

Empowering Informed Consent

Community Ethics & Cultural Production

Edition 1 — March 2019

Are you a part of a research, media or art project?

Here are some questions to help support you in the process!

This card is designed to:

- » Be a meaningful tool for communities and individuals in the respectful production of media, research, art and other cultural production;
- » Provide opportunities for conversations that build clarity;
- » Ensure community ethics are valued, supported, heard;
- » Help inform decisions about consenting or saying 'no' to participation;
- » Develop ongoing consent that is fully informed.

Community Ethics

Defined here as a set of principles to guide behaviour:

- » Based in lived experience;
- » Acknowledging interconnectivity;
- » Fostering compassionate relationships of RESPECT, RECIPROCITY, RESPONSIBILITY and RETURN.

Cultural Production

Defined here as any time a person or group comes into a community to make a product from its culture. This includes but is not limited to:

- » Visual art
- » Photography/documentary
- » Journalism/media
- » Research/student learning
- » Volunteerism

Informed Consent

The following pages look at what this is, and share some questions for reaching it.

1. A reasonable understanding of purpose and expectations.

- Do you have a written description of project and participation?
- What is the timeline and scope?
- What is your ethics process?
- Have you worked with community before?
- What is your lived experience of this topic?

2. A reasonable understanding of risks:

- What trauma might be triggered?
- What stigma might be reinforced?
- What resources do you have to manage these risks?

3. An ongoing process, with the ability to withdraw at any time.

- How will you support the withdrawal of consent?
- What will happen to materials produced after withdrawal?
- Who is available and how do I contact them for support?

4. Affiliations are transparent.

- Who else are you working with?
- Who are your funders?
- Who are your partners?

5. Agreement is mutual.

- What are the levels of participation?
- Do all parties feel secure in the agreement?
- What format is the agreement ie. written, verbal, witnessed, anonymous, confidential?

6. Sharing and return is understood.

- How, when and where will this work be published?
- In what context will this work be framed?
- What opportunities for review exist before publishing?



Reciprocity

The following pages take a look at what this is, and share some questions for building it together.

1. Time, skills and all types of knowing and being are valued.

- How will you listen and share?
- What meaningful exchange is created?
- Is an honourarium provided and in what format will it be given?

2. The product is shared with the individual and community.

- When and how will copies be shared with participants?
- Will the final product be accessible for participants?
- Will there be a community-engaged event hosted to share product?



At the community event:

- How are the appropriate land/territory/ancestral acknowledgements made?
- How is the food shared accessible and appropriate?
- How is community engagement supported and lived experience valued?

3. What contribution does this project make to the community?

- How is this project mutually beneficial?
- How might this project dismantle or reinforce stigmatizations and/or stereotypes?
- How might this project create meaningful, relationship based, opportunities?



Visit us online to access this pamphlet and other resources including open-source templates and forms for intake and process of cultural production, and links to other community centred resources:

www.hivesforhumanity.com/communityethics



This card was created out of conversations held in and with the community of the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver, which the Squamish call K'emk'emelá'y — the place where the maples grow.

Together we can make our communities spaces of growth for all: together, interconnected, one.

Find more resources at:

Carnegie Library
401 Main St.

SFU's Vancity Office of Community Engagement
149 W. Hastings St.

UBC Learning Exchange
612 Main St.

Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users
380 E. Hastings St.

Culture Saves Lives
46 E. Hastings St.

Hives for Humanity
312 Main St.

Megaphone's Speakers Bureau
312 Main St.

We are honoured to do this work on the unceded Indigenous territories of the ʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), sḵw̓xwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlílʷitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) First Nations.

Produced with support from:

