# CBU REB Info Sheet:
# Research with Indigenous Peoples and Communities
# (with a focus on L'nu/Mi'kmaq)

## Overview

In the spirit of ensuring a respectful reciprocal relationship with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis (FNIM) communities, as well as a respectful and robust research agenda for faculty and students, Cape Breton University offers the following information to researchers and communities. This information reflects local, national, and international insight and experience to guide researchers and inform communities and participants about the best practices when conducting research in and with FNIM communities.

## Tips and Information for Researchers

- Indigenous research ethics, as with much community-based research today, emphasizes (and sometimes insists) that research questions come from the community itself, and that research projects reflect the will of the community and an applied focus.
- For this reason, it's often expected that you be are able to indicate what outreach or relationships you've begun forming with a community prior to the research (being careful, of course, that the research does not begin prior to ethics approval at the institutional and local levels).
- Community engagement may be informal, as in visits, meetings or emails, or it may be formal, as in a Research Agreement entered into with a community.
- You are expected to be familiar with Chapter 9 "Research Involving the First Nations, Inuit, and Metis People of Canada" from the TCPS 2.
- It is a PI's responsibility to understand what jurisdictions their research may fall under and to seek appropriate ethical clearance.
- CBU REB can grant approval without prior approval from the appropriate community or regional approval body; our aim is not to hold up your research.
- CBU REB does not issue letters stating that Mi'kmaq Ethics Watch approval (or any other local protocol) is not needed.

*(see over for Resources)*

# Resources for Researchers

## TCPS2 Chapter 9
- Chapter 9 "Research Involving the First Nations, Inuit, and Metis People of Canada" from the TCPS 2 (http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/eng/policy-politique/initiatives/tcps2-eptc2/chapter9-chapitre9/)

## Mi'kmaq Ethics Watch: the primary body for research ethics approval in Mi'kmaki
- MEW: https://www.cbu.ca/indigenous-affairs/unamaki-college/mikmaq-ethics-watch/
- The MEW Administrator, Donna Christmas, can be reached at donna_christmas@cbu.ca

## Unama'ki (Cape Breton) resources:
- Unama'ki College (@CBU): https://www.cbu.ca/indigenous-affairs/unamaki-college/
- Mi'kmaq Resource Centre (@CBU): https://www.cbu.ca/indigenous-affairs/unamaki-college/mikmaq-resource-centre/
- Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources (UINR): http://www.uinr.ca/
- Membertou: http://www.membertou.ca/
- Eskasoni: http://www.eskasoni.ca/home/
  - Eskasoni Mental Health: http://www.eskasoni.ca/departments/25/
- Wagmatcook: http://www.wagmatcook.ca/
- Waycobah: http://www.waycobah.ca/
- Potlotek: http://potlotek.ca/

## Regional resources:
- Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq http://cmmns.com/
- Atlantic Aboriginal Economic Development Integrated Research Program (AAEDIRP) http://www.apcfnc.ca/economic-development/aaedirp/
- Mi'kmawey Debert Cultural Centre http://www.mikmaweydebert.ca/home/
- List of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Bands (https://www.cbu.ca/indigenous-affairs/unamaki-college/mikmaq-resource-centre/mikmaw-band-councils/mikmaw-bands-in-nova-scotia/)

## OCAP principles
- First Nations Information Governance Committee Principles of Ownership, Control, Access and Possession (http://cahr.uvic.ca/nearbc/documents/2009/FNC-OCAP.pdf)

## CIHR
- Guidelines for Health Research Involving Aboriginal People (2007-2010) http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/29134.html