

Respectful Terminology Project

Outline & Seed Funding Proposal

National Indigenous Knowledge & Language Alliance
(NIKLA)

Project Co-Leads

Camille Callison
Tahltan Nation
University of the Fraser Valley

Dr. Stacy Allison-Cassin
Métis Nation of Ontario
Dalhousie University

September 26th 2022





NIKLA-ANCLA

National Indigenous Knowledge eɁ Language Alliance / Alliance nationale des connaissances et des langues autochtones

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Project is advanced by
NIKLA / ANCLA

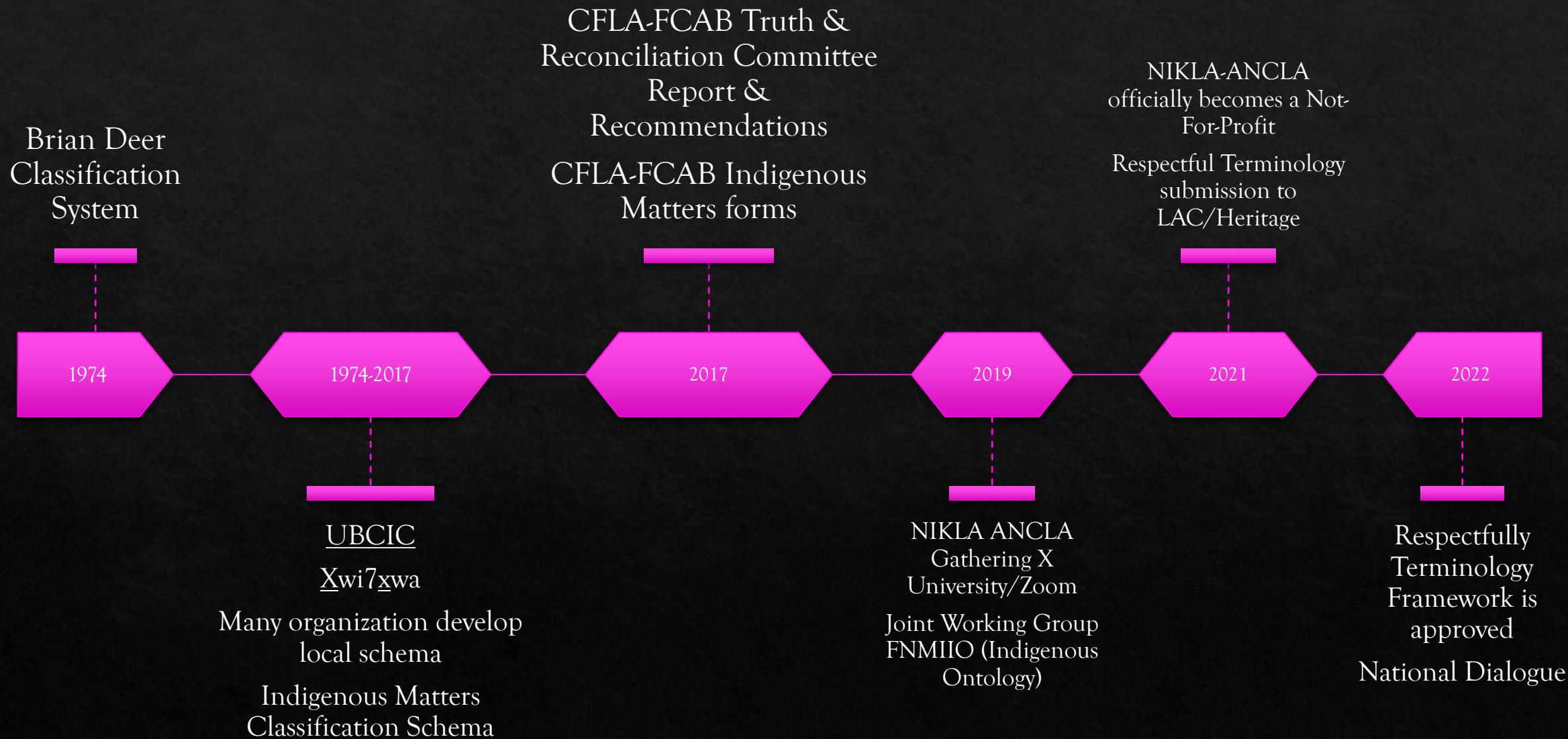
<https://www.nikla-ancla.com/>



Welcome to NIKLA

NIKLA was established as a Not-for-Profit on March 1, 2021 and held the inaugural Annual Gathering of Members on **February 1, 2022**. This winter the Council will be developing our workplan and moving forward with the Community meetings.

Timeline (1974 – not yet!)



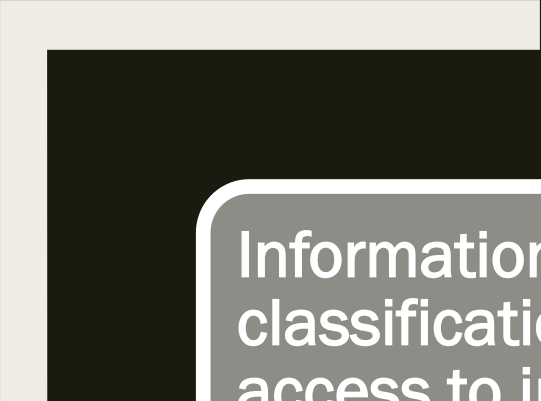


A dark legacy with an opportunity...

