

ADVISORY RESEARCH SPACE

First Light often supports external organizations and individuals by providing advice and guidance through letters of support, acting in short-term advisory roles, and serving on external committees. These projects and activities must align with First Light's *Research Policy Framework* and take place within the Advisory Research Space. The goal of First Light's Advisory Research Space is to support initiatives that advance First Light's research objectives by granting research partners access to the organization's expertise in a wide range of areas.

APPLICATION


This Research Space applies if you are asking First Light to undertake any of the following activities:

- **Provide a letter of support.** First Light may provide a letter of support to an external organization for their project or activity. This letter acts as a formal endorsement of the initiative and can add credibility and legitimacy to project activities.
- **Act in a short-term advisory role.** First Light may provide short-term advice and guidance to external organizations on their own projects and activities. This may include sharing First Light's expertise and offering recommendations based on its past research.
- **Serve on an external committee.** First Light staff may participate in external committees related to projects and activities that are led by other organizations. This allows First Light to contribute actively to initiatives that align with our research priorities and goals. The desired outcome of such engagements is to advance First Light's research objectives by providing valuable insights and/or other kinds of support to organizational partners.

QUALIFICATIONS & REQUIREMENTS

Requests for First Light to participate in external projects and/or activities within this Research Space will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- You must be able to demonstrate a sound understanding of the histories and cultures of Indigenous Peoples in Newfoundland and Labrador, or a genuine desire to learn.
- You or your organization should already have a pre-existing relationship with First Light. Ideally, anyone proposing projects and/or activities within this Research Space will already be listed on First Light's *Research Roster*.
- The resource demands of your proposed activities should be commensurate with the strength of your relationship with First Light. The stronger the relationship, the more willing we are likely to be to allocate scarce organizational resources and capacity to support your proposed activities.
- First Light should be involved in shaping the terms of reference for any external committees on which we are being asked to serve and be given an opportunity to shape any advisory mechanisms that are to be put in place.



Prior to beginning any 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 activities that serve to benefit the St. John's urban Indigenous community. This includes 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 how your proposed activities intersect with the above objectives. These areas of intersection will serve as a starting point for co-developing any approved activities, the pursuit of which will be mutually beneficial to all partners and the broader urban Indigenous community in St. John's.

GETTING STARTED

If you are seeking First Light's participation in an advisory role should familiarize yourself with First Light's *definition of research* as outlined in our comprehensive *Research Policy Framework*. You should also take the necessary time to review the Framework to learn more about additional parameters that may apply. If you have any questions or uncertainties regarding the Framework and its application to your proposed activities, we encourage you to reach out to First Light's designated Research Lead as early as possible in the research process for clarification.

MORE INFORMATION

Activities that take place within the Advisory Research Space can be resource-intensive and time-consuming for First Light staff. It is therefore recommended that you be prepared to provide appropriate remuneration in the form of fees, funding, honorariums, or in-kind contributions. Honorariums are mandatory for volunteer community members, but not for paid First Light staff, who are to serve on external committees.

For more information about engaging First Light in the Advisory Research Space, please contact First Light's designated Research Lead by email at research@firstlightnl.ca or by phone at **709-726-5902**.