

KTUNAXA NATION



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COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

The people of the Ktunaxa Nation historically and continually to occupy the lands and Columbia Rivers, and the Arrow Lakes of British Columbia, with traditional

adjacent to the Kootenay territory reaching 70,000 square kilometers of south-eastern British Columbia, parts of Alberta, Montana, Washington and Idaho. The Ktunaxa Nation is comprised of Bands located throughout Ktunaxa traditional territory, including five Bands in British Columbia, and two in the United States, and many citizens residing off reserve and in urban areas (Ktunaxa Nation, n.d.).

The Ktunaxa Nation practices unique linguistic traditions through the use of the Ktunaxa language, and continues to practice their cultural practices and honour their traditional heritage (Ktunaxa Nation, n.d.).

KTUNAXA NATION CODE OF ETHICS FOR RESEARCH

The Ktunaxa Nation governs research practices proposed on Ktunaxa land and with their communities through the Ktunaxa Nation's Code of Ethics for Research. As stated in the Ktunaxa Nation's Code of Ethics, purpose of the ethics code is to "ensure that, in all research that involves or relates to the Ktunaxa Nation, the Ktunaxa Nation is able to protect its people, culture and history and to ensure that appropriate respect is given to them" (Ktunaxa Treaty Council, 1998).

The Ktunaxa Code of Ethics is to be applied to all conducting research projects that related to the Ktunaxa Nation, and who wish to consult with members of the Nation. This includes the use of Ktunaxa "oral history, cultural heritage resources, the Traditional Use Study Library, the Ktunaxa Nation archives or other cultural information" (Ktunaxa Treaty Council, 1998).

The Ktunaxa Code of Ethics put forth several important principles that both set precedence and expectation for regarding engagement with community members, Elders, and requests for information. The Code of ethics outlines necessary steps for approaching research related to the Ktunaxa Nation, which includes the necessary steps involved in research proposals with the Ktunaxa Nation, including review and comments from the Ktunaxa Treaty Council, the Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council, and approval from the Elders Group (and any other groups identified by the Elders Group) in order to move forward with requests for information and research activities (Ktunaxa Treaty Council, 1998).

Further guidelines and protocols outline the researcher's responsibility to respect the confidentiality, range of experiences, and compensation of individual community members. Importantly, the Code of Ethics also asserts the responsibility of the research team to assess potential impacts and risks of the project to the Ktunaxa Nation or its members, and to provide the community opportunity to review the research results before the product is finalized (Ktunaxa Treaty Council, 1998).

The Code must be included in all research contracts that have been authorized by the Elders Group, recognizing the understanding of the Code and incorporation of its principles into the proposed research.



Resources:

Ktunaxa Nation. (n.d.). Who We Are: Ktunaxa Nation. Retrieved from https://www.ktunaxa.org/who-we-are/Ktunaxa_Treaty_Council. (1998). Ktunaxa Nation's Code of Ethics for Research. 6.