strengths, culture, expertise, language, and traditional norms of the community must be respected and drawn upon whenever possible.

Consultations: The research design and data analysis should as much as possible incorporate broad participatory community input in the areas of priorities, interventions, and future directions of the research. A determination of the extent of community consultation should take into account the relevant cultural considerations and the type of research involved.

Capacity Development: Sound participatory research will endeavour to transfer new skills to the community and, where possible, enhance local benefits that may result from research. Meaningful capacity development is reciprocal, since researchers gain invaluable knowledge from the community (e.g., cultural, traditional, and holistic knowledge). Meaningful capacity development involves the transfer of resources to the First Nation for community economic and institutional development.

Confidentiality: The confidentiality of all information received from research participants must be assured. All personal information will be made anonymous whenever possible. Research protocols will be developed and reflected in a research agreement to ensure confidentiality of collected data. In an agreement, if confidentiality cannot be guaranteed, the research participants must be informed of the possible consequences of this factor before becoming involved in the research.

Participants

Voluntary Participation: Participation in any research activity is voluntary for all community members.

Informed Consent: The *informed consent* of participants must be obtained before any research is started. People must not be subjected to undue pressure or influence when approached to participate in the research process.

Full Disclosure: An interactive process should be used to obtain informed consent, where a brief, comprehensive, and reader-friendly written document, that provides contextual information on the problem and the proposed intervention, is accompanied by a verbal explanation from the researcher. The objectives of the research should be stated in the context of the local benefits that are expected to accompany increased knowledge as a result of research. Researchers should clearly identify the sponsors of the research, the source of financial support, and the principal investigators. A description should be provided of any potential harmful effects of the research to people, the community, or the environment.

Withdrawal: An individual participant has the right to withdraw from the research process at any point. If this occurs, all information already collected on the person should be destroyed or returned to the person.

Research Data

Data Collection: The data collection process should be in accord with community values and norms, and competent and ethical research practice.

Ownership: The community or group owns the research information collectively in the same way that a person owns his or her personal information. This is distinct from stewardship or possession.

Data Storage: The storage of raw data acquired in the research project should be negotiated among all partners before the start of the project and renegotiated during the project as priorities change. There is a preference for local community storage if capacity exists and confidentiality requirements can be met. All grouped data results must be returned to the community free from any personal details.

Analysis: All partners should review research results, analysis, and interpretations for accuracy and appropriateness, and approve these prior to any public release or publication.

Secondary Data: Community secondary data generated through analysis of general population databases (e.g., provincial hospital and physician databases) should be governed by a data-sharing protocol. This protocol between the community and the database steward (e.g., provincial government) embodies the relevant principles of this code. The community should negotiate ownership, control, and access provisions based on the circumstances of the analysis.

Access: First Nations should have access to their data, as reaffirmed by the OCAP principles. However, communities must ensure that the proper protections are in place regarding who has access to the data.

Communications

Research Process: The community at large should have access at all times to descriptions of the research objectives and methods.

Anonymity: Research results will be presented in a grouped manner such that individuals cannot be identified. In some instances, an individual or community may request that their statements be specifically attributed to them. In this case, the wishes of the individual and community should be respected.

Priority of Communications: The community will be the first to receive research results and the first invited to provide input and feedback on the results. The results should be returned in a format that is language appropriate and accessible to the community. All communications will be respectful of the community and presented in a beneficial, non-harmful manner.

Preparation of Communications: It is part of the shared responsibility of the researchers to prepare communications for the community and society at large. All partners must jointly make guidelines about the publication and distribution of all or parts of the research results. Ideas for specific communications (e.g., articles in scientific journals; oral

presentations at meetings; oral or written presentations to community health professionals, Band Council, or community at large; or educational materials) must be initially presented to all research partners and the code's designated representative. All research partners (community researchers, community partners, and external researchers) must approve the final version of the communication before use or submission.

Language: Communications directed to the community, such as research summaries, should be written using accessible, community-friendly language and in an appropriate format. Where required by the community, materials should also be provided in the language of the community.

Research Results: No results or data are released or disseminated without approval from all parties.

