



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
Institutes for Transdisciplinary Scholarship

# On Campus Resources for Building Partnerships

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**TD Week**

April 29, 2025

**The University of Calgary, located in the heart of Southern Alberta, both acknowledges and pays tribute to the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7, which include the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprised of the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta (Districts 5 and 6).**



# Speakers

- Sarelle Azuelos, Specialist, Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilization
- Keeta Gladue, Manager, Indigenous Research Support Team
- Carmen Rieder, Manager, Industry Engagement
- Melanie Hulsker, Senior Director, Partnerships
- Dr. Nishan Sharma, Manager, International Research
- Barry Phipps, PhD, Coordinator, Strategic Initiatives, Urban Alliance

# Partnership Matchmaking with Community

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Sarelle Azuelos, Knowledge to Impact





# What does Knowledge to Impact do?

We deliver strategies, resources and programming to:

- **Support collaborative efforts to create knowledge with impact for the benefit of the community at large.**
  - Research partnership matchmaking and collaboration support
  - Knowledge mobilization planning
- **Facilitate and support responsible and inclusive research assessment**
  - Implementing Declaration on Research Assessment
- **Develop and implement an institutional Open Science strategy**

# Partnership principles



**Mutually Beneficial**



**Reciprocal**



**Shared and Ethical  
Space**



**Co-Creation of  
Knowledge**



**Collaborative  
Partnership  
Development**



**Exchange of  
Knowledge and  
Resources**

# Types of Community Partners

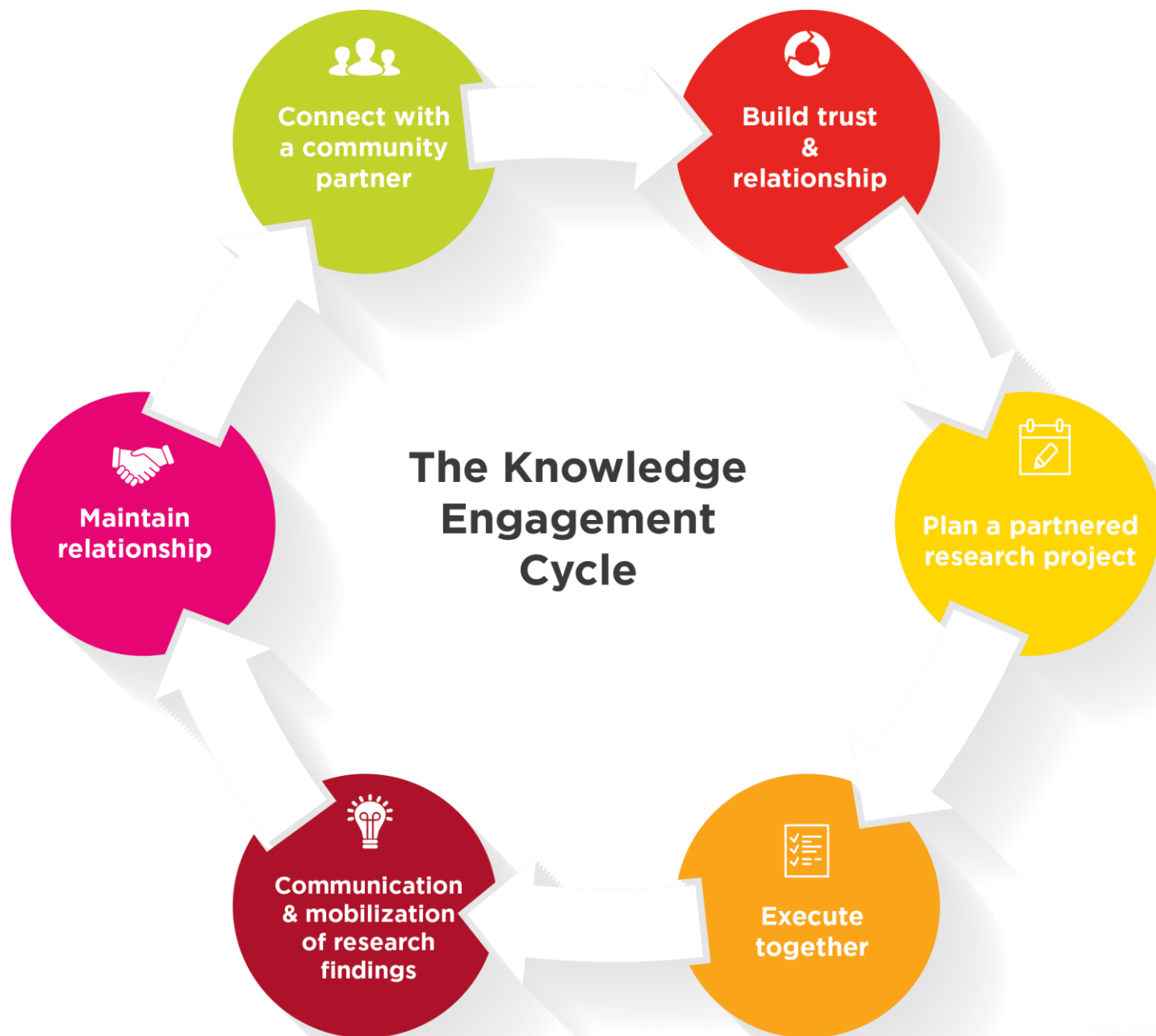
- Service organizations
- Schools
- Clubs
- Grassroots organizations
- Not-for-profit organizations
- *Municipalities*
- *For-profit (industry)*
- *Indigenous communities*
- *International organizations*

