



**Collaborative Relationship Agreement
between
Simon Fraser University (SFU)
and the
Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee (SUILC)**

INTRODUCTION

SFU is a publicly supported BC post-secondary institution with the mission to be the leading engaged university defined by its dynamic integration of innovative education, cutting-edge research and far-reaching community engagement.

The SUILC is a committee of member community organizations in Surrey, BC, that are Indigenous controlled or have clear and significant connections to the Indigenous community, with the mission to be a collective voice of the urban Indigenous population in Surrey including First Nations, Métis and Inuit, and to advocate on behalf of all urban Indigenous people in Surrey.

We acknowledge that the work of both SFU and the SUILC takes place on the traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples including the Semiahmoo, Kwantlen, Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Qayqayt, and Tsawwassen First Nations and that our core values include respecting the political autonomy of the Coast Salish First Nations in Surrey.

WHEREAS:

- a) There are more than 13,000 Indigenous people, including First Nations, Métis and Inuit, living in Surrey; and,
- b) The SUILC has completed the *All Our Relations Social Innovation Strategy* to improve the economic participation, educational attainment, and health outcomes for Indigenous people living in Surrey; and,
- c) It is SFU's goal to strengthen and increase partnerships, collaborations, and engagement with Indigenous people, communities, and organizations; and,
- d) SFU offers undergraduate, graduate and continuing studies courses at campuses in Surrey, Burnaby and Vancouver; and,

- e) SFU and the SUILC agree that by working together we can both advance our shared objectives for reconciliation and engagement with urban Indigenous peoples (informed by the SUILC's *All Our Relations Social Innovation Strategy*, SFU's Aboriginal Reconciliation Council report and calls to action, the SFU *Aboriginal Strategic Plan*, the SFU *Five-Year Academic Plan* and the SFU *Strategic Research Plan*);

THEREFORE, be it resolved that we endorse this Collaborative Relationship Agreement and will work to implement the following priorities:

1. To support and increase the number of Indigenous students from Surrey (and the surrounding region) participating in programs and courses at SFU;
2. To co-create academic and research initiatives that engage and benefit the urban Indigenous community in Surrey; and,
3. To promote the needs, interests and opportunities to work with urban Indigenous peoples.

Specific implementation agreements for the above priorities will be developed subsequent to the signing of this Collaborative Relationship Agreement. For each potential initiative identified, detailed agreements identifying the roles and responsibilities of the parties, any working group and appropriate contact people, scope of the initiative, expected outcomes, resources required, time frame, and financial implications will be prepared and signed off. SFU and the member organizations of SUILC will proactively seek funding opportunities to further the spirit and intent of this Collaborative Relationship Agreement.

LIAISON and COORDINATION

- A Steering Committee, comprised of representatives of SUILC and appropriate SFU portfolio unit representatives, will be established to define opportunities and initiatives to implement the three priorities.
- Designated Contact People will be identified for each implementation initiative. As necessary, operational working groups may be established to ensure initiative viability and feasible timelines.
- On an annual basis, the Executive Director of the SFU Surrey Campus (or designate), the Director (or designate) of SFU's Office of Aboriginal Peoples and the Co-Chairs of the SUILC will make a presentation to the SFU President's Surrey Advisory Committee and to the SFU Aboriginal Steering Committee on the progress of implementing the three priorities set out above.

NOT LEGALLY BINDING

This Collaborative Relationship Agreement is not intended to be and is not to be construed as legally binding. Signing of this Agreement does not result in any material, financial or other obligation for either of the parties. By signing this Agreement, the parties are signifying their commitment to and desire for future collaboration. Specific initiatives to support the implementation of the three priorities identified above may be considered and agreed upon, on a case-by-case basis, including contributions and obligations of each party. Subsidiary agreements will be signed as required.


Signed this 10 day of January, 2019.

For Simon Fraser University:



Professor Andrew Petter
President and Vice-Chancellor

For the Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee:



Keenan McCarthy,
President, Nova Métis Heritage Association
Co-Chair, SUILC