“Right to Dissent” on Communications: In the event of a disagreement among the partners regarding a written or oral communication about the research results, the partner who disagrees must be invited to submit their own interpretation of the same data, which will accompany the main communication. All partners agree to not distribute the communication until the alternative interpretation is added, provided that the disagreeing partner(s) does not unduly delay the distribution process. An alternative approach to the issue of disagreement is that best efforts will be made to reach consensus regarding the interpretation of results for publication. In the event that a reasonable measure of consensus cannot be reached, no publication will be released.

Appendix B

Template for a Collaborative Research Agreement

(First Nations Centre 2007, 21-29; adapted with permission)

1. Purpose of the Research Project

The purpose of the research project identifies the general topic that is being researched, and also the purpose of doing the research. A statement of purpose is usually fairly brief (two to five sentences) and not too specific.

2. Scope of the project

The scope of the project provides a more specific and detailed description of the project. It should cover the following areas:

- Specific research objectives or question(s)
- Types of information that will be gathered (e.g., statistics, interviews, etc.)

3. Methods and Procedures

The methods and procedures describe how research data will be gathered, recorded, analyzed, and reported. The following issues can be addressed:

- Research (or data-gathering) methods, depending on the nature of the project, may include collecting information and statistics from databases, collecting environmental samples, conducting surveys, conducting interviews, and forming focus groups.
- The extent or amount of data to be obtained should be specified (e.g., statistical variables, number of interviews and surveys, number of samples, etc.) and explained.
- The role of community members in the research (or data-gathering) phase (e.g., participants in interviews, paid researchers, fieldworkers, or guides).
- Procedures for obtaining consent (individual or collective) must be described in detail.
- Methods to be used for recording and storing data.
- Procedures for ensuring confidentiality and security of data.
- Methods of analysis or interpretation of data to generate findings and conclusions.
- Opportunity for community members or community researchers to participate in data analysis or to verify the results of the analysis.
- Preparation of the final report and if community members will have an opportunity to revise and approve it before it is finalized.
- Format for presenting findings to the general public and the community (e.g., article(s), final report, presentation(s)).

4. Expected Outcomes, Benefits, and Risks

The expected outcomes, benefits, and risks should be clear. Benefits for the principal researchers may include financial gain (e.g., publication) or indirect financial benefit through enhancement of professional status (to an individual or research institution). Benefits to the community may include the generation of

information that will support future funding applications or that will enhance community programs and services; education and/or training for community members; or direct financial compensation to community researchers and/or participants.

Risks to the community as a result of the project should also be considered, as should any measure that could be taken to minimize those risks. These may include environmental effects, invasion of personal or collective privacy, portrayal of the community in a negative way, and disruption of other important community projects or issues.

5. Obligations and Responsibilities

The general obligations and responsibilities are outlined for each partner (community, external researchers and community-based researchers) in a community-based research project through all phases including research design, implementation, data collection and analysis, and the dissemination of information.

6. Funding

This section identifies funding sources and sets out the responsibilities of all partners with respect to funding requirements.

7. Dissemination of Results

This section should identify all the stakeholders (e.g., communities, the academic sector, funding bodies, professional bodies, government departments, etc.), to which research results will be disseminated. The methods for dissemination should also be described.

The degree of control that the community has over future publication or dissemination of research results should be considered.

8. Data Ownership and Intellectual Property Rights

The data gathered or produced through the research project is distinct from the research results. The First Nation community should clearly affirm ownership of its data, as well as any associated intellectual property rights. Data should be kept at the local First Nation level for a period of time as specified in the research agreement.

Conditions of data stewardship and use of data after completion of the research project should be considered by the community, but they do not need to be specified in the research agreement since this is an internal protocol to be determined at the discretion of the community.

9. Communication

Guidelines for internal and external communication should be established in this section. *Internal communication* means communication between research partners in the agreement, while *external communication* refers to communication about the project to other interested parties such as the media.

10. Dispute Resolution

This section sets out the process for addressing concerns or resolving disputes related to the implementation, interpretation, or release of research data and/or findings.

11. Term and Termination

This section notes the length of the project and sets out the course of action to follow if either party to the agreement wishes to terminate the research project.

A Collaborative Research Agreement

Project title _____

This Collaborative Research Agreement is made this ____ day of the month of _____, in the year of _____.