# Selecting Appropriate Levels of Engagement



Adapted from the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation





# Thank you

**Book a consult:**

[ucalgary.ca/engage-research/knowledge-impact](https://ucalgary.ca/engage-research/knowledge-impact)  
[knowledge.impact@ucalgary.ca](mailto:knowledge.impact@ucalgary.ca)

# The Office of Partnerships Resources and Supports

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Melanie Hulsker, Senior Director, Partnerships  
Communication and Community Engagement  
[Melanie.Hulsker@ucalgary.ca](mailto:Melanie.Hulsker@ucalgary.ca)

# What is a partnership?

A partnership is a **timebound formal** relationship between UCalgary and one or more **external organization** that have a clear purpose with mutual benefit and are **formally evaluated for outcomes** aligned to the goals of UCalgary.

# Office of Partnerships Purpose






To be a single point of partnership information for UCalgary, Community and Industry Organizations, that provides service through convening, connecting and facilitating partnerships that deepen our impact, strengthen our reputation and raise awareness about the University of Calgary.

# Support from the Office of Partnerships

- Connecting you with partnership and outreach opportunities
- Partner sourcing, profile development and research
- Partnership strategy and proposal development
- Partnership assessments and decision-making tools
- Facilitating partnership discussions
- Relationship management and governance advice
- Partnership agreement development and negotiation support
- Partnership network across campus



# Alignment Assessment Tool

-  Align with our goals
-  Advance our objectives
-  Align with our commitments
-  Advance a focus area
-  Support entrepreneurial position
-  Operational capacity

# Partnership Agreement Template

- 3 templates:
  - Memorandum of Understanding
    - Used to frame up a partnership
    - Not legally binding
  - Collaboration Agreement
    - Used to document activities that will result from the partnership
  - Sponsorship Agreement
    - Used when the University is financially contributing a partnership activity
- Standard approved content from legal

# Office of Partnerships Team



Melanie Hulsker, Senior  
Director



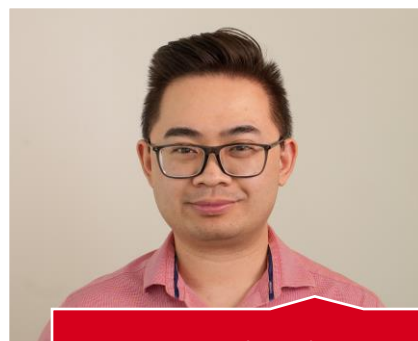
Leah Nelson Guay, Director  
Industry Partnerships



Jennifer Sowa, Director  
Community Partnerships



Stefanie Poon, Partnerships  
Coordinator



Kenny Huynh, Industry  
Partnership Specialist



Rukhsaar Daya, Community  
Partnership Specialist



Fay Obafemi, Community  
Partnership Specialist


[ucalgary.ca/partnerships](https://ucalgary.ca/partnerships) | [partnerships@ucalgary.ca](mailto:partnerships@ucalgary.ca)

# Thank you!



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ucalgary.ca/partnerships  
[partnerships@ucalgary.ca](mailto:partnerships@ucalgary.ca)

The background features a dark, atmospheric photograph of a snow-covered mountain range. Overlaid on this are several geometric shapes: a large dark grey triangle on the left, a smaller orange triangle in the top right, and a blue triangle in the bottom left.

# Indigenous Research Support Team (IRST)

**Keeta Gladue**

Cree + Métis (she/her)

M.S.W., R.S.W., B.S.W., B.A

Manager, Indigenous Research Support Team



## **Indigenous Research**

“Where the research is likely to affect the welfare of an Indigenous community or communities...”