Due to colonization and Canadian laws (such as the Indian Act) which included prohibitions to hold gatherings including Feasts, Potlatch, Sundances, & other traditional ceremonies until 1951.

Libraries, Archives, Traditional Knowledge and Language repositories, Museums & Cultural Memory Institutions:

- Played a central role in the preservation of tangible and intangible forms of Indigenous knowledges by gathering written, recorded oral knowledge and languages, and material culture.
- Have critical role in digitized & preservation of Indigenous knowledge, history, culture & language
- Are responsible to create relationships with Indigenous people to accurately describe and provide culturally appropriate access to these knowledges
- Facilitate digital (and physical) repatriation of this knowledge back to Indigenous communities thereby aiding in cultural and linguistic revitalization.



Information management relies heavily on identifiers located in classification systems, subject headings, and keywords to provide access to information.

When the identifiers are incorrect, racist, or disrespectful this affects the users both on a consciously and sub-consciously often reinforcing stereotypes and bias toward other members of society.

Indigenous knowledge and data sovereignty is recognized as a human right

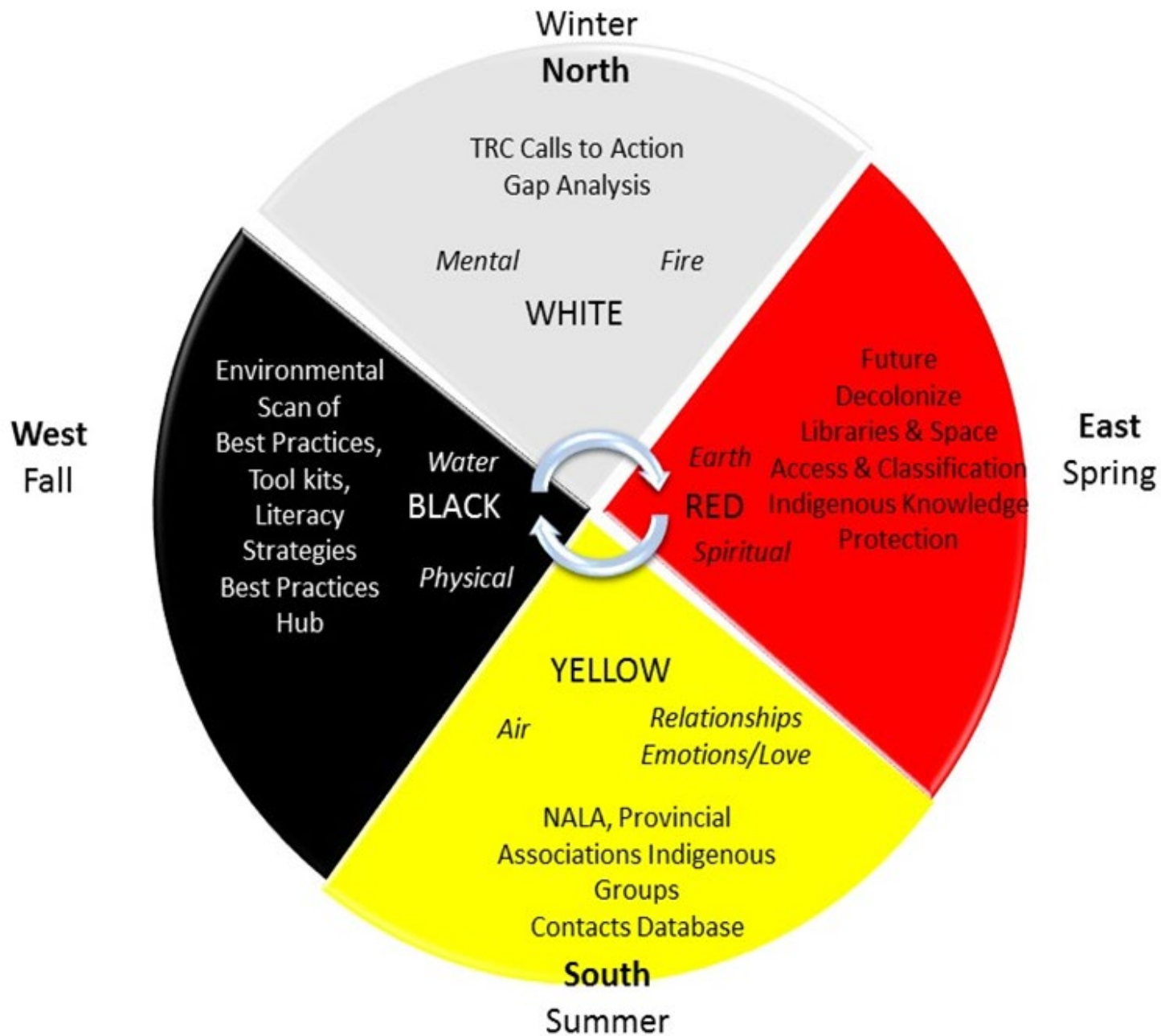
- It is important for those working in libraries, archives & other cultural memory institutions to understand:
- Indigenous peoples' worldview
- The validity and dynamic nature of oral traditions
- Colonization, decolonization and re-empowerment
- These are extremely crucial in the collection, curation and preservation of Indigenous knowledges.