Between:

Principal researcher(s) _____

Name(s) _____

Supporting agency _____

Address _____

Telephone/facsimile _____

Email _____

And:

First Nation Community _____

Contact person(s) _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Telephone/facsimile _____

Email _____

The principal researchers and the First Nation community agree to conduct the named collaborative research project in accordance with the guidelines and conditions described in this document.

The purpose of the research project

The purpose of this research project, as discussed with and understood by the _____ (First Nation) is to investigate

The results of this research may be used to

Scope of the project

The project has the following objectives and/or aims to answer the following questions:

In order to meet the objectives or answer the questions stated above, the following types of information will be gathered:

Methods and Procedures

Data will be gathered using the following methods or procedures:

The amount of data that is required for this project is

This number and amount is required because

Community members will assist or participate with the data-gathering phase in the following ways:

Individual consent to participate in this project will be obtained in the following way:

Participants have the right to withdraw from the project at any time for any reason. In this case, that participant's data will be destroyed.

Research data will be stored in the following ways:

The following persons will have access to research data:

Confidentiality of research data (if desired) will be ensured in the following ways:

Data will be analyzed or interpreted through the following methods:

Community researchers and participants will participate in the analysis of data, or the verification of results, in the following ways:

The final research report will be submitted to the community for review and approval.

Research findings will be presented to the community in a language and format that is clear and comprehensible to community members.

Research findings will be presented to the community in the following formats:

Research findings will be presented to the general public and/or any other audience in the following formats:

Expected Outcomes, Benefits, and Risks

The expected outcomes of this research project are

The project will benefit the principal (external) researchers in the following ways:

The project will benefit the community (individually or collectively) in the following ways:

The project poses the following risks to the community:

Measures that will be taken to minimize these risks are

Obligations and Responsibilities

Community Partner

The First Nation is the community partner and has the following obligations:

- First and foremost, to represent the interests, perspectives, and concerns of community members and of the community as a whole.
- To ensure that research carried out is done in accordance with the highest standards, both methodologically and from a First Nations cultural perspective.
- To communicate the results of the research to other communities, and to share ideas as well as program and service development for mutual benefit and involvement.
- To serve as the guardian of the research data during and/or after completion of the project.
- To offer the external and community researchers the opportunity to continue data analyses before the data are offered to new researchers.

Community-Based Researcher

Community-based researchers are people employed within the community.

In addition to the obligations listed for the external research partners, the community researcher is obliged

- To provide a link between the research project team and other community members, and provide relevant, timely information on the project.
- To place the needs of the community as a first priority in any decision where the community researcher's dual roles of community member and researcher may be in conflict.

- In situations where a research project is promoting healthy lifestyles or practices, to promote the intervention objectives of the project by working closely with community health, social, and/or education professionals.
- To be stewards of the data until the end of the project if requested or appropriate.

External Research Partner

External researchers usually include consultants, people working at research institutions or other organizations involved in research (i.e., universities, federal or provincial governments, non-profit organizations, or for-profit companies). External researchers will agree to

- Do no harm to the community.
- Actively involve the community in the research process and to promote it as a community-owned activity.
- Ensure the research's design, implementation, analysis, interpretation, reporting, publication, and distribution of its results are culturally relevant and in compliance with the standards of competent research.
- Undertake research that will contribute something of value to the community.
- Ensure that new skills are acquired by community members, such as research design, planning, data collection, storage, analysis, interpretation, and so on.
- Be stewards of the data until the end of the project if requested or appropriate.
- Promote the dissemination of information to society at large if desired and appropriate through both written publications and oral presentations.
- Be involved in any future analysis of the data after the data is returned to the community, if requested.
- Abide by any local laws, regulations, and protocols in effect in the community or region, and to become familiar with the culture and traditions of the community.
- Advocate and address health, social, or other issues that may emerge as a result of the research, within their respective roles as researchers and community representatives.
- Ensure that the community is fully informed in all parts of the research process including its outcomes through publications and presentations, and to promptly answer questions that may emerge regarding the project and its findings.
- Communicate equally with the other partners in all issues arising in the project.
- Ensure that research carried out is done in accordance with the highest standards, both methodologically and from a First Nations cultural perspective.

