

Indigenous Research Involving Humans: Scope and Process

Scope of Dalhousie Research Ethics Boards Oversight

Research Ethics Board (REB) approval is required when conducting research with living people, with information provided by living people or with human biological materials (from living or deceased individuals). Research involving humans includes conducting research, including data analysis, with information provided by human participants, regardless of whether or not that information was collected by you (for instance, it could be provided investigation

Research exempt from research ethics board reviews is described in [ICPS articles 22 and 24](#). Activities not requiring REB review are described in [ICPS articles 25 and 26](#).

2 Does your project involve humans? Yes No

Human participants are defined as individuals whose data, or responses to interventions, stimuli or questions by the researcher, are relevant to answering the research questions ([ICPS article 21](#)).

3 Are you eligible for Dalhousie Research Ethics Board oversight? Yes No

Does your research fall under the Boards' auspices or jurisdiction as described in the University's [policy](#) on ethical conduct for research involving humans? Is the research conducted by visiting or adjunct scholars, or any other associated with research at the University, and/or

is research conducted using University resources that are not generally available to the public, including but not limited to facilities, human data, and human biological materials (including data or biologicals that are in the custody of the University or members of the University)?

If you answered

Timing and Process for Research Ethics Application

Your application to a Dalhousie University research ethics board is the final step after all other consultations, engagement activities, funding agreements and permissions have been finalized. The application must include:

- a. Research agreements with relevant Indigenous communities to clarify and confirm mutual expectations and commitments (see [TOPS article 9.11](#)).**

Agreements typically set out the purpose of the research and detail mutual responsibilities in project design, data collection and management; analysis and interpretation, credit due to knowledge holders; protection (and non disclosure) of restricted knowledge; sharing of benefits or royalties flowing from intellectual property where applicable; production of reports; co authorship; dissemination of results; and a conflict resolution process. Provisions for any anticipated secondary use of the information or human biological material, and associated data collected, should also be addressed and documented in the research agreement.

- b. Documentation that confirms any required permissions have been secured, including any Indigenous ethics review approvals required (for example Mi'kmaq Ethics Watch, Nunavut Research Institute, Nunatsiavut Government, etc);**
- c. Documentation (email is fine) from the Indigenous Research Facilitator that confirms that you have engaged with them in the preparation of the research plan and/or of the research ethics submission**