



Union of BC Indian Chiefs

Ethical Research Policy

PURPOSE

This policy has been developed to ensure that for all research conducted at the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) Resource Centre, appropriate respect is given to the cultures, languages, knowledge and values of Aboriginal peoples. Researchers are collectors of information and producers of meaning which can be used for or against Indigenous interests. This policy provides the framework for all research conducted at the UBCIC Resource Centre to ensure it is for the benefit of Aboriginal peoples.

SCOPE

The policy applies to all users of the UBCIC Resource Centre who are conducting research that involves Aboriginal people or culture as a subject matter, whether directly or indirectly.

POLICY STATEMENTS

Researchers have an obligation to observe ethical and professional practices when conducting research at the UBCIC Resource Centre.

In order to determine whether Aboriginal people have an interest in the research, consultation with the appropriate Aboriginal individuals, communities or organizations is encouraged. The UBCIC Resource Centre may request to see a Band Council Resolution or other statement issued in support of the research or the researcher.

The researcher must ensure the protection of Aboriginal interests and resources, including the protection from any negative impact that the research project may result in from being made public.

The rights, interests and sensitivities of the people being researched will be acknowledged and protected.

Research tools and techniques, which are open, direct and transparent, should be used at all times. Secret or covert work is not acceptable.

The researcher must honestly and accurately represent those they are researching on behalf of, whether that be an organization, community, business, or government department.

Researchers will not exploit the information gathered from their research.

If there are any concerns with the sensitivity of materials in the UBCIC Resource Centre the researcher is required to bring this to the attention of Resource Centre staff.

Researchers are required to comply with other UBCIC Resource Centre policies where appropriate, including the *Archival Handling Policy*, the *Permissions Policy*, and the *User Policy*.