Cultural memory institutions have become very important in reclamation & intergenerational transfer of Indigenous knowledges, languages & culture.

CFLA Truth and Reconciliation Report

- ◇ Released in 2017
- ◇ 10 overarching recommendations

https://cfla-fcab.ca/en/indigenous/trc_report/



Truth and Reconciliation Committee Report Recommendation #2

A vision of best practices for Libraries and Archives includes obligations to:

- Supports and endorses the CFLA-FCAB Position Statement on Library and Literacy Services for Indigenous (First Nations, Metis and Inuit) Peoples of Canada; (formerly CLA Best Practises – Indigenous Network)
- Protect and preserve Indigenous knowledge(s) in a variety of mediums for use by current and future generations in a respectful and sensitive manner;
- Provide a welcoming environment and assistance for First Nations, Metis, non-status and Inuit people to access this knowledge;
- Seek direction from communities on proper protocols regarding access and care of their culturally sensitive information;
- Respect the First Nations, Metis and Inuit cultural concept of copyright with regard to Aboriginal history or heritage, which is often located in but not limited to oral traditions, songs, dance, storytelling, anecdotes, place names, hereditary names and other forms of indigenous knowledges;
- Provide opportunities and access to training and employment for First Nations, Metis, Inuit and non-status people.

Truth and
Reconciliation
Committee
Recommendation
#5

Decolonize Access and Classification by addressing the structural biases in existing schemes of knowledge organization and information retrieval arising from colonialism by committing to integrating Indigenous epistemologies into cataloguing praxis and knowledge management.

(Address of Dr.
Gene Joseph
(Wet'suwet'en/
Nadleh-Dene
First Nations) to
Sorting Libraries
Out Symposium
March 13, 2019)

*One of the most basic acts of
respect and recognition for a
human being is to be known by
your name.*

*Let our people be known by our
own names!*

<https://ocs.lib.sfu.ca/index.php/dcid/dcid2019/paper/view/73>

1974	1974-2017	2017	2019	2021	2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian Deer Classification System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>UBCIC</u> • <u>Xwi7xwa</u> • ACC - (French) • IMCS @ NCTR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFLA-FCAB Truth & Reconciliation Committee Report • IMCS - NFB (Online only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIKLA ANCLA Gathering • Joint Working Group FNMIIO Ontology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIKLA-ANCLA - NFP • Respect Terminology National Framework Project begins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIKLA AGM & Council Elected • Respectfully Terminology Event

Annotated Timeline

First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Indigenous Ontology (FNMIIO)

First Nations Metis and Inuit Indigenous Ontology

[MasterAlpha](#)
[British Columbia](#)
[Alberta](#)
[Saskatchewan](#)
[Manitoba](#)
[Ontario](#)
[Quebec](#)
[PEI](#)
[New Brunswick](#)
[Nova Scotia](#)
[Yukon](#)
[NWT](#)
[Nunavut](#)
[Newfoundland & Labrador](#)

First Nations, Métis, Inuit - Indigenous Ontology (FNMIIO): Nunavut

Community Name	Used For	Alternate Names/Spellings	Cultural Affiliations	Political Affiliations	Language(s)
Arctic Bay	ᑕᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ^{sb} Tununirusiq Ipiaryuk	ᐱᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ^{sb} Ikpiarjuk	Inuit	Hamlet, Qikiqtaaluk Region, NLCA	North Baffin Inuktitut
Arviat	Eskimo Point	ᐱᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ	Inuit	Hamlet, Kivalliq Region, NLCA	Kivalliq Inuktitut

	Notes	Vetted By	Vetted Date
Baker Lake	Inuktitut name means "in a pocket." The form "Tununirusiq" appears on the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement settlement map, but the local community uses "Ikpiarjuk"	Carol Rigby	08Mar2019
Bathurst Inlet			
Cambridge Bay			
	Inuktitut name means "where the river widens"	Carol Rigby	08Mar2019

Example of Nunavut Names

Truth & Reconciliation Committee Recommendation #10 – supports relationship building and the formation of a national Indigenous organization

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND LANGUAGE ALLIANCE

WISDOM

ACCOUNTABILITY

HUMILITY

BRAVERY

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

RECONCILIATION

BALANCE

FORWARD THINKING

RESPECT

ECO-CONSCIOUS

GOOD MIND

WATER

SUSTAINABILITY

TRUTH

LOVE

INTEGRITY

REPRESENTATION

7 GENERATIONS

NATIONHOOD

COMMUNITIES OF PRAXIS

NIKLA

LAND

HONESTY



Respectful Terminology

About the Project

Together we are building an open and online platform that will enable a dynamic, multilingual set of terminologies applied to Indigenous Peoples, places, heritage, tradition, knowledge and cultures. These terminologies and vocabularies would replace outdated and inappropriate terminologies used currently in cultural memory sectors such as museums, libraries, archives centers and galleries.