- Support the community by providing resources as a matter of priority (e.g., research funding to support community research coordinator).
- Abide by their own professional standards, their institution’s guidelines for ethical research, and general standards of ethical research.

Funding

The principal researchers have acquired funding and other forms of support for this research project from these sources:

The funding agencies have imposed the following criteria, disclosures, limitations, and reporting responsibilities on the principal researchers:

The community partner has the following responsibilities with respect to funding requirements*:

*In most cases, responsibility to fulfill funding and reporting requirements falls primarily to the principal researchers, so this may not be applicable.

Dissemination of Results

Research results will be disseminated to the following stakeholders:

Research results will be disseminated in the following manner:

Any future publication or dissemination of research results, beyond what is described in this agreement, shall not be undertaken without consultation with the _____ (First Nation).

Data Ownership and Intellectual Property Rights

The individual person owns his or her personal information while the _____ (First Nation) owns the collective data.

The _____ (First Nation) retains all intellectual property rights (including copyright), as applicable, to the data offered under this agreement.

Access and stewardship of the collective data are negotiated and determined by the First Nation.

Communication

Communication on all aspects of the research, including progress reports to the community, will be ensured in the following ways:

In the case of media inquiries during or after the project, designated spokespersons are

The community will be the first to receive research results and the first invited to provide input and feedback on the results. The results should be presented in a format that is language appropriate and accessible to the community. Results will not be released without the approval of the community.

At the end of the study, the research partners agree to participate in community meetings to discuss the results and their implications.

Dispute Resolution

In the event that a dispute arises out of or relates to this research project, both parties agree first to try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation administered by an agreed-upon neutral party before resorting to arbitration, litigation, or some other dispute resolution procedure. A mediator will assist the parties in finding a resolution that is mutually acceptable.

If a dispute cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of both parties, the research project may be terminated according to the terms described below.

Term and Termination

This agreement shall have an effective date of _____ and shall terminate on _____.

This agreement may be terminated by the written notification of either party.

Appendix C

Template for a Data-Sharing Protocol

(First Nations Centre 2007, 30-37; adapted with permission)

1. Purpose

The purpose(s) for the data-sharing agreement should be identified. If individual data records are being shared, the applicable federal, provincial and territorial legislation regulating the use and release of individual client information should be specified (e.g., freedom of information and protection of privacy acts, health information acts, or other community protocols such as a Code of Research Ethics or Privacy Code). The purpose of the data-sharing arrangement must be understood and formally agreed to by those entering into it.

2. Information to be Shared

Within the protocol, it is important to describe in detail the data to be shared. The agreement should clearly identify how the data or information shared under the arrangement will be used. It may state that the data will only be used for the stated purpose(s) and may not be used for any other purposes (further disclosure), without the explicit written approval, in advance, of the First Nation. The research partner(s) may not release the data for any purpose, unless agreed to in advance by all parties, and provided it is not in violation of provincial, territorial, or federal legislation.

3. Mechanism for Information Sharing

The methods of data-sharing need to be identified. Some mechanisms for sharing include electronic transfer over a secure network or electronic transfer through password-protected external disks.

4. Definitions

Relevant definitions may be included in this agreement for clarification of certain terms.

5. Data Ownership

The agreement should address control and access to data by the requesting party. The requesting party may be deemed custodians or stewards of the data under the conditions defined in the agreement and, depending upon the specifics of the project, may receive either individual records or aggregate data. Users may be expressly prohibited from use of the data in the pursuit of any commercial or income-generating venture, either publicly or privately.

6. Intellectual Property

Although this may not be consistent with some First Nations perspectives, intellectual property arising from research in Canada is normally vested in the organization(s) that conducts the research. As a result, in situations where data is

provided to an organization that may conduct further research, it may be important to specify in an agreement that the First Nation retains all intellectual property rights (including copyright), as applicable, to the data offered under this agreement, and this agreement constitutes only a license to acquire and use these data products. Furthermore, it may be specified that no title or rights be conveyed by this agreement.

