



TERMS OF REFERENCE Indigenous Advisory Council

The Centre for Indigenous Fisheries (CIF) was established in January 2021 in the Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries (IOF) at The University of British Columbia (UBC) Vancouver Campus. The CIF is the result of, and remains guided by, the UBC IOF Aboriginal Fisheries Research Unit Strategic Plan 2017 (available here: https://fisheries.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2019/11/AFRU-Strategic-Plan-10-05-2017_final.final_.pdf). The CIF is committed to supporting community-based Indigenous research for and with Indigenous communities working in partnership with UBC. The CIF seeks to work in ethical and respectful ways with Indigenous communities and looks to build respectful, long-term relationships of integrity between Indigenous communities and researchers at UBC.

As part of this commitment, the CIF already has existing and strong partnerships with co-signed research agreements or terms of engagement involving the: First Nations Fisheries Legacy Fund (Katzie, Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, Tsawwassen, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations); Ha'oom Fisheries Society (Ahousaht, Ehattesaht, Mowachaht/Muchalaht, Hesquiaht, and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations); WSÁNEĆ Leadership Council (Tsartlip, Tseycum, and Tsawout First Nations); Council of the Haida Nation and Haida Gwaii Institute; and Saugeen Ojibway Nation (Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation, and Saugeen First Nation). It is in response to, and with direction from, the needs and interests of these partners that the CIF has co-designed all of its first research, teaching, and outreach initiatives.

To further build upon this work and ensure the work of the CIF is reflective of the needs and processes of the Indigenous communities and groups with whom we collaborate, we will establish an Advisory Council comprised of Indigenous individuals from within and beyond British Columbia. Support will come from faculty, staff, and students at UBC. This document outlines the Terms of Reference of an Indigenous Advisory Council for the Centre for Indigenous Fisheries.

I. TERM

Appointed Council members will serve 1- to 2-year terms (beginning with the ratification of this document as the first-order of business at the inaugural Indigenous Advisory Council meeting in 2022) with staggered end-dates to ensure continuity of committee roles and responsibilities. Members may be re-appointed for subsequent terms.

II. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provide culturally-relevant advice, leadership and guidance to the CIF on matters relating but not limited to: strategic direction, research and ethics protocols, community outreach, governance, procedures and processes.
2. Provide advice and recommendations in an advisory capacity about the continuous development of engagement and research protocols with Indigenous communities; reviewing plans and partnerships for future projects; discussing medium- and long-term goals, including hiring of a second faculty position within the CIF. The Council will not be determining policy for the University, as it will not be a voting body; the Council's official role is advisory.
3. Provide recommendations in relation to functions, best practices and future performance of the CIF, and provide guidance and oversight to pertinent IOF and UBC initiatives.
4. Normally, it is expected that the Indigenous Advisory Council will operate on the basis of consensus.

III. APPOINTMENTS AND COMPOSITION

- The Indigenous Advisory Council shall be comprised of individuals with relevant expertise and community perspectives that pertain to effectively carrying out committee functions.
- The Indigenous Advisory Council will comprise up to 7 Indigenous scholars and thought leaders from regions across the country that we have or are building partnerships with. This will include representatives from various broad geographic regions (e.g., East Coast, Great Lakes, Arctic, West Coast) – in addition to 2 standing positions for representatives from the Musqueam and Okanagan Nations where UBC’s campuses are located (UBC-Vancouver and UBC-Okanagan, respectively). One position will be held for a faculty member at UBC from outside the CIF.
- Council members will serve 1 to 2-year terms with staggered end-dates to ensure continuity of committee roles and responsibilities.

IV. MEETINGS

- The Indigenous Advisory Council will meet twice a year (mid to late November and April of each year). One meeting will be held virtually and one meeting will be in-person.
- The virtual meeting will take place over a secured video conferencing platform and will be no more than a half-day. The in-person meeting will take place over one day (including time for community connections and/or activities) and will be held in Vancouver, on or near UBC Campus.
- Meeting information materials will be sent to Council members in advance. Minutes will follow each meeting.
- Optional: Council members will be welcome to participate in the CIF’s Annual Partners’ Gathering in November of each year (virtual in 2022, and likely hybrid in future).

V. REPORTING AND COMMUNICATIONS

- The CIF is responsible for documenting and discussing the Indigenous Advisory Council’s recommendations.
- A staff member (the CIF’s Administrative Coordinator) will serve as the main contact person for the Indigenous Advisory Council.
- A seasonal newsletter covering news and initiatives of the CIF will be distributed to the Indigenous Advisory Council and other partners. (Launched September 2022).

VI. RESOURCES AND BUDGET

- Council members acting on their own behalf will be paid an honorarium of \$400 for the virtual half-day meeting, and \$800 for the full-day in-person convening (in line with UBC’s Indigenous Finance Guidelines).
- The CIF will assume all travel-related expenses for each in-person meeting attended (in accordance with UBC Travel and Finance policy).

Indigenous Advisory Council – Terms of Reference, August 2022



Centre for
Indigenous
Fisheries