We are currently seeking seed funding to advance the project. The goal of this initial phase of the project is to raise enough funds to develop a project roadmap, obtain funding, implement an engagement and communication strategy for partners for the realization, development the framework for sustainability of the project, hire a project coordinator, formalize in kind support through technical expertise, and develop a long-term funding strategy through grants.

The Respectful Terminology project co-leads:

Camille Callison

Tahltan Nation
University Librarian, University of the Fraser Valley
NIKLA Co-Chair

Stacy Allison-Cassin

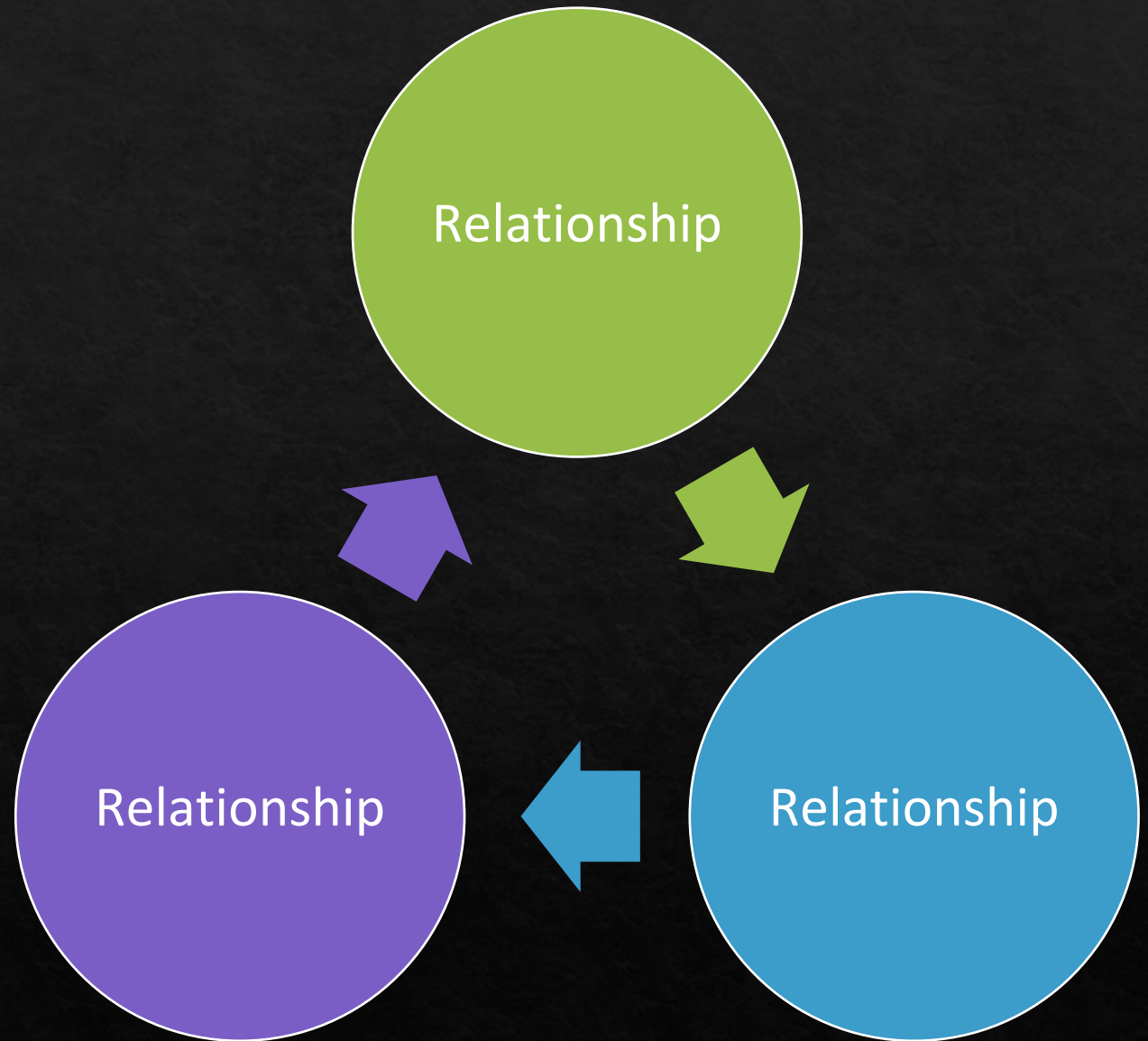
Métis Nation of Ontario
Assistant Professor, University of Toronto
Chair Language and Instruction, NIKLA

We are grateful for support from:

- Caitlin Horrall, Library and Archives Canada
- Bruno Lemay, Department of Canadian Heritage
- Claire Appavoo and Rebecca Ross, Canadian Research Knowledge Network

