



Application for Research Ethics Review

Drafted 2023-09-26

**Please forward the completed proposal to
nationrebuilding@recn356.ca**

A. Project Overview

Title of the Research Project:

Investigator Information:

	Name	Address	Phone number and Email
Lead investigator			
Co-investigator			
Community organization			
Other research collaborators			

1. Proposed timeframes

Start date:

End date:

2. Proposed Location of Research:

3. Project Funding – If you are awarded funding you must disclose this to the Mihkoskiwakak Nehiyawak Ethics Review Committee (MNERC).

Have you applied for funding for this project or are you considering applying for funding?

Yes

No

If yes, please specify agency, status of application and term of project funding.

4. Please provide the entire research budget and indicate what portion will be spent within local community of RECN.

5. Review of this Project

Please list who has reviewed this project to date and provide documentation of approval including funding sources, community organizations, other ethics boards and university faculty.

B. Summary of Proposed Research

6. What research questions will your study be addressing?

7. Please describe the background and rationale for your study. [Please limit your description to 250 words or less].

8. Describe your proposed methodology (e.g. interviews, focus groups, surveys, human tissue sampling etc.) Attach questionnaires or other research instruments. [Please limit this description to 250 words or less].

9. Describe the participants (number, age groups, gender, residence, affiliation, occupation etc.).

10. Identify all recruitment methods (e.g. snowball, word-of-mouth, posters, flyers, etc.)

11. Compensation of Participants

Will participants be compensated for participating in this project?

Yes No

If yes, please provide details, including how you will deal with compensation for participants who choose to withdraw.

12. How have the researchers established relationships or connections with the community and over what period of time?

C. Community Involvement in the Project

13. Which First Nation communities and/or community organizations are you or will you be working with?

14. Please provide details about the community's or organization's involvement in the design and implementation of the research project with specific dates, activities and names of those involved in these activities (eg. development of research question, survey instrument etc.)

15. How does this project address local research priorities and needs of the First Nation communities and/or organizations? (ie. strategic plans)

16. Identify other relevant research projects that have been conducted previously in the Manitoulin communities.

17. Will community staff or community members receive research training?

Yes No

If yes, please provide details below.

D. Ownership, Control, Access and Possession

18. Have you taken the OCAP training program from the First Nations Information Governance Centre?

Yes No

If yes, please attach your certificate of completion.

19. Who will own the data, results, working papers and related materials?

20. Is there a research agreement in place that specifies ownership of the data?

Yes No

21. Who will have access to the data? (eg. graduate supervisor, collaborators, committee members, First Nations leadership).

22. Will the community have access to the data, results, working papers and related materials?

Yes No

23. Where will the data be stored?

24. How will the data be protected?

25. What are the limits on the use of the data? (eg. timeframes, secondary use).

E. Mihkoskiwakak Nehiyawak Knowledge

Nehiyawak knowledge is the knowledge system that Nehiyawak have gained through their relationship to their place and land. Nehiyawak knowledge may include traditional healing knowledge, community specific information or traditional cultural information.

“Any research involving Aboriginal people will involve the sharing of some cultural knowledge, practices and/or traditions even when these are not the subjects of the study, as they provide necessary context.”¹

26. Will Elders or people with Nehiyawak knowledge be involved in this research?

Yes

No

If yes, explain the protocol that will be followed to ensure local culture and customs will be respected during this study.

27. How will Nehiyawak knowledge be respected in this study?

28. How will Nehiyawak perspectives be validated and portrayed?

29. What will your process be to determine ownership of this knowledge?

F. Risks and Benefits for Participants and Communities

30. How will this research benefit Red Earth Cree First Nations over the next 5 years?(such as capacity building, economic, social, and/or health improvements.)

31. How will this research impact the Red Earth Cree First Nations for the next seven generations?

32. Will participants or the community experience any of the following risks:

Possible Risks	Yes	No
Physical risks to participants (e.g.: bodily contact, administration of substances, venipuncture)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Psychological risks to participants (e.g. re-living traumatic experiences, embarrassment or other upset)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social risks to participants (e.g. loss of social status or reputation, legal consequences)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social risks to First Nations community (e.g. loss of social status or reputation, legal or treaty consequences)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic or employment risk to participants (e.g. employees as research participants)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Loss of individual or community empowerment (e.g.: loss of control/stewardship of Anishinaabek knowledge, loss of decision making over use of genetic material etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ CIHR Guidelines for Health Research Involving Aboriginal People (2007) pg 4.

Are there any other risks to the participant or the community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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If you have answered yes to any of these questions, please describe the potential risks and how they will be addressed.

G. Free and Informed Consent

- 33. Describe the process that will be used to obtain community consent for this research project (eg. BCR or letter of support from the Band Council).
- 34. Describe the process that will be used to obtain informed consent from research participants. If written consent is culturally unacceptable, describe the process of obtaining culturally acceptable consent. Attach forms for written consent and scripts for verbal consent.
- 35. How will individuals not proficient in English be given the opportunity to give informed consent? (e.g. translator, bilingual interviewer, consent form written in Anishnaabemowin, etc.)
- 36. How will alternate consent be obtained from authorized parties for the participation of minors or individuals who are not legally competent?
- 37. Describe what will happen to data from an individual who chooses to withdraw from the research project.

H. Privacy and Confidentiality

Confidentiality refers to the obligation for safe keeping of information about individuals and ensuring that information is only used for the stated purpose. Data that can be linked to individuals should only be accessed by those who are involved in the research process. With anonymous information it is not possible for anyone (including the researcher) to connect the name of the participant with the collected information.

- 38. Will personal information about research participants be collected? If so, how will it be protected?
- 39. How will researchers ensure the privacy and confidentiality of personal information during data collection and dissemination considering the context of relatively small First Nation communities?

40. There may be a need to protect the identity of the participating First Nation communities (ie. sensitive topics). If this is the case, describe how the community identity will be protected?
41. If the collected data will be linked to existing data (eg. health or school records) on participants, explain this process, including the different consents required and who will have access to the data.

I. Dissemination of results and support for community action

42. Describe the knowledge transfer² and mobilization strategy both within the participating communities and externally.
43. How will communities and participants be informed of the results? (e.g. community reports, community and staff presentations etc.)
44. Will there be co-authorship with local researchers or committee members in publications?
45. Describe the process for how communities can respond to the research findings before the publication (eg. final reports and journal articles).
46. How will the researchers support communities to act on research results?

J. Tipi Teachings

47. How will the Tipi Teachings be respected throughout the entire research process?

(For more information about local interpretations of the Tipi Teachings, see pages 9 and 10 of the Guidelines for Ethical Aboriginal Research that is available at <https://www.fourdirectionsteachings.com/transcripts/cree.html>

K. Pandemic safety protocols

48. How have you adjusted your research activities to reflect the current pandemic restrictions? (e.g. conducting interviews by virtual means, providing incentive gifts via electronic means, ensuring any supports that may be needed are provided, etc.)

49. How are you adjusting your research project timelines to respect current community pandemic priorities? (e.g. not imposing on health staff time who may be involved in pandemic response/ vaccination clinics, respecting communities that may be experiencing loss, etc.)
50. What additional risk mitigation measures are you considering in light of impacts research participants may be experiencing due to the current COVID pandemic?