7. Data Security and Confidentiality

The data keeper must maintain confidentiality and protect the data in a manner consistent with clearly defined principles, and according to formal and rigorous data protection standards, and methods. The data keeper will be responsible for upholding the principles, standards, and methods. The data keeper with personal identifiers must agree and take all steps necessary to ensure its privacy and security as described in relevant freedom of information and privacy acts, health information acts, or other legislation as well as their institution's protocols and community protocols, where applicable. If either party deems security and confidentiality inadequate, the stewardship should be revoked in favour of a more secure steward or destruction of the data.

Integrity and security of the data must be maintained by instituting regulatory controls, such as ensuring that only authorized users have access to the data and that electronic systems are properly maintained and managed.

8. Publication and Dissemination

The First Nations should retain rights regarding the publication of sensitive data, e.g., HIV or diabetes, because of possible stigmatization.

9. Retention and Disposal of Information

The agreement should specify how long the shared data are kept or stored. Also, terms should be identified regarding the disposal of the data once the agreement has expired or been revoked. The data may be returned to the source or destroyed by the recipient, either physically or electronically.

10. Duration and Renewal

A clause should include information on when the agreement will come into effect (e.g., the date of signing by the last of the parties), as well as how long the agreement will remain in effect. There can also be terms set out for renewal, extensions, or amendments to the agreement, if necessary.

11. Expiration or Revocation of the Agreement

There should be a clause outlining the terms for the expiration or revocation of the agreement.

12. Signing Authorities

The agreement should identify signing authorities, contact names, titles, addresses, and phone numbers of the parties involved. The agreement should be signed and dated by the authorized representative of each party. This information is also used to allow the public to direct notices to the appropriate party.

Data-Sharing Protocol

This Data-Sharing Protocol is made this _____ day of the month of _____ in the year _____.

Between:

_____ (First Nation community or organization)

And:

_____ (Research partner(s) or organization)

The purpose of this Data-Sharing Protocol is to promote meaningful partnerships and respectful collaboration between the partners.

Based upon this agreement, _____ (research partner or organization) is hereby authorized to use the _____ data (record level or aggregate data) from the _____ (name of past research conducted) as set out in this agreement.

This Data-Sharing Protocol will maintain the values and principles, and protect the rights of the First Nation. This Protocol should not be used for any other purpose.

The Data-Sharing Protocol will

1. Summarize the conditions and arrangements for data or information collection and sharing.
2. Set out the fundamental principles and obligations that organizations must respect when they collect, use, store, and disclose personal information about members of the First Nation.
3. Describe why data or information is being shared, how and when data will be collected and shared, and by whom.
4. Protect individual and community interests, information, and privacy.
5. Maintain appropriate standards and prevent misunderstandings over responsibilities.
6. Clarify issues of data ownership, control and access, intellectual property, aggregate data, confidentiality, use of information, and further disclosure.

This Protocol provides a framework for the use of data that supports First Nations principles of ownership, control, access, and possession, in relation to research, and supports the data needs and capacity of the _____ (First Nation) and the _____ (research partner(s) or organization), with respect to the use of information for planning, advocacy, and determining community priorities and trends.

The _____ (record level or aggregate) data from the _____ (First Nation) will be shared for the purposes of this agreement.

The data to be shared consists of

The research partner(s) will use the data for the purposes of

The research partner(s) will only use the data for the stated purpose(s) and the data may not be used for any other purposes (further disclosure) without the explicit written approval, in advance, of the _____ (First Nation).

The _____ (research partner(s)) may not release the data for any purpose unless agreed to in advance by all parties, and provided it is not in violation of provincial, territorial, or federal legislation.

The data-sharing will involve electronic transfer over a secure network. Data matching and linkage will be used.

Definitions

Access: First Nations people must have access to information and data about themselves and their communities, regardless of where it is currently held. The principle also refers to the right of First Nations communities and organizations to manage and make decisions regarding access to their collective information.

Aggregate data: Aggregate data includes data collected from several sources that do not reveal the identity of any individual person. It is collective data meant for developing statistics or for planning based upon that data.

Control: The principle of *control* asserts that First Nations people, their communities, and representative bodies are within their rights in seeking to control all aspects of research and information management processes that affect them. First Nations control of research can include all stages of a particular research project from conception to completion. The principle extends to the control of resources and review processes, the formulation of conceptual frameworks, data management, and so on.