<https://www.nikla-ancla.com/projects>

Path to
Reconciliation





A Proposal for a National Indigenous Terminology Platform



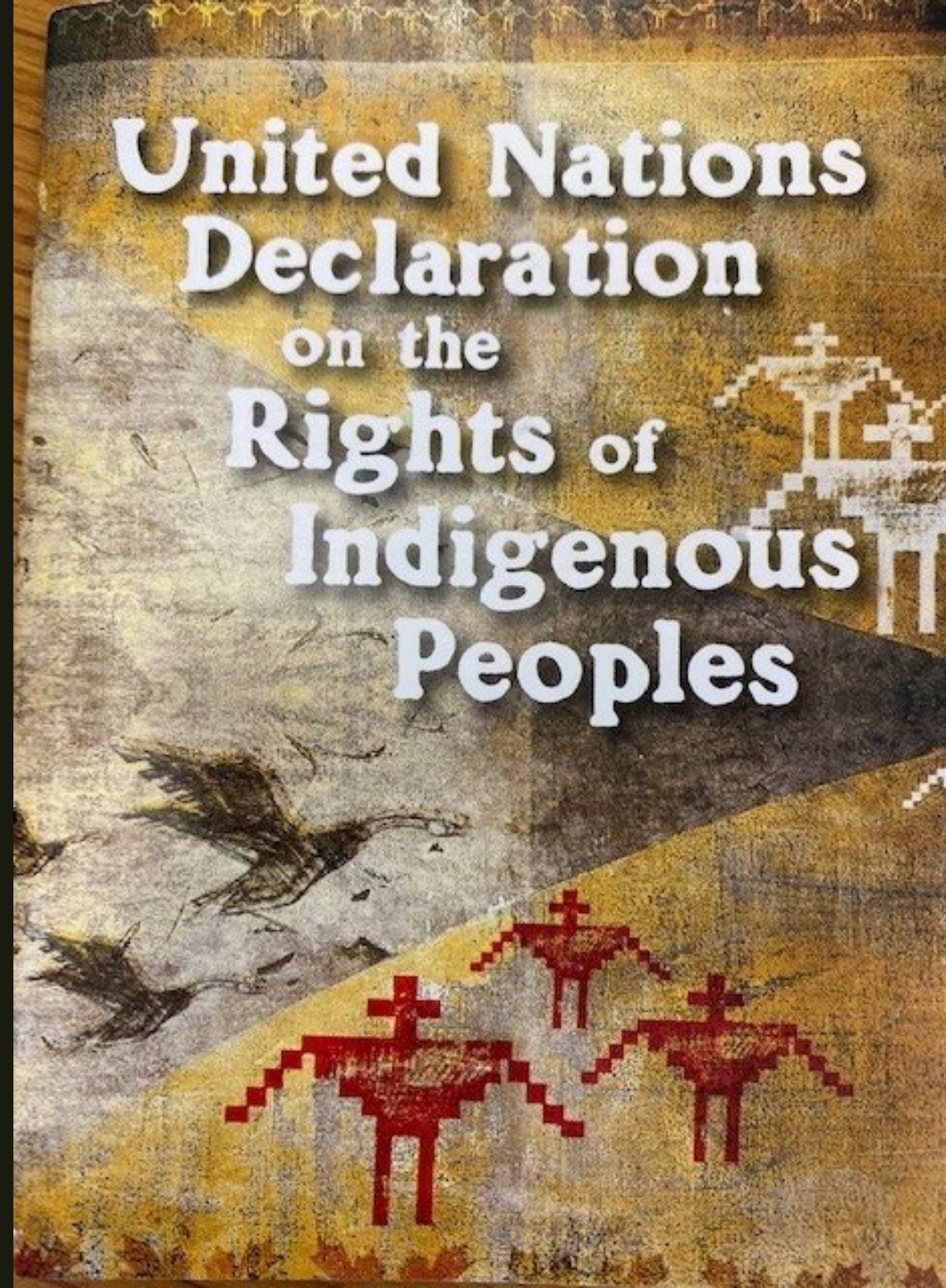


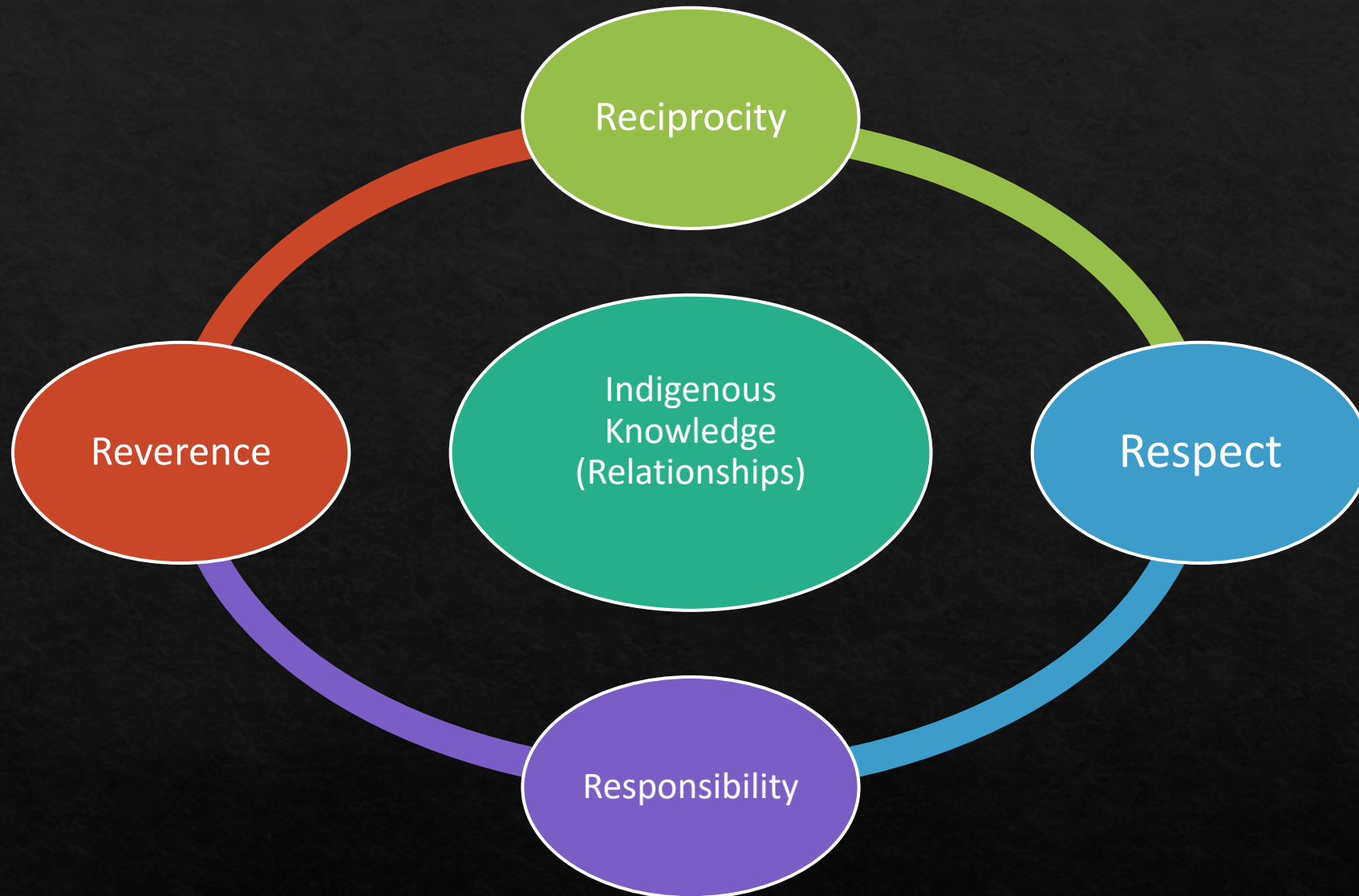
Imagine the creation of a respectful framework of descriptors, identifiers & keywords leaving an imprint of reverence for ALL others in the way we organize our information.

INDIGENOUS
RIGHTS & HUMAN
RIGHTS ARE AT THE
HEART

UNDRIP AS THE FRAMEWORK

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples.html>





Indigenous Knowledge: 4 Rs Reverence, Respect, Reciprocity, Responsibility & 5 Rs adds Relationships

Kirkness, V. J. and R. Barnhardt (2001). First Nations and Higher Education: The Four R's -Respect, Relevance, Reciprocity, Responsibility. Knowledge Across Cultures: A Contribution to Dialogue Among Civilizations. R. Hayoe and J. Pan. Hong Kong, Comparative Education Research Centre, The University of Hong Kong.

Indigenous Knowledge
– 5 Rs
(6 Rs in STEM)



<https://tribalcollegejournal.org/the-six-rs-of-indigenous-research/>

Working in a Respectful Way:

Community
Agreements and
Principles of
Collaboration

- Intellectual property is not recognized / Indigenous knowledge is not acknowledged
- The source of Indigenous knowledge and information is not being cited
- Project information and development work should be acknowledge and cited appropriately

