

## **Research involving the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples of Canada**

Historically, research involving First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people did not necessarily reflect their perspectives or needs. The Tri-Council Policy Statement 2 (2014) (TCPS 2, 2014) has compiled specific guidelines for this research to ensure that it is conducted in an ethical manner and to the benefit of these communities.

### **Community Engagement**

Any research that may affect the welfare of an Aboriginal community requires engagement with the community. This requires taking the time to build a meaningful relationship with the community. This process should be documented so that it can be considered by the Research Ethics Board as part of the ethics review (TCPS 2, 2014, Article 9.1).

Research priorities should also be determined in collaboration with the relevant community or communities. Research should be of benefit to the participating community (TCPS 2, 2014, Article 9.13). Researchers should work with communities to decide on the level of engagement that is necessary for the research project and to become aware of each other's expectations for privacy, confidentiality, and consent (TCPS 2, 2014, Article 9.2). As part of the community engagement process, researchers should also discuss appropriate research design and methodologies as well as interpretation of findings in the context of cultural norms and traditional knowledge with community members and leaders (TCPS 2, 2014, Article 9.15).

Approval for research projects involving BVC faculty, staff, and/or learners, or being conducted under the auspices of BVC requires approval from the BVC Research Ethics Board. However, researchers should be aware that research projects to be conducted on lands that are under First Nations, Inuit, or Métis authority may require the approval of the formal leaders of these communities (TCPS 2, 2014, Article 9.3). Researchers should also consider the views of community members who may not have a voice in formal leadership or authority structures (TCPS 2, 2014, Article 9.6).

### **For more information about research involving the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples of Canada, please see:**

- TCPS 2 (2014) – Chapter 9:  
[http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/pdf/eng/tcps2-2014/TCPS\\_2\\_FINAL\\_Web.pdf](http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/pdf/eng/tcps2-2014/TCPS_2_FINAL_Web.pdf)