



IRSHDC INDIGENOUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

PURPOSE

The Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre (IRSHDC) at UBC was established to address and ensure the colonial legacy of residential schools and other policies imposed by the Canadian government on Indigenous peoples were acknowledged, examined and understood within the UBC community and in service to the Indigenous communities and peoples of Canada.

The Centre is mandated to undertake ethical and culturally informed exploration, whenever possible in meaningful partnership with Indigenous communities and peoples, to sustain respectful, long-term relationships of integrity between Survivors, intergenerational Survivors, Indigenous communities and the Centre at UBC.

To ensure the work of the IRSHDC is reflective of these priorities and informed by residential school Survivors and their descendants, the Centre works with a range of partners, leaders and stakeholders. For the purposes of guiding the longer term strategy of the Centre, an Indigenous Advisory Committee will be appointed and drawn from individuals with lived experience, Indigenous knowledge, and leadership in relation to addressing the colonial legacy of the schools and the continuing impacts on the human rights of Indigenous peoples.

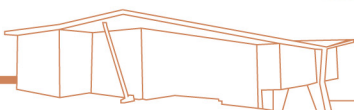
This document outlines the Terms of Reference of an Indigenous Advisory Committee for the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre.

ABOUT THE IRSHDC

Drawing on community engagement, emergent technologies, and creative and collaborative structures, the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre (IRSHDC) at the University of British Columbia works to facilitate a variety of engagements and support informed dialogue and more transparent information practices, research and pedagogy. As a framework that seeks to privilege respectful, equitable and innovative access to records and information and centre human rights, the IRSHDC's developing systems and spaces of inquiry model a new platform for information stewardship, particularly relating to collections that hold records of traumatic events – one that is pluralistic and supports agency. The IRSHDC utilizes digital technologies to challenge hierarchies within bureaucratic structures and the assumed authenticity of state narratives, to educate around colonialism in Canada's national narrative, and to facilitate critical engagement through dialogue and develop a space where "distrust" (of records, systems, narratives, etc.) can be surfaced and discussed.

SCOPE

The IRSHDC Indigenous Advisory Committee will be comprised of Indigenous Survivors and intergenerational Survivors, leaders and subject matter experts in relation to the legacy of residential and day schools and related policies, Indigenous rights, history, cultures and languages. In keeping with UBC practices of acknowledging the territory and peoples on whose land UBC works and learns, a standing seat on the Advisory Committee will be designated for a Musqueam representative as chosen by the Musqueam First Nation. In addition, there will be a seat extended to a representative from the Indian Residential School Survivors Society. The Indigenous Advisory Committee will consist of individuals from all regions of B.C. and a variety of community and urban backgrounds. In addition to these seats, the Committee will hold designated seats for a UBC faculty member and UBC student. Care will be given to reflect gender diversity and a range of ages.





TERM

Appointed committee members will serve a two-three year term with staggered end-dates to ensure continuity of the committee roles and responsibilities.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

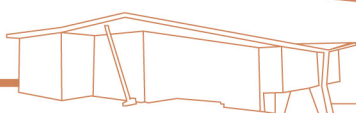
1. Provide culturally-relevant advice, leadership and guidance to the staff and leadership team of the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre on matters relating to, but not limited to: strategic direction of the Centre, research and ethics protocols, community outreach and engagement, governance, procedures and processes of the Centre's work and mandate;
2. Address, give advice and make recommendations about issues that relate to their roles and responsibilities;
3. Provide advice and recommendations about the continuous development of the Centre's engagement, research and pedagogical activities with Survivors, intergenerational Survivors and Indigenous communities;
4. Provide recommendations in relation to functions, best practices and future performance of the Centre and its projects;
5. Advise on identification of strategic priorities and resource commitments;
6. Occasionally meet, upon request, with internal and external partners of the IRSHDC (subject to availability of the committee members);
7. Normally, it is expected that the IRSHDC Indigenous Advisory Committee will operate on the basis of consensus and Indigenous practices will inform the procedure adopted by the Committee;
8. The IRSHDC Advisory Committee may establish ad hoc sub-committees, as required, to address particular or special projects and/or interest issues;
9. The Advisory Committee may advise the IRSHDC on integrating approaches on Indigenous peoples' rights and history across UBC and engaging the Indigenous Strategic Plan,¹ or in partnership with other educational or institutional partners working on the legacy of residential schools and colonialism;
10. Advise on the IRSHDC's strategic mission in relation to the TRC Calls to Action, UNDRIP, MMIWG Calls to Justice and UBC's Strategic Plan.²

