

The Academic Librarian's Role in Supporting Indigenous Research Krista Robson (Red Deer College); Michelle Edwards Thomson (Red Deer College); Victoria Cardinal-Widmark (Red Deer College); Lloyd Desjarlais (Red Deer College)

The Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples have brought attention to the urgent need to adjust the academic research paradigm to include an Indigenous research paradigm that exists alongside and in dialogue with it. OCAP® is a set of principles created by the First Nations Information Governance Centre to address the historically problematic relationship between First Nations communities and researchers, academics, and other data collectors. As a set of principles, OCAP® aims to secure community rights to and control of information, along with ensuring research conducted with First Nations communities maximizes benefits to the community while minimizing harms.

The presenters recently conducted a SSHRC-funded Knowledge Synthesis project to assess the state of knowledge on the role of institutional Research Ethics Boards in advising both Indigenous and non-Indigenous academic researchers as they walk together with Indigenous individuals and communities, particularly given differences in language and understanding about the concepts of research, ethics, and relationships. The findings from the project are relevant to professional academic librarians, both in their own roles as researchers and in the work they do to support student and faculty researchers at their institutions:

- Research supports need to be applied and implemented in Indigenous research long before a project starts and long after it has concluded. Researchers need access to education on (local) Indigenous history, languages, and cultures; they need to know the protocols for doing research in the community, as well as the laws that have an impact on access to participants, access to data, privacy, and confidentiality.
- Researchers need to be supported as they advocate for the adoption of best practices and protocols within individual disciplines, including advocating for co-authorship of publications, shared grant holding, shared decision-making, and intellectual property protection.
- More attention needs to be paid to ensure future, ongoing positive results of research dissemination and avoid negative impacts. Researchers and libraries will need to re-examine their conceptions of privacy, confidentiality, and acknowledgement, and consider new ways of doing things in order to properly accommodate individual and community protocols.

In this paper, presenters will provide an overview of the completed knowledge synthesis project, describe how the research paradigm is shifting, and outline some of the ways that libraries can support these changes.