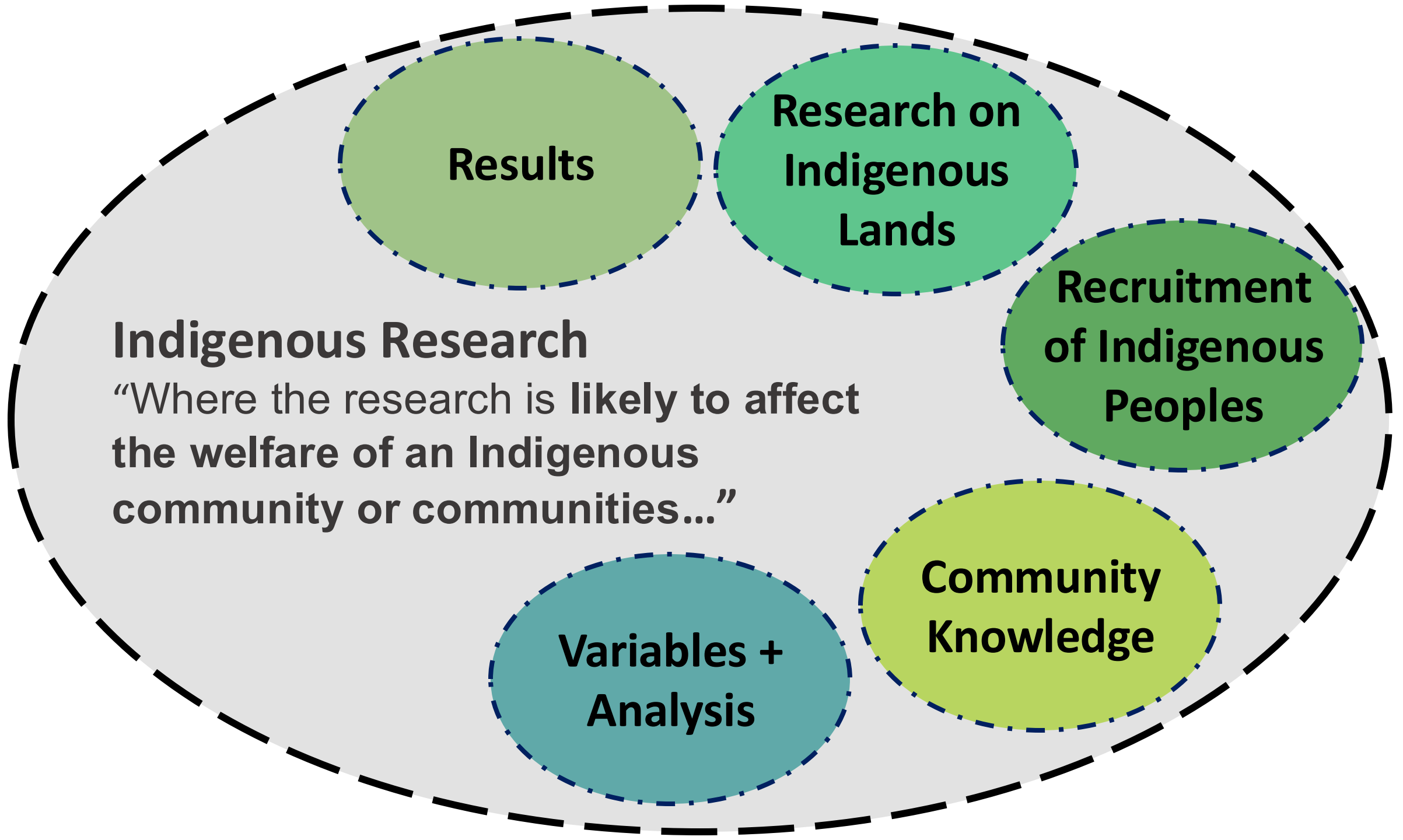
**Results**

**Research on  
Indigenous  
Lands**

**Recruitment  
of Indigenous  
Peoples**

**Variables +  
Analysis**

**Community  
Knowledge**





# Indigenous Research

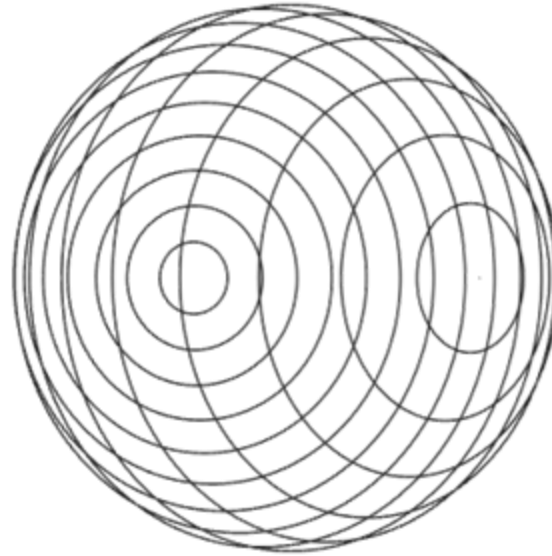
## Community Engagement



**Indigenous Data  
Sovereignty**



**Collective Benefit**

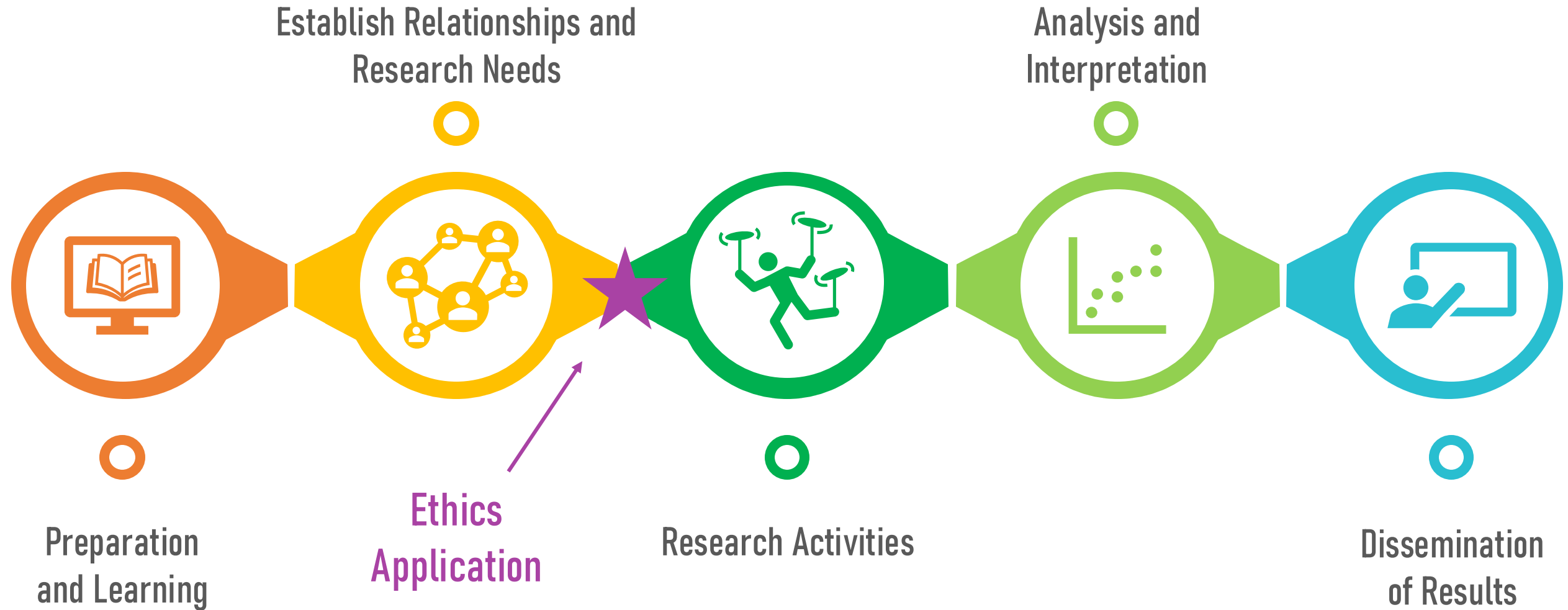


**Decision-Making with  
Indigenous Communities**

