THE RESPECTFUL TERMINOLOGIES PLATFORM PROJECT

Co-Leads:
Camille Callison
Tāłtān Nation
University of the Fraser Valley

Stacy Allison-Cassin
Métis Nation
Dalhousie University

Coalition for Networked Information Spring Meeting 2024

Land Acknowledgement that San Diego County is located on the lands of Luiseno, Cahuilla, Cupeno, Kumeyaay, & Northern Diegueño.
Tahltan Nation
We belong to the land…late Robert Quock

Knowing our history and who we are informs our present and gives us direction for the future.
I’m From

Thunder Bay, Ontario

Winnipeg, Manitoba

Toronto, Ontario

Halifax, Nova Scotia
NIKLA was established as a Not-for-Profit on March 1, 2021 and held its inaugural Annual Gathering of Members on February 1, 2022 where the first full slate of Council was established.
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!

TIMELINE (1974 – not yet!)

1974

Brian Deer Classification System

1974-2017

UBCIC
Xwi7xwa
Many organization develop local schema
Indigenous Matters Classification Schema

2017

CFLA-FCAB Truth & Reconciliation Committee Report & Recommendations
CFLA-FCAB Indigenous Matters forms

2019

NIKLA-ANCLA Gathering TMU/Zoom
Joint Working Group FNMIIO (Indigenous Ontology)

2021

NIKLA-ANCLA officially becomes a Not-For-Profit
Respectful Terminology project begins

2022

Respectfully Terminology Framework is approved
National Dialogue

2023

NIKLA-ANCLA officially becomes a Not-For-Profit

Seed Funding acquired
Phase 1 begins
Due to colonization and Canadian laws like the Indian Act which included prohibition to hold potlatches, sundances, or traditional ceremonies until 1951, libraries, archives, traditional knowledge, language repositories and cultural memory institutions play a central role in the preservation of Indigenous knowledge by gathering in written, recorded oral knowledge and languages as well as digitized Indigenous knowledge, history, culture and language.
Cultural memory institutions have become very important in reclamation & intergenerational transfer of Indigenous knowledges, languages & culture. Therefore those working in libraries, archives & other cultural memory institutions need 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.
Honouring Truth and Looking to the Future

Over the last decade, we have seen substantive movement relating to Indigenous people, knowledge and information held cultural memory institutions. In Canada, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Report and Calls to Action provided a catalyst for change.
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.
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.
# First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Indigenous Ontology (FNMIIO)

## Example of Nunavut Names

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Name</th>
<th>Used For</th>
<th>Alternate Names/Spellings</th>
<th>Cultural Affiliations</th>
<th>Political Affiliations</th>
<th>Language(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arctic Bay</td>
<td></td>
<td>Inuktitut / Tununirusiq / Ikpiarjuk</td>
<td>Inuit</td>
<td>Hamlet, Qikiqtarvik Region, NLCA</td>
<td>North Baffin Inuktitut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arviat</td>
<td>Eskimo Point</td>
<td></td>
<td>Inuit</td>
<td>Hamlet, Kivalliq Region, NLCA</td>
<td>Kivalliq Inuktitut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker Lake</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bathurst Inlet</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge Bay</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes

- **Inuktitut name means "in a pocket."** The form "Tununirusiq" appears on the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement settlement map, but the local community uses "Ikpiarjuk"

- **Inuktitut name means "place of the bowhead whale."**

- **Inuktitut name adopted 1 June 1989.**

- **Inuktitut name means "where the river widens"**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vetted By</th>
<th>Vetted Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carol Rigby</td>
<td>08Mar2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carol Rigby</td>
<td>08Mar2019</td>
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<td>Carol Rigby</td>
<td>08Mar2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
modifying terms is not enough...
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.
The SEED FUNDING Phase
January 2023-June 2024
THE RESPECTFUL TERMINOLOGIES PLATFORM PROJECT IS A NATIONAL SYSTEM FOR INDIGENOUS TERMINOLOGIES FOR USE ACROSS MULTIPLE DOMAINS: LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES, MUSEUMS, AND KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURAL CENTRES AND ORGANIZATIONS AND ANYWHERE SUCH TERMS ARE NEEDED
UNDRIPT AS THE FRAMEWORK
“I think that the time has passed where other people can speak for us. For me, I am all about self-determination and sovereignty, and it is time for us to fill those gaps.”

-Colette Poitras
(Métis Nation)

“We talked about the right to be able to choose the names that we’re known by, and therefore, you know, our identity as we see it. To be able to, to choose that for ourselves.”

