Project Title: Indigenous Engagement Training Program

Primary Core Area: Research Excellence

Associated Strategy: Strategy 10: Research Culture

Secondary Core Area (if applicable): Local and Global Engagement – Strategy 17: Indigenous Engagement

Pilot/Change Project: Pilot

Website: N/A

Project Overview:

To materially affect university research culture, it is necessary to identify examples of successful inclusive, positive and respectful research practices that can help to define approaches to research that strengthen research relationships with Indigenous communities. There is high demand for engagement training support from students, staff and faculty. Although courses and other forms of training do exist across campus, most of the training is disciplinary focused. There is a need for generalized approaches and flexible delivery of training modules and other tools, specifically focused around ethics, respectful engagement, co-development and co-design of research protocols and practices to enable effective engagement with Indigenous communities.

The goal of the Indigenous Engagement Training Project is to:

- Co-develop training programs with Indigenous community partners for researchers and graduate students entering or wishing to enter collaborative relationships; and
- Assemble a baseline inventory of all the training and education tools i) within UBC and ii) outside of UBC that are accredited and commonly used by academic professionals.

Funding:

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<th>Year</th>
<th>2018/19</th>
<th>2019/20</th>
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What are our key metrics? How will we know if we are successful?

If a pilot, how will the results of the pilot be used? What will happen if the pilot is unsuccessful? If successful, how will the pilot result in sustainable change?

We will track numbers of participants. The project will be a success when demand for our pilot scale training program exceeds our ability to provide support. We commit to conducting a program evaluation with selected communities to determine the impact of the training pilot.

- The results of the pilot will be used to build an on-going training program for researchers.
- Assuming the pilot is successful: 1) we will continue to revise and adapt the training, 2) promote the uptake of this program across both campuses for anyone wishing to engage in Indigenous community-based research, 3) expand the program through partnerships (e.g. Mitacs), 4) UBC will become a leader in effective and ethical engagement with Indigenous communities, as evidenced by an increase in the number of Indigenous community-based projects across the disciplines and 5) support UBC researchers to be more successful in grant funding competitions.
- Through the evaluation process, we will see how effective the pilot approach is and revise as appropriate. If the pilot is entirely unsuccessful, other approaches to address the issue will be identified.

How does this project support the themes?

Collaboration: This project will work in collaboration with Indigenous communities.
Inclusion: Strategic plan notes the following: “We will continue to prioritize our partnerships with Indigenous Peoples and communities.” A critical component of enabling Indigenous community-based research is to ensure that UBC trainees, staff and faculty are equipped with the knowledge and understanding to appropriately engage with Indigenous communities. The training outputs will be collaboratively designed with Indigenous communities.
Innovation: N/A

What will be different as a result of this project?

In the past, university research has followed an extractive model, with detrimental impacts on Indigenous communities, operating in circumstances of unequal power and without regard for community concerns, needs or interests. Research developed and conducted in collaboration with Indigenous communities that addresses community concerns, however, can produce more equitable research that not only contributes to community autonomy, strength and resiliency, but results in more productive and effective inquiry.

We will equip UBC trainees, staff and faculty with the knowledge and skills to respectfully, effectively and appropriately engage with Indigenous communities.

What are our key metrics?

HOW WILL WE KNOW IF WE ARE SUCCESSFUL?

Implementation Area

All Vancouver
All Okanagan

How Does This Project Support the Themes?

WHAT WILL BE DIFFERENT AS A RESULT OF THIS PROJECT?

WHAT ARE OUR KEY METRICS?