**FAIR Knowledge  
Mobilization**

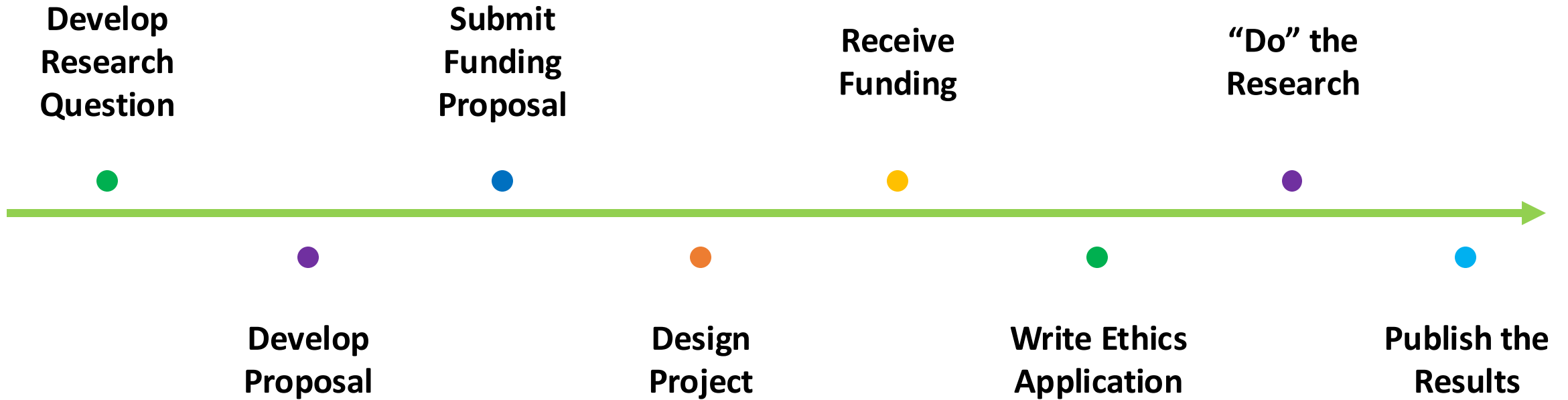
**Relationship  
Building**

# Stages of Community Engagement

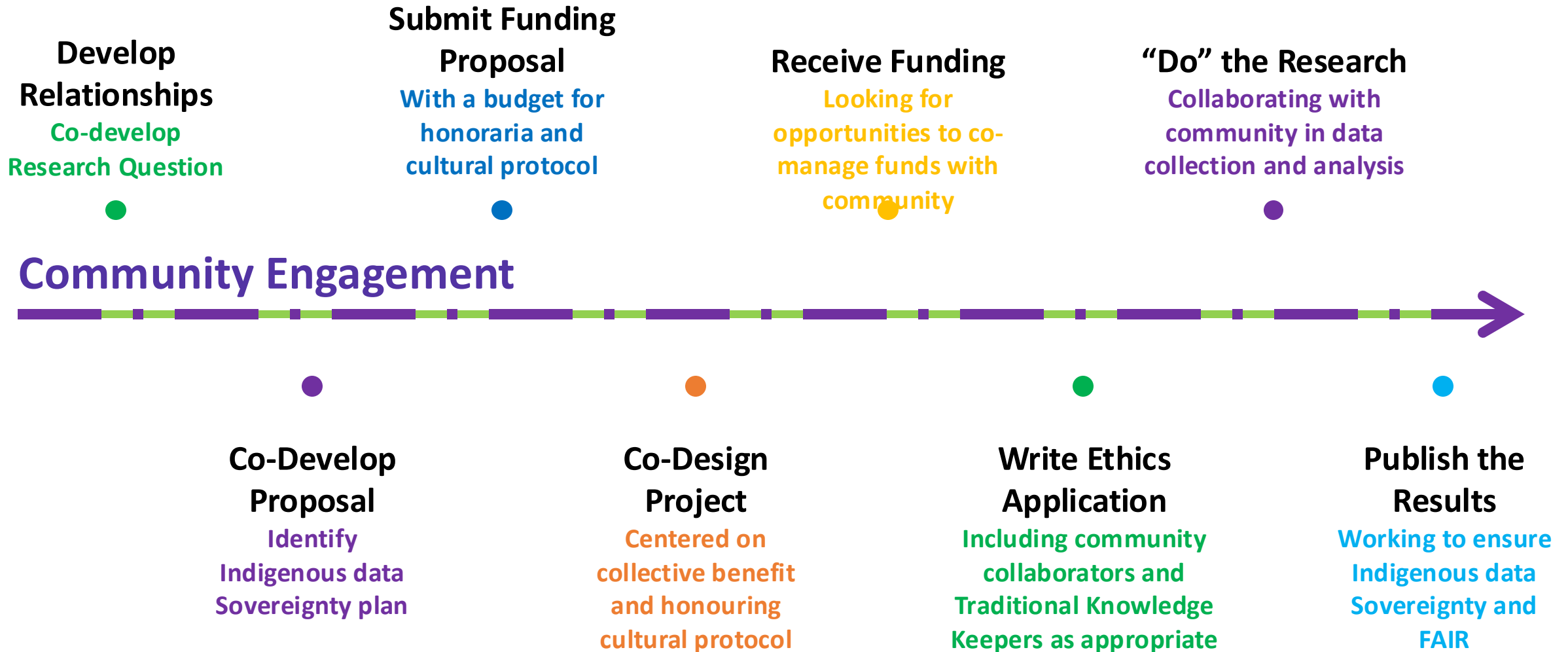


Adapted from Community Engagement Approaches for Indigenous Health Research, Yang Lin et al, 2020

# (Western) Research Project Overview

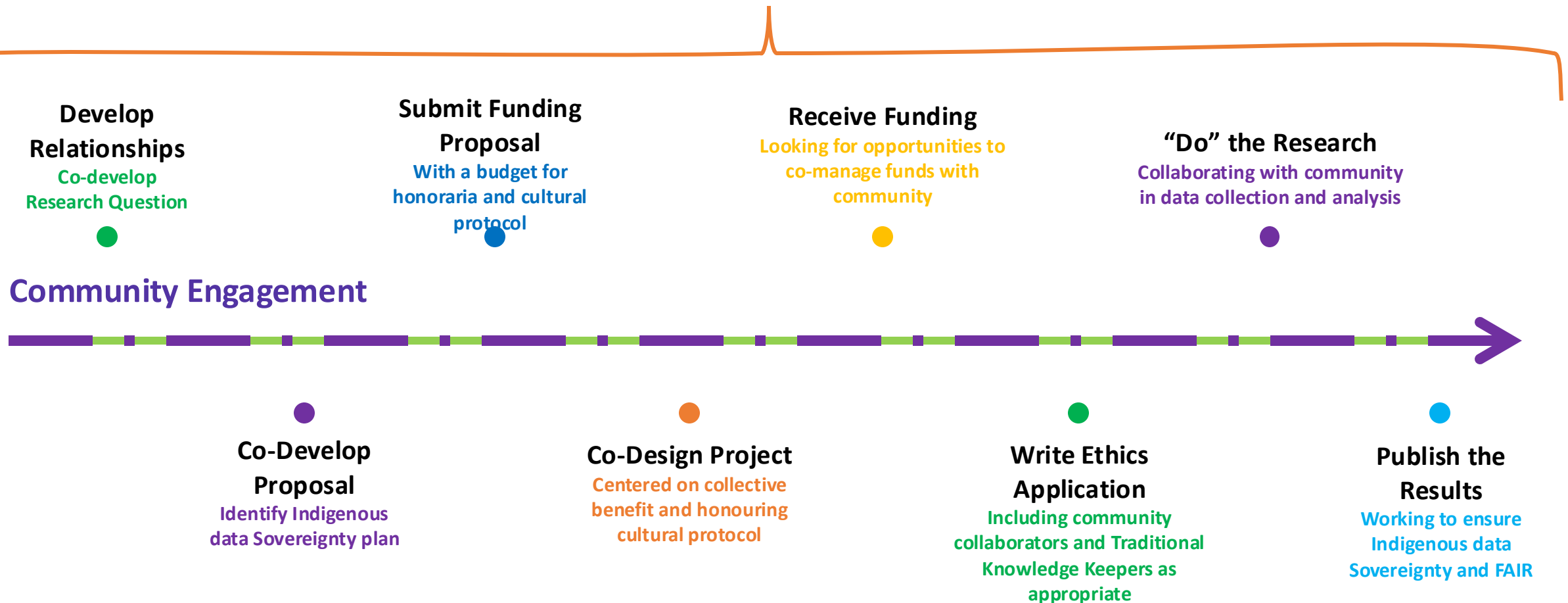


# Indigenous Research Project Overview



# Indigenous Research Support Team

Indigenous Research Support Team provides consultations, resources and wise-practices





## Indigenous Research Support Team (IRST)

IRST was developed to strengthen Indigenous Research at the University of Calgary. IRST develops **resources**, provides **consultations** to university researchers, and works to build a more **collaborative, reciprocal, and culturally responsive approach to Indigenous research**.