Data linkage or data profiling: This is a computerized use of personal data obtained from a variety of sources, including personal information banks, to merge and compare files on identifiable people or categories of people for administrative purposes. This linkage or profiling generates a new body of personal information.

Information sharing: The exchanging, collecting, using, or disclosing of personal information by one organization with another organization for certain purposes, including First Nations, government bodies, educational institutions, non-profit organizations, etc. The sharing may be carried out using any transmission method and may take place over any time period.

Ownership: Refers to the relationship of First Nations to their cultural knowledge, data, and information. The principle states that a community or group owns information collectively in the same way that an individual person owns his or her personal information.

Personal information: Recorded data or information that is related to an identifiable person.

Possession: While *ownership* identifies the relationship between a people and their data in principle, possession or stewardship is more literal. It refers to the physical control of data. Although not a condition of ownership per se, possession is a mechanism by which ownership can be asserted and protected.

Data Ownership

The _____ (First Nation) owns the collective data. Access and stewardship are negotiated and determined by the First Nation.

Intellectual Property

The _____ (First Nation) retains all intellectual property rights (including copyright), as applicable, to the data offered under this agreement, and this agreement constitutes only a license to acquire and use these data products.

Furthermore, this agreement does not convey title or rights.

Data Security and Confidentiality

The _____ (First Nation) and _____ (research partner(s)) will each provide, for their own offices, all necessary equipment, supplies, and policies to ensure the confidentiality of the survey data, including but not limited to

- A lockable storage room and lockable filing cabinet.
- Password protection for computers containing confidential data or information.
- Controlled and restricted access, by lock and/or computer password, of all data or information, either hard copy or electronic.
- A firewall or similar software or hardware to protect the data or information that is stored on a computer that has access, directly or indirectly, to the Internet or any other type of data-sharing networks.

The First Nation and the research partner(s) will ensure that at all times the data or information is either directly supervised by one of its employees or agents, or that it is safely locked in a secure cabinet.

Publication and Dissemination

The research partner(s) will not release data received as part of this agreement to other local or research institutions or organizations without express written agreement from the _____ (First Nation). Other interested research institutions or organizations shall contact the First Nation directly.

Retention and Disposal of Information

The _____ (research partner(s) or organization) will store and maintain the data in a manner that ensures its use remains consistent with the terms and conditions of this agreement. Upon expiration or revocation of this agreement, the _____ (research partner(s)) will immediately and permanently remove and destroy all copies, both physically and electronically, of the data provided under this agreement in accordance with relevant laws and policies (e.g., band bylaws and policies or government laws).

Duration and Renewal

This agreement will commence on and come into effect from the date of signing by the last of the parties, and will remain in effect for the duration of five (5) years.

This agreement may be renewed, extended, or amended with the written consent of both parties at least sixty (60) days prior to the expiration of the agreement.

Either party shall be entitled to terminate this agreement in the event the other party fails to fulfill any of its obligations as stipulated in this agreement by providing a written notice to the other party sixty (60) days prior to termination. Data access privileges are terminated immediately. At the end of the notice period all copies of the data will be removed and destroyed, as described in the following section.

Expiration or Revocation of the Agreement

Upon expiration or revocation of this agreement, the research partners will immediately and permanently remove and destroy all copies, both physically and electronically, of the statistical outputs provided under this agreement in accordance with federal laws and Treasury Board Policy or any other federal government policy.

(This removal/destruction of copies refers to statistical outputs that may or may not be the subject of the agreement.)

In exceptional circumstances, such as discovery of repeated misuse or distortion of the statistical outputs, the _____ (First Nation) will advise the research partner(s) in writing of the inappropriate action and provide them with sixty (60) days to correct the said inappropriate action.

In the event that the research partner(s) does not correct the said inappropriate action within the sixty (60) day period, the research partner's license to use the statistical outputs may be revoked by the _____ Band Council on behalf of the _____ (First Nation).

Upon revocation, all copies of the statistical outputs will be removed and destroyed.

Signing Authorities

In Witness whereof, this agreement has been executed on behalf of the parties by their duly authorized representatives:

Name and Title

Signature

Date

Witness Name and Title

Signature

Date

Name and Title

Signature

Date

Witness Name and Title

Signature

Date
