

# WHAT IS "RESEARCH"?

Put simply, research is the organized and systematic method of finding answers to questions. First Light defines this process as [ 1 ] any intentional collection or creation of knowledge; that is [ 2 ] done by engaging members of First Light staff and/or the urban Indigenous community through First Light; for the purposes of [ 3 ] transmitting such knowledge to other parties.

<b>FACTOR 1</b> What is knowledge collection and creation?	<b>FACTOR 3</b> What is knowledge transmission?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roundtable discussions and focus groups;</li> <li>• Community or staff engagement sessions;</li> <li>• One-on-one interviews;</li> <li>• Internal or external collaboration;</li> <li>• Surveys and questionnaires; and/or</li> <li>• Observation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal reports or research papers;</li> <li>• Documentaries;</li> <li>• Presentations;</li> <li>• Information sharing platforms;</li> <li>• Artistic works, such as plays, novels, or other productions;</li> <li>• News media content, including print, sound and video; and/or</li> <li>• Any information that is being relayed to another party.</li> </ul>

If you combine any aspect of knowledge collection or creation [ **Factor 1** ], or something similar, with any aspect of knowledge transmission [ **Factor 3** ], or something similar, you are most likely being asked or asking someone to participate in research. If you are doing so through First Light [ **Factor 2** ], then *First Light's Research Policy Framework* will likely apply.

## WHAT IS NOT CONSIDERED RESEARCH?

The following are a few examples of common activities that involve either knowledge collection/creation or knowledge transmission that do not qualify as research:

- Professional development or training;
- Conferences;
- Information gathering with no outcomes, such as personal conversations; and/or
- Studying existing documents and/or artistic creations (meta research).

Even if members of the urban Indigenous community engage in these kinds of activities with the support of First Light staff, the Research Policy framework will not typically apply.