

**Title:** Decolonizing Research: Conversations with Indigenous Scholars about Improvements to Library Supports: Voices from Canada

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**Abstract:**

Twelve academic libraries across Turtle Island are inquiring about how to improve support services for Indigenous Studies scholars as per a study coordinated by Ithaka S+R, a non-profit organization for library research. Indigenous librarians at these libraries are continuously striving to uplift their skills to better serve their Indigenous users – this time, Indigenous scholars – learning about the gaps and finding solutions. During this panel, representatives from three of these libraries located in Western Canada (University of Saskatchewan, Simon Fraser University, and the University of British Columbia) will present their findings based on interviews conducted with Indigenous Studies / Indigenous Education faculty. What could librarians and archivists be doing to improve research supports for these scholars? How are their research needs different from non-Indigenous scholars? How are these scholars finding primary and secondary sources for their research outputs? What are the areas of highest need? What contributions can be made by librarians to research collaborations with community members? What supports can libraries offer in terms of Indigenous scholars' publishing efforts? And how do Indigenous scholars keep up to date with the research being published in their field(s) of study?

Preliminary results indicate a need for strengthened awareness about:

- the value of Indigenous Knowledge across the academy;
- the value of personal narratives and increased opportunities for these to become published; and
- copyright regulations for archival materials;

Other issues were also raised, such as the need for workshops on Indigenous ways of analyzing research results and digitization of Indigenous kinship systems.

More complete results will be discussed during this intriguing panel. Come join us for an interactive session on the information and research needs of Indigenous scholars and learn more about their community research relations and exchanges.