APPOINTMENTS AND COMPOSITION

- The IRSHDC Indigenous Advisory Committee will be made up of senior leaders and community members, one UBC faculty member and one UBC student member. Committee members will serve two-three year terms with staggered end-dates to ensure continuity of the committee roles and responsibilities;
- The UBC Chancellor may be invited to chair the IRSHDC Indigenous Advisory Committee and invite members to serve on the committee;
- The IRSHDC Indigenous Advisory Committee shall be selected with a preference for the appointment of individuals who are IRS Survivors, intergenerational Survivors and those with relevant expertise and community perspectives that pertain to effectively carrying out the committee's functions;
- The IRSHDC outgoing Academic Director will sit on the committee for a minimum of two years to facilitate continuity of partnerships and lessen interruption of special projects and endeavours.

¹ https://indigenous.ubc.ca/files/2020/06/UBC.ISP_C2V10.2_SinglePages-DRAFT.pdf

² https://strategicplan.ubc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2018_UBC_Strategic_Plan_Full-20180425.pdf





COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITMENT

An interim committee will be struck under the direction of the Academic Director and UBC Chancellor, who acts as Chair of the committee. During the second year of the interim committee's tenure, a call for expressions of interest will be issued and open seats on the committee will be selected. This process will be used to replace open member seats moving forward.

MEETINGS

- The IRSHDC Indigenous Advisory Committee will meet a minimum of two times and up to four times within a one-year period, in addition to special meetings called by the leadership of the IRSHDC on specific issues that require immediate attention;
- There are expectations that there will be some work required to be undertaken by committee members between meeting times and the need for flexibility to attend in the case of special or extraordinary meetings;
- Meetings of no more than four hours will be held at the University of British Columbia or elsewhere in BC, and meetings may be necessary by remote and virtual meeting spaces depending on health and other factors;
- Quorum will be required for each meeting, consisting of the chair, an IRSHDC Director and at least half of the committee members;
- Meeting participation by telephone or video is available upon request;
- Agendas will be finalized and meeting information materials will be sent to committee members at least one week prior to each meeting;
- Minutes will be distributed to committee members following each meeting;
- Meeting agendas, minutes and related documentation and reference materials will be available virtually to all committee members on a secure site located at the Centre at UBC.

REPORTING AND COMMUNICATIONS

- The staff and leadership of the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre are responsible for reporting on the IRSHDC Indigenous Advisory Committee's recommendations to stakeholders and the broader community;
- The IRSHDC Administrative Manager and Community Liaison will serve as the main contact person for the IRSHDC Advisory Committee;
- A regular e-newsletter covering news and initiatives of the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre will be regularly distributed to the IRSHDC Indigenous Advisory Committee and other partners.

RESOURCES AND BUDGET

- Committee members acting on their own behalf will be paid an honorarium of \$5000 for the term of one year;
- The annual honorarium compensates committee members for their time and expertise, and participation on the Indigenous Advisory Committee including but not limited to attendance and preparation for initiative related meetings;
- The Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre will assume all travel-related expenses for the committee members to attend meetings and any network-related function(s) they attend in accordance with UBC policy;
- Members of the UBC community will not be provided with an honorarium for service and their participation will be considered academic leadership or public service.

