



Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations

Repatriation Working Group Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Repatriation Working Group will make recommendations to the Ha'wiih Advisory Council and Executive on the following:

- Items to be repatriated from the Royal BC Museum and Canada Museum in Ottawa.
- Procedures for repatriation and maintenance of cultural belongings.
- Treatment and care of cultural belongings that are repatriated.
- Identify additional cultural belongings in other museums and private collections for repatriation.
- Items include audio/visual material including songs and other recordings.

Governance and Accountability

- The Working Group would make recommendations to the Ha'wiih Advisory Council for advice and Executive for decision.

Operating Guidelines

- Decisions should be made on a consensus basis where possible.
- Meetings should be scheduled as needed, at least once per month
- Quorum: 4

Roles and Membership

- 6 Members
 - 1 Chairperson appointed by Executive
 - 5 additional members

Resources

- Staff and Departments supporting this work will assist with seeking funding & grants to support repatriation.

Timeline

- The Working Group will operate until disbanded by Executive.



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Key work to be considered by the Repatriation Working Group

- Developing a Collections Management Policy, which will include accession, deaccession, storage, curation, security, insurance and display of these objects; use of cultural objects for educational purposes; protocols for when objects should not be conserved and returned to the land; etc.
 - This could include:
 - What items should be repatriated? Including recordings of stories, songs, history.
 - How will items be shared?
 - What the process of locating and tracking items?
 - What is the process of cataloguing and repatriating the items?
 - What is the process of decision making re which items to bring home?
 - Who makes the decisions – based on what advice?
- Identification and review of what other Nations have done: Heiltsuk, Huu-ay-aht, Nuhalk, Tla'amin, Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ, others?
- Reviewing recommendations from the First Peoples Cultural Council in the *Stealing to Healing Report* and *Repatriation Cost Analysis Tool*.
- Identification of the space that KCFN can use to house repatriated items.
 - Identification of areas of necessary upgrades, including infrastructure, technology, etc.
- Identification of skillsets missing or resources needed to take care of items.
- Developing a resources recommendation to support repatriation (staff, transportation, facility needs)
- Making recommendations about which items/how to repatriate, how to treat those items.
- Securing training for museum and conservation methods: safe conservation, treatment, and storage of objects; salvage of damaged objects, etc.
- Researching other institutions and private collections which have KCFN objects.