Sovereign Bodies Institute – MMIW Database Data Sharing Protocol

CATEGORY 1: Entities that are guaranteed access to data relevant to their service area (geographic and/or topical), provided they sign the Data Sharing Agreement:

● Tribal nations & tribal leaders
● Indigenous service providers (shelters, healthcare, child services, anti-violence programming, etc.)

CATEGORY 2: Entities that may have access to data relevant to their service area (geographic and/or topical), provided they are approved by SBI’s Executive Director and/or SBI’s Board, and sign the Data Sharing Agreement:

● Indigenous women’s collectives (non-academic)
● Indigenous advocacy organizations
● Indigenous grassroots activists

CATEGORY 3: Entities that are prohibited from accessing raw data in the database, but may be provided aggregate numbers or statistics upon request:

● Press and media
● Colonial government agencies
● Law enforcement
● Non-Indigenous organizations
● Indigenous organizations with known abusers in leadership
● Any Category 1 or 2 requestor that requests a portion of the data too large to share or beyond their service area, or requests data for the purposes of publication of raw data

Procedure for applying for access to database now (via email):

1. Send email to mmiwdatabase@sovereign-bodies.org, outlining who you and your org are, what data you are requesting, and how you plan to use it and care for it.
2. SBI support staff will vet the request:
   a. If they are a Category 1, an approved Category 2, or a Category 3 in need of aggregate stats, support staff will send them the Data Access
Agreement, which requestors must write that they agree to via email. After that, support staff will send them requested data via email.

b. If they are an unapproved Category 2, the request will be forwarded to SBI Executive Director for approval.

c. If they are a Category 3, support staff will inform them that they are ineligible to access the data, but may petition SBI’s board or provide a list of aggregate stats that would be useful to them.

Procedure for access to database for academic research purposes:

1. All researchers accessing the database to utilize in their academic work must belong to an Indigenous community in some capacity, and be able to write a statement regarding which community they belong to and how they are accountable to it

2. All researchers must obtain IRB (ethics review board) approval from their academic institution, and provide SBI documentation of that approval, and a copy of the approved application, as well as a data management plan

3. IRB documents, data management plan, and researcher’s statement on identity will be forwarded to the SBI Board, which will review and issue final decisions within 90 days (or during the next scheduled Board meeting)

4. If the researcher is granted access to the database to support their academic work, they may not publish any raw data, and must agree to cite SBI as the data source

5. If the researcher's work is wholly dependent on access to the database, the researcher may be asked to include SBI as a co-author of any publication of the work, and may be asked to provide SBI right to review and approve said publication prior to dissemination

General reasons a data request may be denied:

- Insufficient ties to an Indigenous community
- Insufficient explanation of how the data will be used
- Requestor is requesting a large portion of the database (over 500 cases) or requesting a large volume of information not directly relevant to their service area
- Use of data violates protocols outlined in Data Sharing Agreement (for example, we do not allow any person or organization to sell items with data on them for profit, or publicly publish raw data, including lists of names)
● Entity is one or more of the prohibited entity types
● Requester engages in repeated public behavior inconsistent with the values of SBI