

# Indigenous Protocols & AI

## Practicing Protocols

Following traditions and protocols are very important to Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being. Protocol is how we ensure teachings are carried forward in a good way. Each type of work has its own set of protocols to follow (speaking in a circle, harvesting, sharing stories, ceremonial work, working with Elders, and asking permission to come onshore).

Protocols are specific to each Nation and will vary amongst the Coast Salish peoples. When sharing Indigenous Knowledge you share where the teaching is from (what Nation), who shared the knowledge with you, and who gave you permission to share it. This ensures that we are using authentic stories, teachings, and world views.

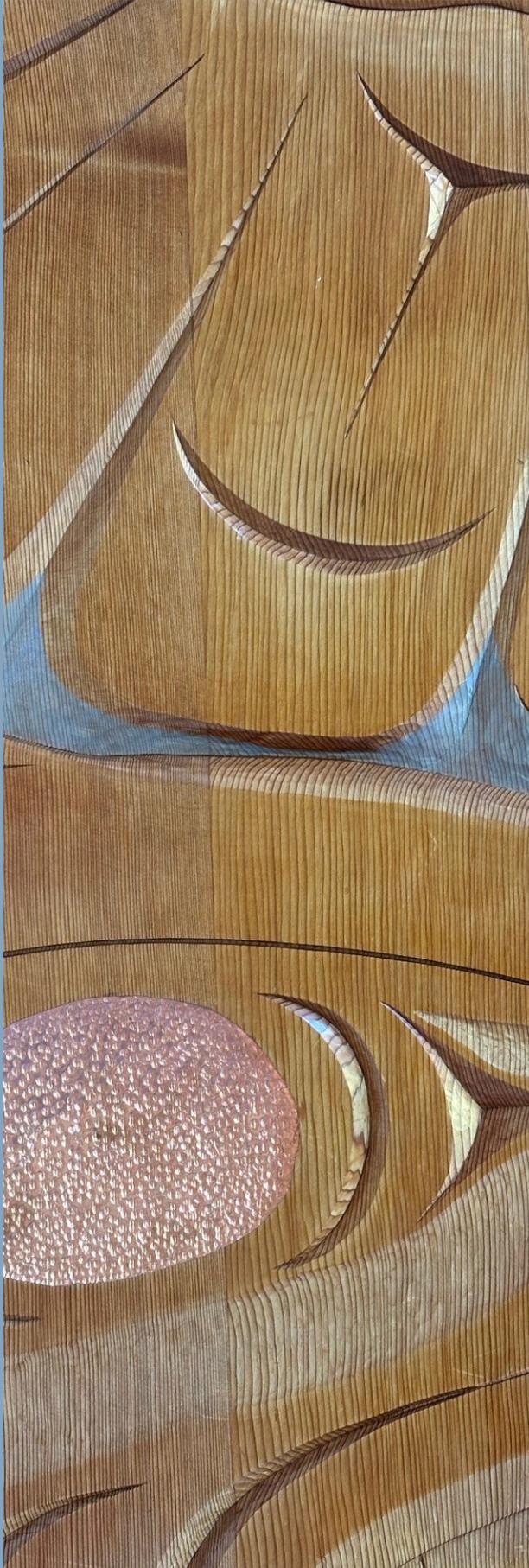
Indigenous Nations have oral traditions, which means knowledge is carried in the embodied actions of the speaker. Stories need to be shared in ways that respect embodied teachings because this ensures knowledge is carried forward in a good way.

At this time AI does not follow Indigenous Protocols. AI cannot ask permission, share where teachings come from, source only from authentic resources, or recreate embodied knowledge. Therefore using AI to create Indigenous lessons is cultural appropriation.

**“These tools do not authentically complement our teachings” -  
Dr. Gwendolyn Point, Shoysqwelwhet**

Please do not use AI with Indigenous Knowledge until the Nation you are sharing the information from has given specific permission. Using AI without specific permission exploits, extracts, and damages important relationships. This fosters stereotypes and biases which harm reconciliation efforts.

We use protocols with our tools because this honours our relationships and ensures those relationships will endure. Using tools without respecting protocols is cultural appropriation and exploitation.



# Online Tools and Resources

## Self Check:

- Am I respecting and remembering all the First Peoples Principles of Learning?
- Am I using this tool for cultural knowledge extraction?
- If I use AI too quickly to get something I don't have, what am I teaching my students?
- What is AI learning from me?
- Am I promoting healthy community relationships?

## Target Check:

- I can identify WHO shared the knowledge by using more than just a name.
- I can identify the territory WHERE the knowledge comes from.
- I can share my PERSONAL connection to the knowledge.
- I understand that Indigenous cultures are unique and there may be more protocols I need to learn.

“Please know that we thank you for taking the initiative to share Indigenous teachings with your students. Please wait to use tools that authentically complement our teachings.

We are trying to move away from stereotypes that do not show Indigenous diversity- we ask that you use authentic resources. There are many authentic and vetted resources available to use.”

Dr. Gwendolyn Point , Shoysqwelwhet

## Resources

- [Review](#) the First Peoples Principles of Learning
- [Study](#) BC's Land Codes
- [Look at](#) Abundant Intelligences and learn about the Indigenous Protocol and Artificial Intelligence Working Group
- Read the Government of Canada's work on [Indigenous-Led AI: How Indigenous Knowledge Systems Could Push AI to be More Inclusive](#)