-Don Johnson
(Nlaka’pamux)
Kirkness & Barnhardt: Indigenous Knowledge: 4 Rs Reverence, Respect, Reciprocity, Responsibility & 5 Rs adds Relationships
WORKING IN A RESPECTFUL WAY:

- 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 acknowledged and cited appropriately

Community Agreements and Principles of Collaboration
Ongoing Relationship Building

- Répertoire de vedettes-matière (RVM)
- SSHRC PDG: Forward Linking: Building Relationship within the Cultural Data Ecosystem
- Homosaurus: An International LGBTQ & Linked Data Vocabulary
PHASE ONE / SEED FUNDING

• Full-time project admin
• Facilitated meetings
• Launch of advisory groups
• Work toward a project plan
• Work toward grant applications to fund part two
• DID NOT INCLUDE LAUNCHING THE PLATFORM
RTPP Core Team

Caitlin Horrall – University of Ottawa (seconded from Library & Archives Canada)

Bruno Lemay – Heritage Information Directorate, Department of Canadian Heritage

Inclusiv Heritage – Strategic Leads for the Seed Funding Phase
Team members Sam Cronk and Community Consultant Samantha Dokis (Dokis First Nation) Inclusiv is a national research and consulting group working primarily with underserved communities and NPOs.

Drew Fitzgerald, Métis Nation of Alberta - MI Student Research Assistant
Drew is Masters of Information student from the Department of Information Science at Dalhousie University, joined RTPP this Fall in the role of Research Assistant.
INDIGENOUS ADVISORY CIRCLE

est. May 2023

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

est. June 2023
INDIGENOUS ADVISORY CIRCLE

Noelani Arista, 'Ōiwi
Jameson Brant, Kanien’kehá:ka
Lisc Daley, Kitigan Zibi Anishnabeg
Barbara Fillion, Innu
Lyle Ford, Métis Nation
Donald Johnson, Nlaka’pamux
Gene Joseph, Wet’suwet’en/Nadleh-Dene
Kayla Lar-son, Métis Nation
Phyliss Lerat, Cree
Feather Maracle, Kanien’kehá:ka/Odawa
Sonny McHalsie, Sto:lo
Kajola Morewood, Innu
Colette Poitras, Métis Nation
Danika Potts, Cree
Technical Working Group

- Geoffrey Allan, Regina Public Library
- Sadie Anderson, Saskatchewan Provincial Library and Literary Office
- Sue Andrews, University of British Columbia
- Suzanne Brillant, RVM (Laval University)
- Susan Brown, University of Guelph
- May Chan, University of Toronto
- Alissa Cherry, Museum of Anthropology, UBC
- Cora Coady, York University
- Lisc Daley, Government of the Northwest Territories
- Trang Dang, Canadian Heritage Information Network
- Robin Desmeules, McGill University
- Sharon Farnel, University of Alberta
- Jason Friedman, CRKN
- Susan Brown, Guelph
- Lisa Haughton, Library and Archives Canada
- Taya Jardine, University of British Columbia
- Katherine Kasirer, National Film Board of Canada
- Tim Knight, York University
- Jessie Iampreau, University of Victoria
- Honfei Li, University of the Fraser Valley
- Brett Lougheed, University of Winnipeg
- Nathalie MacDonald, CRKN
- Keshav Mukunda, Simon Fraser University
- Carol Rigby, Nunavut
- Rachel Rogers, Greater Victoria Public Library
- Kathryn Ruddock, University of Calgary
- Dean Seeman, University of Victoria
- Lorne Shapiro, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
- Patricia Geddes, Vancouver Island University
- Lisa Goddard, University of Victoria
- Nathalie Ginette, CRKN
SHIFT COLLECTIVE REPORT

May 16 & 17, 2023
Deep Listening Session with the Indigenous Advisory Circle
Goals

- Centre community voices
- Build Relationships and Governance Structures
- Use prototypes to bolster community design
Project components include:

- a digital platform to support tools, workflows, and systems to support the co-creation and sharing of respectful terminologies and controlled vocabularies primarily focused on Indigenous peoples in North America
- protocol workflows to ensure appropriate and timely consultation with relevant Indigenous communities;
- documentation, learning materials, and a multi-generational community of practice to support multiple community needs.
Objectives for the prototyping activities are:

- identify a small set of community-created vocabularies and terminologies and create community relationships to enable active participation in the prototyping phase;
- work with the IAC and governance and relationships team to consider and test the interaction between Indigenous frameworks such as the 4 Rs in relation to software and technology development; and
- create prototypes to identify and test appropriate technology stack, including data transformation software, data repository software, and create and test tools for integrating community consultation into vocabulary management workflows.
WHAT WE HOPE TO GIVE TO FUTURE GENERATIONS – LOVE & RESPECT

Join us in working towards A BETTER AND MORE RESPECTFUL FUTURE!
Meduh! Mussi Cho! Miigwetch! Marsi! Pidamayaye! Qujannamiik Nyah-wenh! Eloski! Wela’lin! Thank you! Merci!