The TCS | A First Nations' Guide to Planning and Reporting Standards

A Summary for Partners

There is an exciting and emerging opportunity for the federal and provincial governments, and many First Nations and non-First Nations organizations and associations to orient and align their investments in First Nations differently – based on community-driven, Nation-based planning and reporting standards. This overview provides key learnings of First Nations communities that are leading the way in planning and reporting in British Columbia.

Planning and reporting are fundamentally linked. While planning outlines "What we are going to do," reporting shares "What we have done." This guide presents a series of values and standards (the 7 Cs) that apply to both planning and reporting in First Nations communities across British Columbia. Partner organizations who support and work with First Nations can contribute to community success by aligning their work and investments with the 7 Cs of planning and reporting.

For the complete guide and further information, visit

www.bcfndgi.com





The 7 Cs of Planning and Reporting

The following seven categories of standards apply to both planning and reporting. They can be used in any planning or reporting context, whether it be health and wellness, land use, comprehensive community planning, education, social development, or economic development and are as valuable for communities as they are for the organizations who support them.



Culture and languages

Culture and languages are the foundation of our identity

culture and languages are the foundation of our facility

PLANNING STANDARD

Traditional teachings, practices, and languages are the foundation of our planning processes.

REPORTING STANDARD

Reporting is delivered in a way that honours the culture and languages of our people.

OUTCOMES

Culture and languages are strengthened.



Community-driven, Nation-based

We define what is important to our community and Nation

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PLANNING STANDARD

Planning approaches and processes are determined, managed, and led by our community for the community and Nation.

REPORTING STANDARD

The tracking and reporting of information is directed by our community for the community and Nation.

OUTCOMES

We are in control of our planning and reporting. We are tracking progress towards the goals and objectives we prioritized in our community.



Community engagement

Everyone's voice matters

2

PLANNING STANDARD

Community members are engaged, involved, and/or represented throughout the planning process.

REPORTING STANDARD

The voices and priorities of our members are mirrored in our reporting to the community.

OUTCOME

Priorities of community members are achieved.



Communication

Clear and reliable communication is vital to our vibrant community

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PLANNING STANDARD

Communication is consistent and dynamic throughout the planning process to keep all audiences informed and aware.

REPORTING STANDARD

Results and progress are communicated clearly to all audiences in ways that are most appropriate and accessible to them.

OUTCOMES

Community members, our Nation, and relevant partners are informed and know the progress we have made towards our actions and goals.



Collaboration

We work together for the benefit of the whole community and Nation

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PLANNING STANDARD

We work with a diversity of partners within and outside the community.

REPORTING STANDARD

We recognize and incorporate the contributions of all partners in our reporting.

OUTCOMES

We maximize opportunities and reduce duplication.



Connection

All things are related and connected

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PLANNING STANDARD

We plan with a common vision, recognizing the interconnectedness of everything we do in our community and Nation.

REPORTING STANDARD

Reporting reflects the integrated nature of our community, our plan, and our results.

OUTCOME

Linkages are made between all areas of the community.



Commitment

Our work reflects our responsibility to future generations

PLANNING STANDARD

Planning is ongoing, from the past to the present and into the future.

REPORTING STANDARD

Reporting is consistent, accessible, and inclusive

OUTCOMES

Planning and reporting are embedded in our governance.

Putting the 7 Cs of Planning and Reporting to Work

Partner organizations who support and work with First Nations can contribute to community success by aligning their work and investments with the 7 Cs. They can also reorient their own planning and reporting processes to be informed and directed by the communities they support.

Re-align Planning and Reporting towards the 7 Cs

First Nations partner organizations are often working towards supporting the same outcome: individual, community, and Nation-wide health and wellness. This means that planning and reporting undertaken by partners need to involve and be directed by the First Nations they support.

First Nations are best placed to know how to support their communities and Nations in their quest for healthy, sustainable community development. Similarly, all partners need to evaluate their own success and progress based on community-driven, Nation-based reporting. If communities track progress based on indicators that are important to them, these indicators also need to be meaningful to partners. Respect and invest in the 7 Cs of planning and reporting

Respect and invest in the 7 Cs of Planning and Reporting

The support of partner organizations begins with the recognition of planning as a core competency of good governance. Investing in long-term, community-driven, holistic planning is critical. This needs to be matched with building capacity for planning in the community.

Similarly, by respecting and supporting community-based reporting, partners recognize the important line of accountability between leadership and the community, which ultimately leads to stronger governance in First Nations communities.

Finally, to move from a high-level community vision to reports on progress, partners need a long-term commitment to fund and support management, administration, and governance. This translates into supporting management capacity, data management, and information systems during the plan's implementation.