[IRST@ucalgary.ca](mailto:IRST@ucalgary.ca)



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
Indigenous Research Support Team



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## Team IRST

Maria Duarte

Robyn Giffen

Keeta Gladue

Melanie Grier

Cheyenne Lemaire



IRST Booking Page

# How to Connect Indigenous Research Support Team

[irst@ucalgary.ca](mailto:irst@ucalgary.ca)

<https://research.ucalgary.ca/engage-research/irst>



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
Indigenous Research Support Team

# Industry Engagement (Research)

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Carmen Rieder, Manager, Industry Engagement



# Industry Engagement for Research

One-stop partnering of industries and researchers on collaborative, innovative research projects

## WHAT WE DO



### MATCH

We'll match you with researchers with relevant interests & goals to engage in a collaborative partnership.



### SUPPORT

We'll support your funding opportunities and guide applications for the best chance of success.



### ADVANCE

We'll advance and evolve the partnership towards new and exciting opportunities.



# Industry Engagement Team



Carmen Rieder

**Manager**



Susan Sun

**Energy and Advanced Technologies**



Sid Gunamalai

**Health & Life Sciences**



## What We Do For Researchers

Industry Engagement (Research) is dedicated to assisting faculty members in establishing research partnerships with industry. Specifically, the Industry Engagement team offers the following support:

- Meet with you to understand your project and identify opportunities where industry involvement could enhance and mutually benefit the research.
- Identify and target relevant companies, leading initial outreach efforts.
- Coordinate and facilitate meetings with companies expressing interest in the partnership.
- Provide ongoing support for partnership development as both companies and researchers explore collaborative opportunities.

To access these services or request additional support, please reach out to the team manager, Carmen Rieder, at [carmen.rieder@ucalgary.ca](mailto:carmen.rieder@ucalgary.ca).

We look forward to collaborating with you!

# Thank you!

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[research.ucalgary.ca/industry](https://research.ucalgary.ca/industry)

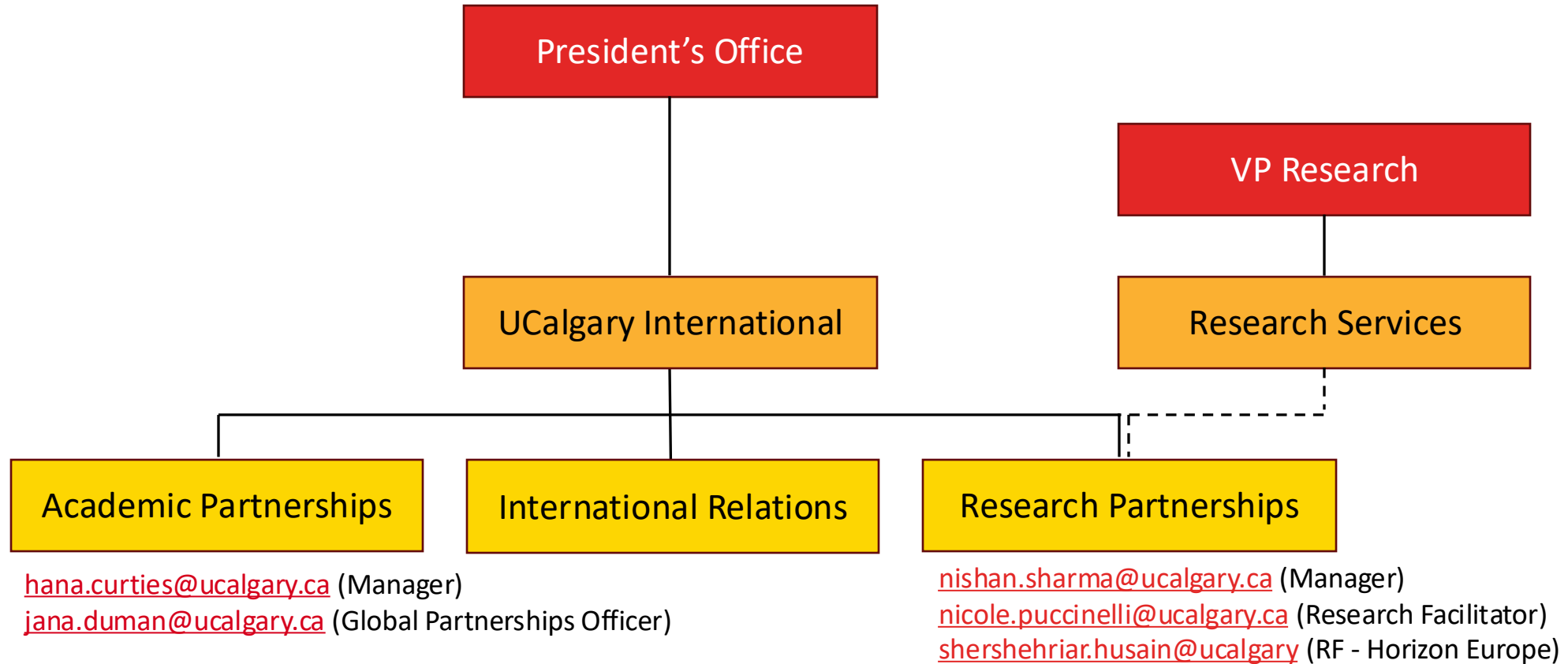


# UCalgary International, Research Partnerships

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Dr. Nishan Sharma

# Who We Are



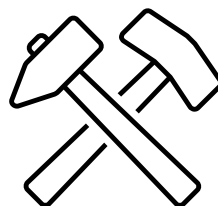
# What We Do



Create awareness  
of our unit



Liaise with  
international  
institutions &  
offices



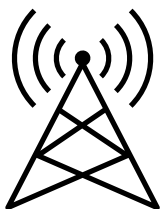
Tool development



Partnership  
development  
& brokering



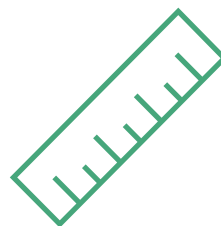
Demystify  
international  
research funding



