

# EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH SPACE

The Educational Research Space applies to post-secondary students seeking to work with First Light to complete academic projects and/or activities for the purposes of fulfilling coursework or degree program requirements. Projects and activities that are approved to take place within this Research Space satisfy Memorial University's requirement that student researchers obtain an Agreement in Principle as set out in the *Research Impacting Indigenous Groups (RIIG)* policy.

## APPLICATION

This Research Space applies if you are proposing to undertake any of the following projects and/or activities:

- Completing an assignment for a single course that requires you to collect data or information of any kind from First Light staff, or from members of the urban Indigenous community with or through First Light staff;
- Writing a capstone paper, thesis, or dissertation that involves conducting any kind of primary research with or through First Light, whether at the undergraduate or graduate level; and/or
- Securing an academic internship, practicum, or co-op placement with First Light.

## QUALIFICATIONS & REQUIREMENTS

In order to be approved to conduct projects and/or activities within this Research Space, you must:

Be working under the supervision of a course instructor or an academic supervisor who has already been pre-approved to lead projects and/or activities under First Light's *Research Policy Framework*; and

- Be able to demonstrate a sound understanding of the histories and cultures of Indigenous Peoples in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Prior to beginning any projects and/or activities in this Research Space, you may also be required to complete the following pre-qualification steps:

- Submit a completed *Researcher Self-Assessment Questionnaire*; and/or
- Attend First Light's *Indigenous Cultural Diversity Training* (fees may apply).

## RESEARCH CO-DEVELOPMENT

As an Indigenous organization, First Light values relationship-building and is committed to supporting non-transactional research projects and activities that serve to benefit the urban Indigenous community. This includes projects and activities that:

- Advance public understanding of, or work related to, the *First Voice Calls for Change*;
- Help to address one or more organizational priorities as identified by First Light;
- Prioritize urban Indigenous voices and perspectives within research communities; and/or
- Build research capacity within the St. John's urban Indigenous community.

You are encouraged to consider ways in which your own interests and topic areas may intersect with one or more of the above objectives. These areas of intersection will serve as a starting point for co-developing a more specific research question the pursuit of which will be mutually beneficial to yourself, First Light, and the broader urban Indigenous community.

## GETTING STARTED

As a student researcher, it is your responsibility to review First Light's *definition of research* in order to understand how or whether it may apply to your proposed projects and/or activities. Full details can be found in First Light's comprehensive *Research Policy Framework*. You are invited to contact First Light's designated Research Lead with any questions about how or whether the Framework applies and to discuss your prospective projects and/or activities as early as possible in the research process.

## MORE INFORMATION

For more information about participating in the Educational Research Space, please contact First Light's designated Research Lead by email at [research@firstlightnl.ca](mailto:research@firstlightnl.ca) or by phone at **709-726-5902**.