Proposed Project Pathway



Initial Seed Funding for
Large Grant Development



Implementation of Large
Grant

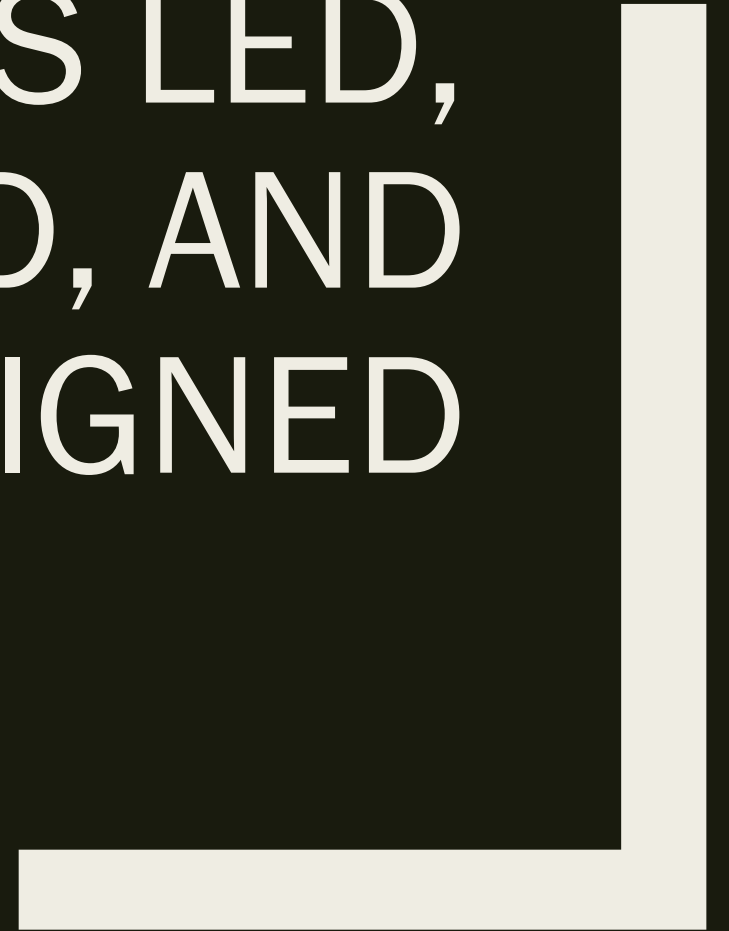


Move to Membership,
Maintenance, and
smaller-scale ongoing
development mode

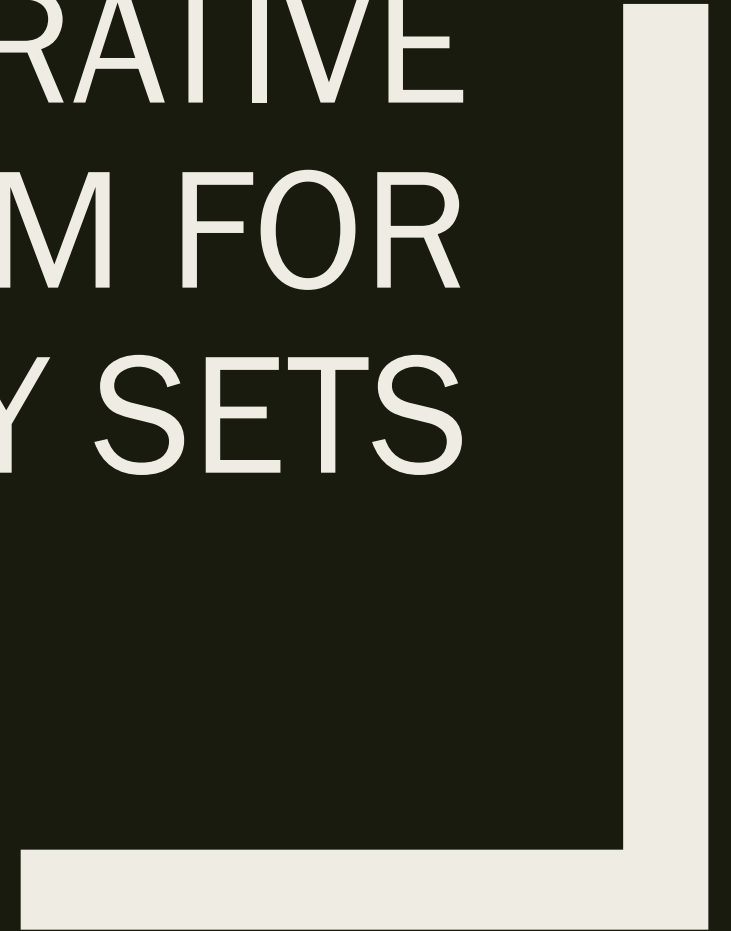


Ongoing staff time and
participation from across
sectors

INDIGENOUS LED,
OPERATED, AND
DESIGNED



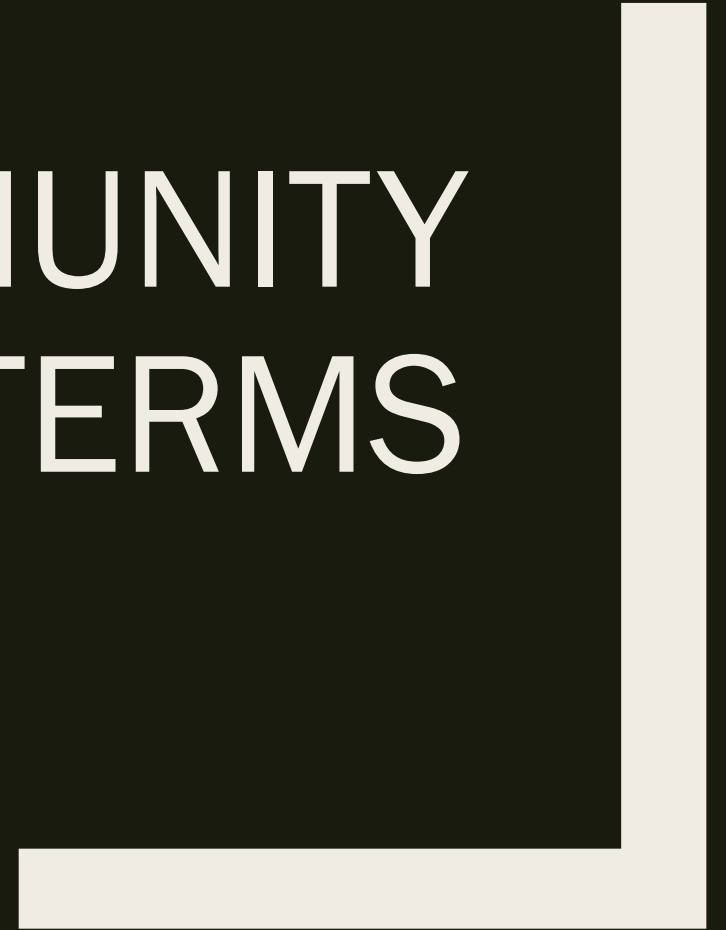
COLLABORATIVE
PLATFORM FOR
VOCABULARY SETS



COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS



MORE THAN COMMUNITY AND NATION TERMS



SUSTAINABLE AND
STABLE



Key Project Elements

Multilingual

Output formats+
(MARC, DC, etc.)

Indigenous
oversight /
protocols

High level and
Community-
specific

Technical
generosity

FAIR & CARE
Principles

Collaborative
and Coordinated

Dedicated Staff
and Support

Training and
Education



Truth and
Reconciliation
Committee
Recommendation
#7

Enhancing opportunities for Indigenous library, archival and information professionals as well as the inclusion of Indigenous epistemologies in the Canadian library and archives profession through culturally appropriate pedagogy recruitment practices, professional and continuing education and cross-cultural training in collaboration with local Indigenous stakeholders and partners;

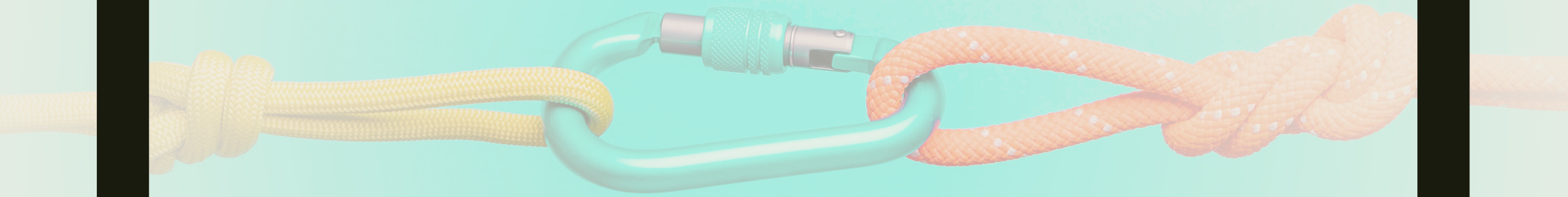
What should governance look like?

develop a new and innovative model for Indigenous-led governance and management for terminology

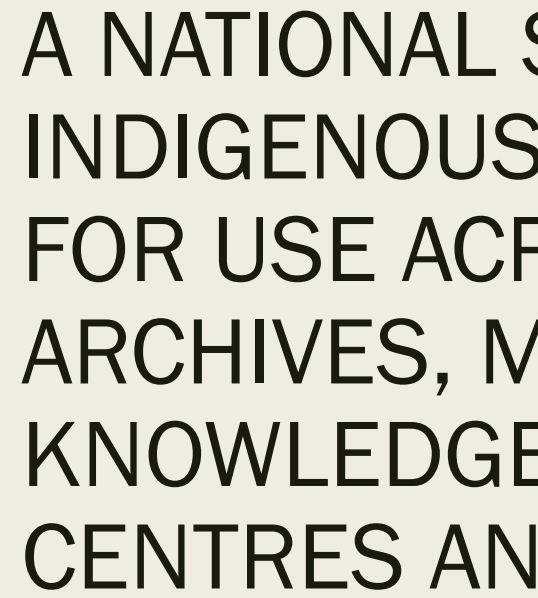
Shared responsibility and accountability

Membership with ethics and accessibility as key factors

SOLIDARITY, RECIPROcity, AND RESPONSIBILITY



Cross institutional responsibility to fund development,
contributions and maintenance



A NATIONAL SYSTEM FOR
INDIGENOUS TERMINOLOGIES
FOR USE ACROSS LIBRARIES,
ARCHIVES, MUSEUMS, AND
KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURAL
CENTRES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

MOVE AWAY FROM UNIVERSAL AND COLONIAL SYSTEMS LIKE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SUBJECT HEADINGS TO DEVELOP AN INDIGENOUS-SPECIFIC SYSTEM OF TERMINOLOGY LOCATED IN THE COUNTRY NOW KNOWN AS CANADA.

Benefits

- Provides Indigenous leadership and the means for respectful Indigenous involvement
- Supports TRC, MMIWG reports and UNDRIP implementation
- Advances individual organization commitments
- Supports discovery of past and future Indigenous cultural heritage material
- Builds on efforts already underway
- Opportunity to be a world leader -- to transform our professions.



WHAT WE HOPE TO GIVE TO FUTURE GENERATIONS - LOVE & RESPECT

Join us in working towards A BETTER AND MORE RESPECTFUL
FUTURE!