

Terms of Reference for CES UNDRIP Working Group

October 31, 2022

Background

In 2021, the Government of Canada approved the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#). As a national organization, CES has previously committed to advocacy and action toward equity, diversity, inclusion, environmental sustainability, and the advancement of Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action (TRC). The Canadian Evaluation Society now seeks to explore what the principles of UNDRIP mean for professional evaluation in Canada, and what actions are necessary. Attention to UNDRIP is intended to augment and strengthen implementation of CES response to TRC.

Mandate and Authority

The UNDRIP Working Group is mandated by the CES Board to provide direction to the CES Board on how to uphold the principles of UNDRIP and to contribute to the implementation of UNDRIP. The Working Group is mandated to:

- Respect distinctions-based authority of First Nation, Inuit, and Metis Peoples to determine on how UNDRIP principles should be adopted and implemented,
- Review UNDRIP and consider the implications for CES and evaluation theory and practice in Canada,
- Review CES progress on supporting the advancement of TRC, and consider how attention to UNDRIP can augment and strengthen this progress.
- Review materials related to UNDRIP, including any guides or applicable recommended practices related to implementation of UNDRIP,
- Develop recommendations for the CES Board, on advancing UNDRIP a proposed plan of action, which may include draft wording for a motion to be brought forward at the 2023 CES AGM, and may inform renewal of the CES Strategic Plan.
- Support CES National Board to interpret and develop a response to recommendations.

Working Group Membership

The Working Group will seek broad and inclusive participation. It will be co-chaired by the CES President and a Fellows Representative, and will invite participation from:

- First Nation, Inuit, and Metis CES Members
- Indigenous evaluation networks, e.g. EVALINDIGENOUS and CJPE Roots and Relations
- CUEE
- CES Credentialing Board, PLC, and EDI-ES Committee
- Other CES members to be identified through a call for expressions of interest via Student and Emerging Evaluator Network, CES National Newsletter, and Chapter Presidents

Additional Outreach and Engagement

Throughout this process, the Working Group will invite guidance and wisdom from a range of subject matter expertise such as: Indigenous academics and researchers, Canadian evaluation practitioners, international evaluation practitioners, and Indigenous traditional knowledge holders.

Time frame

The Working Group will be convened in fall 2022. Interim updates to the Board and Fellows will be provided by the CoChairs at regular meetings. The work plan and due dates for Working Group activity and deliverables will be aligned and coordinated with the critical path for review and renewal of the CES 2019-2024 Strategic Plan. The Working Group's mandate and Terms of Reference will be effective for the time needed to complete key deliverables in the critical path; with an aim of completion by July 1, 2024.

Meetings

The Task Force will meet regularly, but no less frequently than once per month, by Zoom.

Quorum & Decision-making

A quorum will only be required at meetings where the Working Group agenda includes making a decision with respect to a course of action or a recommendation to the CES Board. A quorum will be 50% of members. The Working Group will pursue consensus for decisions. Processes will be guided by Indigenous members and advisors.