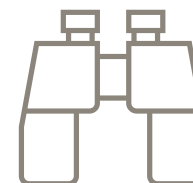
Communicate  
funding  
opportunities



Coordinate with  
RSO



Track KPIs



Identify &  
prioritize new  
opportunities



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# Tools to facilitate our (and your) work

[Home](#) [Insert Fundings](#) [Insert Researcher](#) [View FOs](#) [View Researchers](#) [Archives](#) [Log](#)

## Welcome to IFARM 2.0



### How to use the application:

For more detailed information or other information you may require, you can refer to the User Documentation document.

[Adding Funding Opportunities](#)

[Adding Researchers and Re-Running Matching](#)



# Finding Partners

- We leverage our connections (universities, embassies, trade commissioners) to find you external partners
  - Embassies, consulates
  - International Missions and Delegations
  - Trade Commissioners
- We have tools to find partners on campus



**Top Tip:** Update your profile at [profiles.ucalgary.ca](https://profiles.ucalgary.ca)

# Our Consult Process

- We meet with you/your team to discuss your goals
- The more we know, the better opportunities we can find:
  - Participating countries: Up to 4 countries to start
  - Participating institutions:
  - Besides academic and research institution, what other sectors could potentially be involved in this project?
  - Project(s) overview: 3 sentences
  - Research areas (use of keywords encouraged):
  - Type of funds, desired amount:
  - Do you have matching funds?
  - Program length and timeframe; when would you like to begin by and tentatively conclude?:
  - Will there be any inbound/outbound staff or student mobility?

# Current Opportunities



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# Strategic Alliance

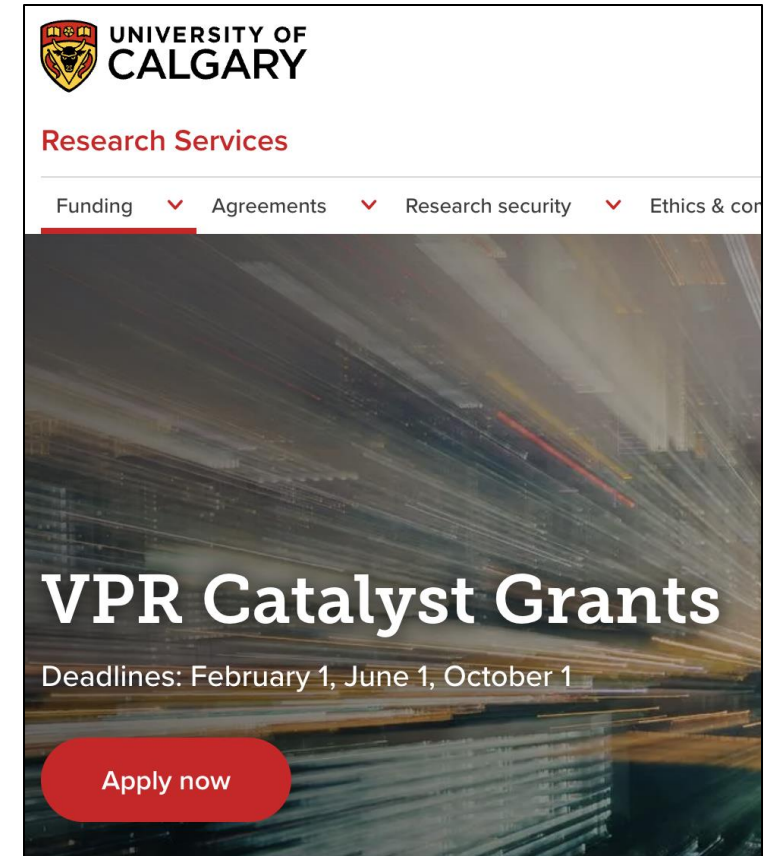
- **Research**
  - Collaborative research programs
  - Develop mutually-excellent research initiatives that may lead to develop joint research centres/ institutes (like Energy Research Institute)
  - Internal pump priming opportunity, Aberdeen-Curtin-Calgary Research Catalyst funds. This grant covers direct project costs, overseas researcher exchanges, training, workshops, and partnering activities
- **Academic/Mobility**
  - Collaborative degree programs
  - Global Learning (in person and virtual)
  - Guest lecturers, collaborative group projects
- **Student Recruitment**
  - Collaborative student recruitment by leveraging the markets established by other universities
  - Targeted recruitment for academic programs





# Catalyst Grants

- **VPR Catalyst Grant**
  - Exploration of questions, challenges, and opportunities that a demand transdisciplinary approach
  - Foster new connections among scholars, trainees, and external partners
  - up to \$15,000
  - 3 intakes/year
  - [vpr.catalyst@ucalgary.ca](mailto:vpr.catalyst@ucalgary.ca)



# Catalyst Grants

- Transdisciplinary Connector Grants
  - Exploration of questions, challenges, and opportunities that demand transdisciplinary approach
  - Foster new connections among scholars, trainees, and external partners
  - Initiating stream - up to \$10,000
  - Consolidating stream - up to \$20,000
  - 3 intakes/year
  - [transdisciplinary@ucalgary.ca](mailto:transdisciplinary@ucalgary.ca)



