

# Thinking about Working with External Researchers?

## Checklist for Community Groups & Organizations

Researchers want to work with you. But how do you decide whether you want to work with them?



Here's some minimum expectations you can have of good research partners...



### The research is **relevant** to you



*respectful*

The research will be carried out in a way that is respectful of and consistent with your group/organization's history, values, norms, capacities, and ways of knowing

*purpose*

The research has a clear purpose and main research questions (which ideally you helped to shape) that are valuable and useful to your group/organization



### Stakeholders are **meaningfully involved**



*includes*

A steering group, which includes people in your group/organization and other stakeholders that you identify such as people who live the issue under study, will guide the research implementation

*partnership*

A partnership agreement will be developed that includes principles of working together and a detailed workplan (i.e., tasks, roles and responsibilities, timelines and resource allocations if any)



### The research is **rigorous** and **sound**



*quality*

The quality of the methodology and analysis plan would withstand review by other researchers

*ethics*

The research will undergo ethical review, preferably through an ethics office that considers the potential of community harm (e.g., Community Research Ethics Office)



### The learnings will be **shared**



*sharing*

You and the steering group will help decide how the findings will be shared and with whom

*audiences*

Findings will be communicated in ways that are appropriate to the various audiences



### People will be **mobilized** to act on the findings



*action*

Researchers will take part in activities and/or discussions focused on moving learnings into action

*acknowledge*

Beyond the life of the project, researchers will continue to acknowledge the contribution of your group/organization (and other community partners) and direct inquiries to you as appropriate

## Want to learn more about community-based research and how to do it well?

Community-Based Excellence Tool  
*CBRET*

Other Community-Based Research Resources

