

Call for Interest:

Creating a “Building Research Relationships with Indigenous Communities” (BRRIC) training module for British Columbia

Duration: Short-term, 4 months

Building Research Relationships with Indigenous Communities (BRRIC) is a training module for researchers that was initially developed by the Indigenous Peoples’ Health Research Centre (IPHRC). This was delivered specifically in IPHRC’s role as the Indigenous Research and Engagement Expertise Platform working within the Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research (SCPOR) and is now hosted by First Nations University of Canada (<https://iceclearning.fnuniv.ca/courses/building-research-relationships-with-indigenous-communities-brric>).

The intended learning outcomes of the module include:

1. understanding the role of colonialism as a determinant of Indigenous health;
2. ensuring an ethical alignment between research projects and existing frameworks regulating research and engagement with Indigenous communities;
3. approaching Indigenous communities for engagement;
4. considerations when conducting research with Indigenous peoples; and
5. providing patient/family/community advisors, researchers, and decision makers with information on Indigenous research.

There was increasing interest from outside of Saskatchewan in the training. In 2021, IHRPC and the BC Network Environment for Indigenous Health Research (BC NEIHR) partnered to adapt the module to make it more relevant to participants from BC. BC NEIHR engaged two PhD students to adapt the module to make it relevant to non-Indigenous partners to build research relationships with BC First Nations, Métis and Inuit. A preliminary version was piloted with First Nation Health Authority (FNHA) department of Research and Knowledge Exchange, colleagues and FNHA research partners and/or other related experts.

Inspired by the IPHRC and BC NEIHR collaboration, the BC SUPPORT Unit seeks to recreate the training in BC. As part of these efforts, we would like to engage graduate students to review the module materials and recreate them to ensure it is relevant, accurate, and up to date as well as culturally appropriate and meaningful in the BC context.

We are looking for two (2) students with a Master's degree or higher to work independently and collaboratively on this short-term project. We encourage students to express interest if they meet the following criteria:

- Expert knowledge in the history of Indigenous health and research in British Columbia.
- The role of colonialism as a determinant of Indigenous health.
- Familiarity with ethical frameworks regulating Indigenous research and engagement.
- Familiarity with existing policies and frameworks guiding research with Indigenous communities such as OCAP®, Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, Tri-Council Policy Statement 2 Chapter 9, Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and.
- Understanding protocols on how to respectfully and meaningfully engage communities in research projects.

Expected Time Commitment and Compensation:

- Begin May 15, 2025, and final draft September 1, 2025 (4 months).
- Approximately up to 120 hours' total work per student (negotiable; compensation is determined by hours committed).
- Work at own pace to meet established deadlines provided by the Team Lead.
- Honoraria given based on \$40/hour.

Expression of Interest and Contact:

- In a cover letter, please explain how you meet the criteria, your interest and potential approach to the creation of the module.
- Preference given to those who identify as Indigenous graduate students. Please position yourself in the cover letter.
- Send cover letter and resume/CV to: Michelle Duffy mduffy@healthresearchbc.ca.