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# Visiting Scholars Program

- Open to both scholars based in Canada and international candidates with the goal of increasing UCalgary's international exposure.
- Facilitates short-term (1 week), medium-term (2-4 weeks), and longer-term (2-4 months) visits by leading professors and eminent scholars
  - For medium- and longer-term visits, scholars are expected to participate in the research and teaching programs of the host faculty as well as engage in their own research.
- **VPR match of host's dollars: \$5,000- \$20,000**
- Ongoing intake – Nominations must be submitted prior to arrival of visiting scholar at UCalgary



# Horizon Europe

- Largest research and innovation program in the world
  - Canada officially became Associated Country July 2024
  - Average grants +/- \$5,000,000 CAD
- How it operates:
  1. Identifying global experts in an area
  2. Asking these experts to collaborate in consortia from at least 3 eligible countries
  3. Aligning experts' capabilities and skills to solve pre-defined issues and challenges
- Horizon Europe is NOT a “curiosity driven” funder
  - Rather, a Call for Proposals
- Canada researchers can now:
  - lead a consortium
  - count Canada as 1 of 3 mandatory countries
  - receive funding directly from Horizon Europe

# Urban Alliance

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Sana Tariq

# Who and What We Are

Strategic Partnership for research collaboration between The City of Calgary and the University of Calgary since 2007

- **Find solutions to complex problems** facing Calgary through cutting-edge research and innovation
- **Develop highly-qualified personnel**
- **Energize the relationship** between University researchers and City staff and build a dynamic, long-term partnership
- Help realize **Calgary's long-term priorities**

**Team** in the VPR Office – Barry and Sana

Work closely with RSO Grants & Legal and other teams on campus  
And with City of Calgary colleagues (Data Access team)



# Scope of Research

 **400+**  
projects



Data & analytics



Communities & social fabric



Water



Climate change & energy efficiency



Transportation & mobility



Urban planning & development



Emergency & disaster management



Parks & recreation



Housing



# What We Do

## Identify opportunities and provide resources to enable research collaboration

### Broad spectrum of “research collaboration”

- **Partnered research**, informal or formal, unfunded or funded
- **Focused vs transformational scope**
- **Data sharing**
- **City resources** – Living Lab
- **Knowledge engagement / mobilization**
- **Workshops** to exchange knowledge and explore opportunities
- **Capstone projects**
- **ACWA** (Advancing Canadian Water Assets)

### Matchmaking and support

- **Connect City** research needs / opportunities with UCalgary researchers
- **Connect UCalgary** researcher needs / opportunities with City partners or resources
- **Facilitate discussion**
- Provide help **navigating agreements and funding**
- **Track projects** from birth to outcomes and impacts





# Funding and Agreements

## **Unfunded**

### **City-funded**

- Project Charter
- Urban Alliance contract agreement – fast-track mechanism through Research Legal

### **Grant-funded with leverage of City matching funds**

- NSERC Alliance, Mitacs, Alberta Innovates, etc.

### **Grant-funded with City in-kind resources**

- City partner (subject matter expert) time, data, access to physical resources

## **Data**

- SANDS data depository
- Data agreements



# Last Thoughts & Contacts

## TRANSDISCIPLINARY SCHOLARSHIP

**Huge opportunity to tackle major societal challenges through a transdisciplinary approach in partnership with The City of Calgary and other community partners!**

Your one-stop shop for research with The City of Calgary...  
Come early and talk with us!



## Questions

**Barry Phipps**  
Urban Alliance Manager  
[bphipps@ucalgary.ca](mailto:bphipps@ucalgary.ca)

**Sana Tariq**  
Research Officer  
[stariq@ucalgary.ca](mailto:stariq@ucalgary.ca)

**Website**  
[www.ucalgary.ca/urbanalliance](http://www.ucalgary.ca/urbanalliance)

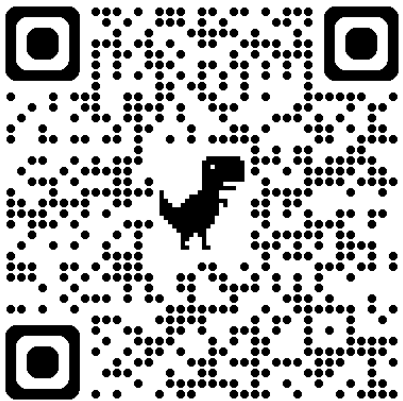


**Thank You!**



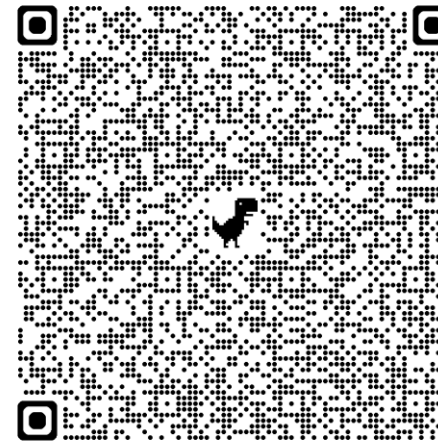
# Stay connected with us!

Scan the QR code below to subscribe to our **bulletin**



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Contact us: [transdisciplinary@ucalgary.ca](mailto:transdisciplinary@ucalgary.ca)

Scan the QR code below to join our **Transdisciplinary Online Hub (Teams)**



Use the code **qp1wsti** to join the Teams Hub